

'Conscientious' Cop Sacked

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The  **Moscow Times**

A police officer who claimed in court that his superiors forced him to falsify a report about an opposition leader's violent behavior was fired, Interfax reported Tuesday.

Ilya Yashin of Solidarity group was jailed for five days after a sanctioned rally on the downtown Triumfalnaya Ploshchad on New Year's Eve because Artyom Charukhin reported that he attacked officers to free a detained colleague.

But Charukhin retracted the report last week.

Moscow police denied falsification claims Tuesday and said Charukhin was sacked and may face legal sanctions over the case.

Yashin's group promised to help the former policeman, and the Public Chamber pledged to look into the incident.

(MT)

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