

## Sergei Magnitsky was *not* Browder's lawyer but his accountant

By Lucy Komisar

Sergei Magnitsky was *not* a lawyer hired by William Browder in 2007. He was Browder's accountant since 1997, working for the Firestone Duncan accounting firm in Moscow, handling Browder's Hermitage Fund accounts. And organizing his tax evasion.

Here is the first page of [testimonies](#) Magnitsky gave to Russian authorities in 2006 and 2008 which, #8, lists him as an auditor at Firestone Duncan.

Moscow (place of issue)	October 18, 2006
Interrogation started at 10:00	Interrogation finished at 10:55
Investigator for particularly important cases of tax crimes investigation department (Name of preliminary investigation agency or inquiry, Investigative Committee of the Russian Interior Ministry Justice Major I.P. Novikov in office premise № 420 rank or title, name and initials of the investigator (inquirer) in accordance with Art. 189 and 190 (191) of RF CCP interrogated on the criminal case № 248065 (which exactly)	
as a witness:	
1. Surname, first name, patronymic: Magnitsky Sergey Leonidovich	
2. Date of birth: 08.04.1972	
3. Place of birth: Odessa, Ukraine	
4. Place of residence and (or) registration: Moscow, Pokrovka str., house 20/1, app. 43 Tel:	
5. Citizenship: RF	
6. Education: higher, 'economist'	
7. Marital status, family: married, two children - 2001, 1992.	
8. Work place: auditor in CJSC 'Firestone Duncan'. Phone: -----	
9. Military Status: bound to service (draft registered)	

*First page of Magnitsky testimony. #8 lists him as auditor at Firestone Duncan.*

Here is Browder in his April 2015 sworn [deposition](#) before U.S. federal court, where lying can get you a perjury charge.

The lawyer asked if Magnitsky had a law degree in Russia.

"I'm not aware that he did," Browder said.

Did he know if Magnitsky "went to law school?"

"No," Browder answered.

*Browder admits Magnitsky didn't go to law school or have a law degree. And, contrary to what Browder says, he didn't "represent" him in court, he was called to give testimony about his role in Browder's Hermitage Fund tax evasion. As an accountant, of course. From Browder's sworn deposition in U.S. Federal Court 2015.*