

FSB Arrests Russian Police Chief In Sting Operation, Accomplice Flees in Car Chase

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Vitaly Nevar / TASS

An anti-extremism police chief in St. Petersburg was arrested after reportedly accepting a 1 million ruble (\$17,600) bribe on Tuesday, while his accomplice fled in a dramatic car chase from FSB agents.

Lieutenant colonel Eduard Tugushev is the intelligence chief of the "Center E" police unit in St. Petersburg, a highly secretive branch of the Interior Ministry. The counter-extremism unit is infamous for targeting opposition and human rights activists on extremism charges.

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Federal Security Service (FSB) operatives arrested lieutenant colonel Tugushev in a sting

operation after he accepted a bundle of counterfeit cash, the St. Petersburg-based [Fontanka.ru](#) news website [reported](#) on Wednesday.

Tugushev's partner, a 37-year-old police major whose first name was given as Sasha, fled by car, crashed into a barrier after an extended chase and disappeared into the woods. He reportedly made off with the counterfeit 1 million rubles that FSB agents used to stage the sting operation.

The two police officers are suspected of soliciting the bribe to help a September 2017 carjacking suspect avoid criminal prosecution, [Fontanka reported](#).

Authorities have opened a bribery case and have placed Tugushev under arrest for two days.

The Investigative Committee has called for Tugushev's partner to turn himself in voluntarily, according to [Fontanka](#).

"Otherwise, he'll be put on the wanted list. That's shameful and will let down his superiors," the unnamed source in the committee told the outlet.

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