

Official Quits Over Visa Tiff

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The  **Moscow Times**

A Federal Migration Service official involved in the expulsion of French author Anne Nivat from the country over a visa issue resigned Tuesday, RIA-Novosti reported.

Oleg Brechko, head of the migration service in the Vladimir region, left his job over the incident with the prominent French journalist.

Nivat was detained by migration officials Friday at her hotel in Vladimir over accusations that she had violated the rules of her business visa by speaking with members of the political opposition during her stay.

She was in Russia researching a book and told officials that she had spoken with members of pro-Kremlin groups as well.

The migration service canceled her visa, and Nivat left Sunday to return to France.

On Monday night, Federal Migration Service chief Konstantin Romodanovsky said he had reviewed the case and that the revocation may be reversed.

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