Kabanov News Articles

Russia Beyond Headlines, "Inside Russia, new light shines on Magnitsky case: Investigators, prison doctors, prosecutors and judges are responsible for the death of the Hermitage Capital fund lawyer, the presidential council on human rights stated," 11 July 2011 (http://rbth.com/articles/2011/07/11/inside russia new light shines on magnitsky case 13133.html)

The third report – the most controversial one – deals with the hidden motives for the accusations against Magnitsky. The original investigation argued that the lawyer organized the embezzlement of \$230 million from the state budget, while Magnitsky himself had previously accused the same investigators of stealing the money. According to the National Anticorruption Committee, there is no way Magnitsky could have organized the theft. The Hermitage Capital companies, via which the money was stolen, were actually seized and re-registered under the names of different owners. To carry out the raid, the companies used documents seized from the fund by Police Lieutenant Colonel Artem Kuznetsov and held by Major Pavel Karpov. Both of these individuals were later involved in the investigation of the Magnitsky case. The National Anticorruption Committee noted "instances of sabotage and interference with the investigation" into the circumstances surrounding the lawyer's death by those who led the criminal prosecution against him."

The presidential council said its investigation is not yet completed. National Anticorruption Committee Chairman Kirill Kabanov said new people could emerge in the Magnitsky case. The documents, he said, do not reveal the full names of some officials who could be connected to the lawyer's death and the embezzlement of \$230 million. There are officials who could be implicated within the Ministry of the Interior, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Federal Security Service, the Ministry of Taxes and Levies, the Treasury, and the Ministry of Finance. "We will do everything possible for the culprits to be punished even if they are high-ranking people from the Federal Security Service, investigators or their superiors," Kabanov said, noting that "this isn't even at the level of department heads, but much higher," So far, he said, the investigation "has not even been able to work its way up to a colonel or lieutenant colonels."

• Ria Novosti, "More Officials to be sued over Magnitsky death," 18 July 2011 (http://sputniknews.com/russia/20110718/165261953.html)

The Russian presidential civil society and human rights council does not rule out that more law enforcement and state security officials could be prosecuted over the death of lawyer Sergei Magnitsky in custody, National Anticorruption Committee head Kirill Kabanov said on Monday.

"Such decisions are made as a result of our joint action with the investigation. The work on the Magnitsky case is ongoing; we are in contact with investigators almost every day," Kabanov said.

"We must get to the bottom of it, including the role of law enforcement and state security service officials."

Los Angeles Times, "Rights panel issues early report on Russian lawyer's prison death.
 Attorney Sergei Magnitsky had his knuckles broken and was denied medical treatment before
 he died in 2009 in a Moscow prison, an investigation ordered by Russia's president
 determines," July 06, 2011 (http://articles.latimes.com/2011/jul/06/world/la-fg-russia-lawyer-20110706

"The president agreed with us that crimes stand behind Magnitsky's death," Kirill Kabanov, head of the Moscow-based National Anti-Corruption Committee, a human rights group, and a member of the presidential council, said by telephone after the meeting with Medvedev.

"We tried to make it clear in the report that, in an attempt to cover up their massive embezzlement, certain law enforcement officers initiated Magnitsky's arrest and tried to control the investigation from the very beginning."

• RIA Novosti, "FSB, police officials could figure in Magnitsky death investigation," 12 July 2011. Available at: http://russian-untouchables.com/eng/2011/07/fsb-police-officials-could-figure-in-magnitsky-death-investigation/

"Speaking about names, I want to specify structures that may be involved. These are the Interior Ministry, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Federal Security Service (FSB), the Ministry of Taxes and Collections, and the Finance Ministry," council member Kirill Kabanov said.

• Interfax, "Russian rights activist criticizes scope of Magnitskiy investigation," 15 November 2011 Available at: http://russian-untouchables.com/eng/2011/11/russian-rights-activist-criticizes-scope-of-magnitskiy-investigation/

"Something was done: criminal proceedings were instituted over Magnitskiy's death. Some people face charges as part of these proceedings; they are the doctors, and that is where the problem lies," Kirill Kabanov, head of the National Anticorruption Committee and a member of the presidential council for human rights [Council for Promoting the Development of the Institutions of Civil Society and Human Rights], told Interfax on Tuesday [15 November].

He said the most important thing had not been done: the role of a group of Russian security and other officials in the Magnitskiy case had not been investigated. Kabanov is one of the [participants in an independent inquiry into Magnitskiy's death within the presidential council for human rights.

"The Investigations Committee cannot combine all Magnitskiy-related cases into one criminal investigation. This decision has to be made by the Prosecutor-General's Office, and it is not doing it," **Kabanov** said.

"The security bureaucracy has vast resources to protect itself. There is the will of the president, the will of the public, but the security bureaucracy does not want the entire chain to be revealed. These are not just Interior Ministry and security services officers but also members of the judiciary," Kabanov said.

Interfax, "Russian party leader, rights activist doubt Magnitskiy case will be investigated," 9
 April 2012 Available at: http://russian-untouchables.com/eng/2012/04/russian-party-leader-rights-activist-doubt-magnitskiy-case-will-be-investigated/

Meanwhile, a member of the presidential human rights council and head of the National Anti-Corruption Committee Kirill Kabanov said that the Magnitskiy investigation was being wrapped up and that certain people were hoping to close the case when Putin takes the presidency.

Kabanov, as reported by Gazprom-owned, editorially independent Russian news agency Ekho Moskvy later on the same day, said: "I believe that today the law enforcement bureaucracy hopes that, the president-elect [Vladimir Putin] is more loyal to it than, mildly speaking, Dmitriy Anatolyevich [Medvedev], therefore, they are taking steps to round off and close all of this (the Magnitskiy case)."

Kabanov went on to say that "the law enforcement bureaucracy is even stronger than the civilian president" and that it dictated its terms to the president in a certain sense. "It does not betray its own people and does not intend to do so, since this is the principle of existence today," Kabanov said.

Kabanov, as further reported by Interfax, added: "Actually the heat is most likely being taken off the people who were involved in the Magnitskiy case, including those from law enforcement bodies and the secret service."

He continued: "I think that people are counting on Putin's lack of interest in the Magnitskiy case when he takes the presidency and that it will be possible to convince him that law enforcers are right."

Kabanov said: "We can practically see that the investigation is being wrapped up."

He added: "Regretfully, the hope that the Magnitskiy case will be investigated is decreasing."

Human rights activists are no longer invited to witness investigative procedures in the Magnitsky case, Council member, head of the National Anti-Corruption Committee public organization Kirill Kabanov said at the Council's meeting in Moscow on Thursday.

Interfax, 18 May 2012. "Presidential Human Rights Council dissatisfied with Magnitsky case investigation." Available at: http://russian-untouchables.com/eng/2012/05/presidential-human-rights-council-dissatisfied-with-magnitsky-case-investigation/

"The Investigative Committee has assigned a new detective to the case. The new detective is not cooperative with human rights activists and the Presidential Council; that is the right he has by the Criminal Procedure Code," he said.

A short time ago the Presidential Council's working group believed that some progress had been made in the Magnitsky case, he said.

"We started to interact with the detectives. For the first time ever an Investigative Committee detective invited human rights activists to witness investigative procedures and asked their opinion about particular episodes," Kabanov said.

"Yet as soon as the case went beyond the accusations of doctors of the Federal Prisons Service and questions about corruption and multibillion embezzlements were asked to officers of the Interior Ministry and the Federal Security Service, the system started to defend itself," he said.