

Mayor Detained in \$500,000 Bribe Case

February 03, 2011

The  Moscow Times

The mayor of Bratsk, Irkutsk region, was detained after trying to dispose of a bribe allegedly extorted from a local businessman by throwing millions of rubles out a window and burning the cash.

Alexander Serov demanded 15 million rubles (\$510,000) from the unidentified businessman in exchange for signing a property lease agreement, the Investigative Committee said in a [statement](#) Thursday.

The businessman allegedly paid Serov 4 million rubles last month and more than 1 million rubles in early February — but the last payment was delivered in the presence of undercover law enforcement officers, the report said.

Serov accepted the money outside his own apartment, and shut the door when the officers tried to detain him, the report said, adding that he unsuccessfully tried to get rid of the cash.

Serov faces up to 12 years in prison if charged and convicted over the case. The local legislature will vote next week on whether to dismiss him, Interfax reported.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2011/02/03/mayor-detained-in-500000-bribe-case-a4754>