

Second Russian Officer Suspected of Leaking Navalny Poisoners' Data – Kommersant

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Putin banned the public dissemination of security and law enforcement members' data in December. **Anton Novoderezhkin / TASS**

A second Russian police officer has been suspected of leaking security officers' travel data from the day of opposition leader Alexei Navalny's poisoning, the Kommersant business daily reported Monday.

A major media investigation in December <u>published</u> the names of Federal Security Service (FSB) chemical-weapons experts who it said tailed Navalny for years, including on the day of his August 2020 poisoning. The Bellingcat investigative outlet which led the investigation has said it used flight manifests and phone records obtained on the black market to trace the secret FSB squad's movements.

Related article: Russia Moves to Hide Security Officers' Data After Navalny Poisoning

Revelations

The latest criminal case against a St. Petersburg police major follows the house arrest in December of a Samara officer who allegedly <u>leaked officers</u>' travel data from a classified database to a third party.

According to Kommersant, an internal security unit at the St. Petersburg police department had uncovered one of its officers accessing Navalny's Aug. 20 flight manifest and "transferring" it to an unknown party. Navalny went into a coma after falling violently ill on that flight in Siberia.

The police major, whose name was withheld by Kommersant, faces up to 10 years in prison if found guilty of abuse of office. St. Petersburg-based media <u>identified</u> him as 40-year-old Roman Gladyshev.

The criminal case is linked to this Saturday's seven-hour interrogation of a Russian investigative reporter who had allegedly been promised the Navalny flight manifest and is a witness in the major's case, Kommersant reported.

The journalist and her employer from the well-known Baza Telegram news channel declined to confirm or deny whether her interrogation was related to the leak.

Navalny, 44, was last month sentenced to nearly three years in prison for violating parole after returning from Germany, where he had been recovering from what Western scientists said was Novichok poisoning. His arrest sparked mass nationwide rallies and the threat of new sanctions from Europe.

Navalny accuses President Vladimir Putin, who has <u>confirmed</u> that security agents tailed Navalny as a Western spy, of ordering his assassination attempt. Russia denies involvement in the poisoning and has refused to open a criminal investigation until Germany hands over proof that he was poisoned with Novichok.

Days after Navalny <u>published</u> a video of himself cold-calling one of the FSB agents named in the leaked database as one of his alleged poisoners, Putin banned the public dissemination of security and law enforcement members' data.

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