

Judge Extends Detainment of Activist Osipova Until June

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A judge has extended the arrest period of an activist whose conviction on drug charges was ordered reviewed earlier this year after drawing the attention of President Dmitry Medvedev, RIA-Novosti reported.

Taisia Osipova, the wife of an activist with the Other Russia political party, had been sentenced to 10 years in prison on drug charges, a term that members of the opposition called excessive.

Medvedev addressed her case at a meeting with Moscow State University journalism students in January, promising to ask prosecutors to review it.

At a hearing on Tuesday, a judge ordered that Osipova remain in jail until June 15 while her case is being reexamined.

Her supporters contend that she should be released from pre-trial detainment because she suffers from diabetes, among other illnesses, and has a young child.

Osipova's lawyer Svetlana Sidorkina said they will appeal the judge's decision.

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