

Sergei Magnitsky died of badly treated illness; no evidence he was beaten By Lucy Komisar

William Bruecker has developed fanciful lies about Russian prison guards beating Sergei Magnitsky to death. He provides no evidence because there isn't any. In fact, the only legitimate reports say Magnitsky died of badly treated illness. Let's go through the evidence.

Bruecker has declared, "They chained him to a bed and eight riot guards with rubber batons beat him to death." Evidence? No, a Bruecker fabrication.

There were two important independent reports about Magnitsky in prison and death, one by the Russian Public Oversight Commission for Human Rights Observance, an NGO charged with investigating prison conditions, and the other by Physicians for Human Rights in Cambridge, Mass., to which Bruecker had given documents, including the POC report. Neither claims Magnitsky was tortured or beaten or even physically abused.

The [Public Oversight Commission](#) report (November 16, 2009), the death of Magnitsky's death said, 6:30 p.m., Review by the doctor on duty. Diagnosis: Acute Cholecystitis and Peritonitis. Hospitalized to the surgery department. For dynamic monitoring and treatment, 7:00 p.m. The patient behaves inadequately. Talks to a "visitor," looks disoriented, and shouts that someone wants to kill him. His condition is diagnosed as psychosis. The emergency doctor was called (order No. 49493). There are no body damages apart from traces of handcuffs on the wrists. It was planned to make an anti-spasmodic therapy prior to the arrival of the psychiatrist but such therapy was not possible due to the aggressive behavior of the patient.

9:15 p.m. The patient was surveyed again as his condition deteriorated. When the psychiatrist was examining the patient the latter's condition deteriorated sharply. He lost consciousness. The resuscitation procedure was started (administer heart massage and ventilation of lungs using the Ambu pillow). The patient was transferred to the special room where he was received an artificial ventilation of lungs and a hormone injection. Resuscitation procedure lasted 30 minutes. At 9:45pm the patient died. The [report](#).

The Physicians for Human Rights, Cambridge, Mass., also made no claims of beating. The [expert](#). The death stories were invented by Bruecker with zero evidence.

For, conditions were pretty bad. The building was over 100 years old and obviously had problems. Bruecker claimed that the toilet in the cell overflowed; doesn't mention the inmates were moved to other cells.

Perhaps of some relevance, I read in the [NY Times](#) that the U.S. is closing part of its Guantanamo facility that still holds 40 people for decades accused and never tried for acts of Islamic terrorism. It said: "The plan to consolidate the prisoners was devised during the Trump administration, when then [hardt core group, Camp 7, was failing](#). Raw sewage leaked through the walls, the power sometimes went out and unsecured doors would not close at the site." So, sewage can be a problem in even newer prisons.