

Columbia Gas settles with family of teen who died in explosions

By: State House News Service ◉ July 9, 2019

Columbia Gas reached a settlement with the family of Leonel Rondon, the Lawrence teenager who was killed in the Sept. 13 gas explosions in Merrimack Valley.

Columbia officials on July 9 announced the settlement, the result of voluntary mediation, saying it resolved the Rondon family's claims against the company and that the amount was confidential under the terms of the agreement.

The company said it also plans to set up a scholarship fund in Rondon's name.

"Leonel tragically lost his life when a chimney from a nearby house fell onto a car. He was only 18 years old and full of life," Douglas K. Sheff of Boston, the family's attorney, said in a statement. "The family can only hope that this kind of catastrophe will never happen again."

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