

Suspect in Budanov Murder Identified by Eyewitness

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The  Moscow Times

An anonymous eyewitness has identified Magomed Suleimanov, a suspect in the June 10 murder of disgraced army commander Yury Budanov, in a police lineup, Kommersant [reported](#) Thursday.

Investigators say the eyewitness, codenamed "Aslan," saw Suleimanov, 41, get into the Mitsubishi Lancer that sped away from crime scene in downtown Moscow and was found charred to a crisp in a nearby courtyard.

The lineup may raise questions in the courtroom, however, because Suleimanov was the only man in the three-person lineup wearing handcuffs.

Investigators hope forensic tests on samples found in the burned-out car will confirm Suleimanov's involvement, Kommersant said.

Suleimanov is a respected Muslim scholar and a mediator for the Chechen diaspora in Moscow, his friends told the daily, calling him a man who "solves problems."

He has denied shooting Budanov, 47, who served time in prison for murdering a Chechen girl in 2000, during the military campaign in the republic, and was released on parole in 2009.

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