**Press Release**

**July 4, 2016**

**on 20th court hearing of the murder of the Avetisyan family**

On June 30, 2016, the General Jurisdiction Court of Shirak Marz (Region) held on the territory of the Russian military base № 102 the 20th outgoing hearing of the murder of the Avetisyan family.

The Court dismissed the civil claim on pecuniary damages against Russian Federation filed at the previous court hearing by lawyer Aramazd Kiviryan, who protects the interests of victims’ successors Anahit Koshtoyan, Lusine Avetisyan, Narine Poghosyan and Andranik Poghosyan, on the pretext that the claim was not subject to the consideration of the General Jurisdiction Court of Shirak Marz (Region), despite the fact that at the previous court hearing the Court had ruled to admit the civil claim by recognizing Russian Federation as defendant party and the successors to the victims as plaintiffs. Moreover, the previous court hearing was delayed for almost a month to translate the claim and send it to the addressees. However, at the court hearing of June 30, upon re-examining the issue of admitting the claim, the Court dismissed it.

Note that by the claim above, the plaintiffs required a monetary compensation of 50,000 EUR for each of the adult members of the killed family and 100,000 EUR for the 2 minor children.

At the next court hearing, the representatives of the successors of victims will submit a self-challenge motion to judge Harutyun Movsisyan.

The next court hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2016, at 12 pm.