

“Memorial” Considers the Resident of Astrakhan Maksim Panfilov a Political Prisoner

The resident of Astrakhan Maksim Panfilov was detained on April 7, 2016. He suffers from a neurological disease and at the time of his arrest he was unemployed.

After being arrested, Panfilov was delivered to Moscow by plane and was not allowed to take with him the pills prescribed by a doctor. He was charged with participation in events on Bolotnaya Square on May 6, 2012 in accordance with Part 2 of Article 212 (participation in mass disorders) and Part 1 of Article 318 (use of violence not threatening life or health against the authorities) of the Criminal Code. On the day of his detention, the lawyer Maria Kurakina could not get to the accused due to the obstacles put by of the investigator.

The next day, on the 8th of April, the Judge of Basmany District Court Valentin Levashov assigned a preventive measure in the form of detention in respect of Panfilov. He is accused of the fact that while preventing the detention of protesters, he took a helmet off the police sergeant Filippov, which caused physical pain to the latter. The defense argues that Panfilov has not caused physical pain the policeman, and the helmet was not fastened; Panfilov absolutely denies his involvement in mass disorders.

Human Rights Center “Memorial” has regarded and continues to regard the “6th of May Case” totally unjust and unreasonable. We believe that the events of May 6, 2012 had no signs of mass disorders, and evidence against the previously convicted of using violence against police officers were based on blatant falsifications and a biased and one-sided investigation.

Human Rights Center “Memorial” considers Maxim Panfilov a political prisoner and calls for the immediate and unconditional release of him and of other prisoners in accordance with the Bolotnaya case.

Recognition of an individual as a political prisoner or as a person persecuted for political reasons does not imply any consent of the HRC “Memorial” with his/her views and statements, or any approval of his/her words or actions.

Read more information about “May 6th case” (in Russian) on our website <http://memohrc.org/special-projects/delo-o-sobytyah-na-bolotnoy-ploshchadi-6-maya-2012-goda>.

PayPal – an e-wallet for giving help to all Russian political prisoners helppoliticalprisoners@gmail.com

This news on our website <http://memohrc.org/news/memorial-schitaet-zhitelya-astrahani-maksima-panfilova-politzaklyuchennym>.