

Driver in Deadly Siberian Crash Amnestied Without Serving Day in Prison

By [Howard Amos](#)

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A driver who caused a high-profile fatal crash in the Siberian city of Irkutsk has been amnestied without serving a single day in prison, local news website [irk.ru](#) cited prosecutors as saying Monday.

The 2009 crash elicited outrage around Russia after CCTV footage was released showing the then-28-year-old Anna Shavenkova veering up onto the sidewalk at high speed, crushing two sisters against a wall, before getting out, apparently calmly inspecting her car for damage and then calling her mother, a senior local official. One of the sisters died of her injuries, while the other was left permanently disabled.

Shavenkova was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison in 2010, but never served a day behind bars as the sentence was postponed to 2024 because at the time of her trial, she had a newborn

child.

Shavenkova has now been pardoned under an amnesty that Russia's parliament approved last month to mark 70 years since the victory of the Soviet Union and its allies over Nazi Germany in World War II.

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Shavenkova, who worked in the local administration, faced allegations that she was protected from a harsher sentence by her influential mother, who served in the region's electoral commission. There was a public outcry over Shavenkova's apparent callousness at the scene of the crash.

"What sort of repentance can we possibly talk about here?" Dmitry Pyatkov, the brother of the victims, was quoted as saying Monday by irk.ru. Yulia Pyatkova will seek to get the decision to amnesty Shavenkova overturned, the Vesti television channel reported Monday.

The amnesty, which is expected to impact up to 400,000 people, does not cover those accused of serious crimes, including murder, or those found guilty of causing car accidents in which two or more people died.

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