

## Russian Investigators Launch Probe Into Gruesome Jail Torture Video

July 20, 2018



Novaya Gazeta / Youtube

A recently published video of prison guards torturing a detainee has spurred Russian authorities to launch an investigation into abuse, in a case that had previously been ignored by regional officials.

On Friday, the Novaya Gazeta newspaper <u>published</u> body cam footage of the alleged torture of Yevgeny Makarov, the detainee in the video, in Yaroslavl, showing men in correctional uniforms and plain clothes beating and waterboarding a prisoner for at least 10 minutes.

Related article: Former Russian Prison Official Put Behind Bars for Torture

After the video's publication, Russia's Investigative Committee said it had <u>opened</u> a case investigating the guards for violent abuse of power, a criminal offense that carries a maximum sentence of 10 years.

Regional investigators <u>declined</u> to open proceedings into the beating last year despite two <u>interventions</u> by the European Court of Human Rights, according to an <u>analysis</u> of the case by Public Verdict, a human rights group that offers legal assistance to victims of law enforcement abuse in Russia.

"He's like Thor," a voice is heard <u>saying</u> in the video, as one of the men repeatedly punches the prisoner's soles while at least four uniformed officers hold him down.

Meanwhile, the regional Federal Prison Service allegedly <u>met to discuss</u> how the video was leaked, according to the Mash Telegram channel.

## Original url:

https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/07/20/russian-investigators-launch-probe-into-gruesome-jail-t orture-video-a62314