

Apartment Residents Seek Damages for Deadly Russian Fighter Jet Crash

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The fire-hit apartment building near the crash site of a Sukhoi Su-34 combat aircraft in Yeysk. **Eric Romanenko / TASS**

The victims of a deadly Russian fighter jet crash in October 2022 are seeking damages from the Russian military, the Kommersant newspaper <u>reported</u> Friday, citing anonymous sources.

Sixteen people were killed and 43 others were injured when a Su-34 fighter jet <u>crashed</u> into a residential building in the town of Yeysk, located in southern Russia's Krasnodar region. The cause of the disaster was believed to be a technical malfunction and investigators have since closed a probe into safety violations.

At least six families had initially sought to sue the Russian Defense Ministry for compensation of up to 12 million rubles (\$131,000) per person in moral dmages, according to Kommersant.

But a court in Yeysk ruled to lower the moral damages to between 20,000 rubles and 100,000 rubles (\$220-\$1,000). An appeals court named the lower sums "reasonable and fair."

The Yeysk court also partially satisfied the lawsuits of three families, awarding them between 236,000 rubles and 935,000 rubles (\$2,500-\$10,200) in property damages.

The Russian Defense Ministry's eastern military district appealed the rulings, arguing that it was wrongly identified as a defendant and was not liable to pay compensation. Both courts reportedly dismissed those appeals.

Court hearings are ongoing for three other families' lawsuits, Kommersant reported.

Regional authorities <u>repaired</u> the damaged building and its residents were given the keys to new apartments there in late 2023.

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