

Former Russian Army General Sentenced to 7 Years in Prison for Bribery

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Vadim Shamarin. **Sergei Karpukhin / TASS**

A Moscow military court on Thursday [sentenced](#) former deputy chief of Russia's General Staff Vadim Shamarin to seven years in a maximum-security prison on corruption charges.

Lieutenant-General Shamarin, who also headed the General Staff's communications directorate, was [arrested](#) in May 2024 on charges of accepting 36 million rubles (\$437,600) in bribes from a phone manufacturing plant in exchange for state contracts and "general patronage."

Shamarin was one of several senior military officials arrested last year in what observers have described as a broader anti-corruption campaign within Russia's Defense Ministry.

According to the Interfax news agency, his trial was [held](#) behind closed doors and without a full examination of evidence, as Shamarin had reached a plea deal with investigators.

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Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes major crimes, said Shamarin was convicted of accepting two bribes and sentenced accordingly. In addition to his prison term, the court [stripped](#) him of his military rank and confiscated assets valued at over 35 million rubles (\$425,500).

Prosecutors had [requested](#) a 12-year sentence and a fine of 107 million rubles (\$1.3 million).

The Kremlin has denied that Shamarin's arrest and others like it signal a sweeping purge of the military following last year's dismissal of longtime Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, who had faced mounting criticism over Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

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