

Ill Prisoner Dies in Custody

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A gravely ill woman diagnosed with tuberculosis, kidney cancer and coronary heart disease died in the notorious Matrosskaya Tishina pretrial prison in Moscow, Interfax reported Monday.

Nina Khokhlova, born in 1957, had been convicted to three years' imprisonment for inflicting grave bodily injuries that resulted in a death, a Federal Prison Service spokesman said, without elaborating on why she was in a pretrial prison after the sentence was passed.

Khokhlova, jailed in Matrosskaya Tishina since Aug. 7, apparently died of heart problems early Sunday, the spokesman said, adding that a check was ongoing.

Hermitage Capital lawyer Sergei Magnitsky and businesswoman Vera Trifonova died of health problems in Matrosskaya Tishina in November and April, respectively, sparking a backlash against the prison system.

(MT)

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