

## Hearing on Possible Annulment of U.S. Adoption Delayed, Pskov Court Says

By The Moscow Times

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A Pskov regional court on Wednesday said it has not yet received the requested new evidence in the petition to annul the adoption of 2-year-old Kirill Kuzmin because of postal delays, a news report said Wednesday.

Valery Kondratyev, the chairman of the Pskov regional court, told reporters that the deadline for submitting new evidence to annul the adoption of Kirill expired on March 25, but the judge expects the documents to arrive within three days because they were sent by standard mail, Interfax reported.

On Monday, the regional prosecutor and state social services said they submitted new evidence to annul the adoption of Kirill, the younger brother of the late Maxim Kuzmin, whose death in Texas in January sparked a new battle in the U.S.-Russia adoptions war. Kirill remains in the custody of his adoptive family in Texas.

In February, the Pskov court deferred acceptance of the prosecutor's first petition due to "insufficiencies" in the statement and gave until March 25 to submit new evidence.

Kirill Kuzmin's biological mother, Yulia Kuzmina, appealed to social services in Pskov in early February to help her restore custody over Kirill, or Kristopher Elvin Shatto, as he's now known in the U.S.

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