

Navalny's Anti-Corruption Fund Edits Video After Usmanov Libel Suit

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Roman Rubanov / Alexei Navalny Twitter

Opposition leader Alexei Navalny's Anti-Corruption⊠ Foundation has

<u>complied</u> with a court order to <u>publish</u> retractions related to a video accusing Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev of

corruption.

The retractions come after Navalny was <u>sued</u> for libel in April by Uzbekistan-born Russian billionaire Alisher Usmanov over allegations**¤** of bribery in the video.

While the contested video has been removed from the FBK website and retractions have been <u>published</u>, Rubanov noted that Navalny maintains his own personal YouTube channel and website, for which the foundation was not responsible.

Rubanov himself was <u>detained</u> Tuesday at his home by bailiffs who claimed he had not carried out the court order. He showed them the retractions on the websites, but received an Oct. 13 court summons, as a criminal case on charges of non-compliance remains open.

Navalny was <u>sued</u> for libel in April by Uzbekistan-born Russian oligarch Usmanov over allegations of bribery. He is currently <u>serving</u> a 20-day jail sentence for organizing unauthorized rallies. He announced his intention to run for president next March despite a criminal conviction that bars him from participating and which he says is politically motivated.

In March, Navalny <u>published</u> a video titled "He's Not Dimon To You," referencing the nickname of Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. The exposé, which has garnered nearly 25 million views, includes the claim that Usmanov gave Medvedev a bribe in the guise of a donation to a non-profit group with links to the prime minister. The donation consisted of a land plot with buildings in the village of Znamenskoye.

The video also alleged that Usmanov exercised censorship at the Kommersant news agency, which he owns, and that he gave bribes to Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov and others.

Usmanov<u>responded</u> to the allegations in a YouTube video rebuttal.

In April, Medvedev also denounced Navalny's research, the RBC business newspaper <u>reported</u>, saying it was "slime" and "nonsense."

Original url: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/10/11/navalny-fund-publishes-retractions-in-usmanov-libel-sui t-a59232