

Jeremy Bigwood
Investigative Journalist and Photojournalist



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EXPEDITED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Mikhail Lesin in Dupont Circle, November 5, 2015

Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Saturday, February 20, 2016

Dear FOIA/MDR officer:

In my capacity as an investigative journalist I am writing your office to request the release of records through an expedited FOIA request. I seek any and all records, irrespective of media, regarding:

Mikhail Yuriyevich Lesin (Russian: Михаил Юрьевич Лесин; July 11, 1958 - November 5, 2015). Lesin, the head of RT, the controversial Russian-American television network, died in a Dupont Circle hotel November 5, 2015. There has been speculation as to the cause of death.

I would like this request to be made under my "representative of the news media" status, which can be attested to by Googling my name or visiting the following Internet URL:

<http://www.inthesetimes.com/community/profile/3543/>

If you have any questions about this request or foresee problems in fully releasing the requested records within the twenty day period, feel free to call me within that time period. I can be reached on my cell at [redacted] Please send the hard copies of the requested documents to the above address or digitized versions to me at my e-mail which is: [redacted]

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In order to request that a FOIA request be expedited, the requester must show "compelling need". "Compelling need" in this case is "with respect to a request made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information, urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity."

In this case, the actual or alleged Federal government activity is its activities regarding Mikhail Lesin.

I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. I intend to inform the public through a variety of media.

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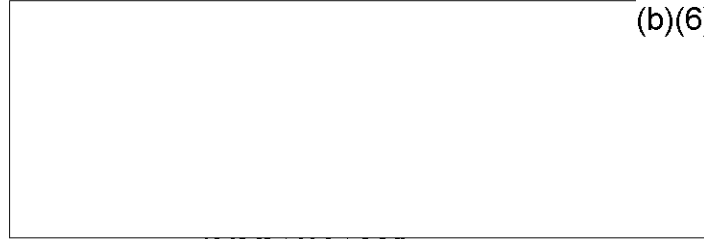


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Thank you for your consideration of this request. As applicable Agency regulations provide, I will anticipate your determination within ten (10) calendar days as stipulated by §552(a)(6)(E)(ii)(I).

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief as stipulated by §552(a)(6)(E)(vi).

Sincerely,

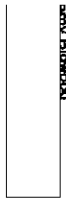


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Information and Privacy Coordinator
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