

## Justice Delayed by Slow Mail Service, Court Official Says

By The Moscow Times

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The work of Moscow's courts is being hindered by poor mail service in the capital, a top court official has said.

Vyacheslav Lipezin, head of the Moscow Judicial Department Board, said that the chairs of district courts regularly complained about the quality of mail deliveries.

"The mail service fails to deliver judicial summons in a timely manner, to deliver registered mail slips to the courts without delays, and does not enter the reasons for failing to deliver a summons on the slips," Lipezin said on the Moscow City Court website.

The unreliable service resulted in additional costs and delays in court proceedings.

Lipezin also said that 793 people had left their district court jobs last year and that the courts were now short 358 employees. The main reasons for employee departures were low pay,

heavy workload and high eligibility requirements.

According to Moscow City Court's press office, a paralegal assistant's pay is only 4,960 rubles (\$140) a month and the salary of a court recorder is just 4,700 rubles (\$132).

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