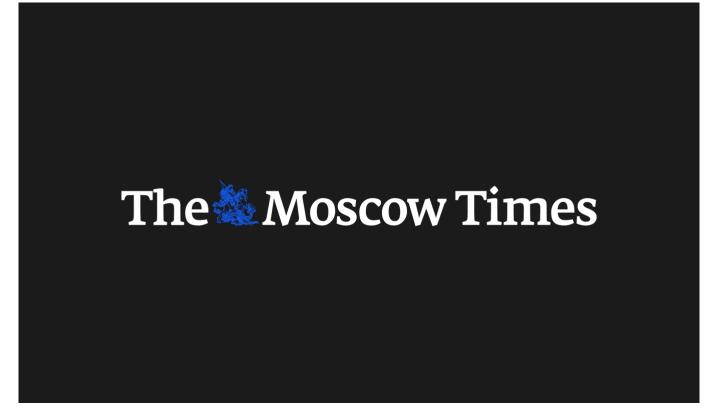


Police Officer Beaten Outside St. Basil's Cathedral

February 14, 2013



A man "behaving suspiciously" outside St. Basil's Cathedral on Thursday responded to a police officer's request for identification by beating him with a baseball bat, the Interior Ministry said in comments carried by Interfax.

The man, "clutching a baseball bat" near the popular tourist attraction on Red Square around 1 p.m., rapped the approaching officer on the legs and was later detained. Mental health professionals were called to the scene. The officer received medical attention for his injuries.

(MT)

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