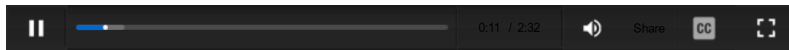




Lawyer: Family Wants Justice After Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions Death

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An 18-year-old man was killed Thursday after a house in Lawrence, Massachusetts exploded following a gas explosion, sending a chimney onto the car he was sitting inside of. (Published Friday, Sept. 14, 2018)

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The family of a teen killed when a series of natural gas explosions and explosions rocked communities north of Boston plans to file a wrongful death lawsuit against the utility company.

Attorney Doug Sheff told reporters Thursday Columbia Gas was reckless and should have to pay for last month's death of Leonel Rondon.

"This family wants justice. This family wants to find meaning in such a senseless death," said Sheff.

[The high school junior died after the chimney of an exploding house crashed into his car and crushed him.](#) He had received his driver's license just hours earlier.

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Japan Takes Lead In Auto Reliability

Tesla and other domestic brands landed in the bottom half of Consumer Reports' latest reliability rankings, which covers 29 automakers. The most reliable new cars come from Asian brands led by Lexus, Toyota and Mazda. (Published Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018)

Sheff says the complaint will be filed at a later date.

"We believe that there was reckless behavior. We believe that there were so many things that went wrong that it's actually hard to see it ever happening anywhere. It shouldn't happen ever," said Sheff.

A Columbia Gas spokesman didn't immediately respond to an email. The National Transportation Safety Board says over-pressurized gas lines caused the explosions.

- [Gov. Baker Declares State of Emergency in Merrimack Valley](#)

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