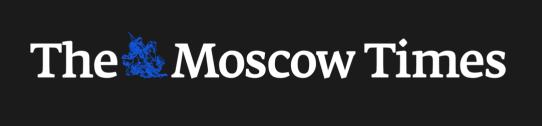


19-Year-Old Detained After Abandoning Unwanted Baby

By The Moscow Times

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Police have detained a 19-year-old woman suspected of leaving her newborn baby on the doorstep of a flat in southwest Moscow, police said Tuesday.

On Monday evening, a Moscow resident called police to say that she had found a baby on her doorstep at 30 Ulitsa Marshala Savitskogo, Interfax reported.

The child was wrapped in a blanket and had a tag on its arm with its surname, initials and a date of birth.

"The baby appears to be healthy and is estimated to be one week old," an unidentified police official told the news agency.

The official said police quickly detained the baby's mother, a Kyrgyz citizen, who is being questioned at a police station in the Yuzhnoye Butovo district.

It appears that the baby was unwanted, and police have speculated that the mother might have had a prior agreement with the flat's resident, who had offered to take the baby.

The resident, whose identity remains unknown, apparently frequently visited the 19-year-old at Maternity Hospital No. 7, near the Kolomenskaya metro station.

The child is being looked after by doctors.

Police are continuing their investigation and are considering opening a criminal case, according to Interfax.

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