The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
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No Light for Mikhalkov

September 26, 2010

The Defense Ministry violated state regulations when it equipped the car of the Oscar-winning film director Nikita Mikhalkov with a flashing blue light, the Prosecutor General's Office said, Interfax reported Friday.

A flashing blue light allows a vehicle to ignore some traffic rules and usually is reserved for state officials. But Mikhalkov said in July that he was given one as the head of the ministry's public council.

Prosecutors ruled that the ministry was not allowed to include the director on its list of people entitled to use flashing blue lights because he was not an official. But the ministry has also ordered the drafting of a new list of privileged drivers, prosecutors said, without elaborating whether Mikhalkov could be included.

(MT)

Original url: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2010/09/26/no-light-for-mikhalkov-a1738