

Moscow Businessman Arrested Over Unsolved 2000s Murder of Ex-Russian Official

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Andrei Belkin / NEWS.RU / TASS

Moscow police have arrested businessman Ibragim Suleimanov on suspicion of involvement in the 2004 murder of the former head of Russia's now-defunct government bankruptcy body, state media [reported](#) Friday.

Georgy Tal, the ex-chief of the Federal Service for Financial Recovery and Bankruptcy, was badly wounded in central Moscow and died in the hospital in April 2004.

Suleimanov was [reportedly](#) arrested [Thursday](#) after the alleged gunman, identified as the head of a Dagestani organized crime group named Abakar D., testified against him.

Abakar D. was said to have died from heart failure while in police custody after his testimony.

Russia's investigative authorities have not yet commented on the arrest.

Suleimanov was in 2004 sentenced to 10.5 years on fraud and money laundering charges and was released in 2015 on parole.

The state-run TASS news agency and pro-Kremlin daily Izvestia [describe](#) him as a billionaire, but no independent estimates of Suleimanov's net worth have been made public.

Investigative news outlets [named](#) Suleimanov and his son Rasul as the beneficiaries of Sirena-Travel, a major IT company that develops booking and digital solutions for the aviation sector, including the Leonardo reservation system used in 80% of ticket sales in Russia.

Suleimanov was previously [reported](#) to have business ties to billionaire senator Suleiman Kerimov and is the son-in-law of Platon Lebedev, the onetime business partner of exiled former tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

Moscow's Basmanny District Court is expected to [rule](#) on placing Suleimanov in pre-trial detention later Friday, according to the Kommersant business daily.

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