

Prosecutor of Amur Region  
Nikolai Pilipchuk  
Ul. Pionerskaya 37  
Blagoveshchensk 675005  
Russian Federation

Dear Prosecutor,

I am writing to you regarding the case of Sergei Nikiforov who were sentenced 4 years in prison by a court in Blagoveshchensk after an after trial. He is a respected member of the local evenki community and under his leadership Ivanovka village has grown and flourished.

His 2013 case - a company which was commissioned to renovate the local kindergarten accused him with fraud and bribery - was reactivated in September 2015 just at the time when the villagers under Mr. Nikiforov's leadership made clear their opposition to the gold mining project placed within 2 km of the village. The court refused to consider vital defence evidence and to call crucial witnesses.

I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Sergei Nikiforov as he is a prisoner of conscience and to carry out a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into the circumstances of Sergei Nikiforov's arrest and conviction. I would like to also remind you that as a Russian public official you have a responsibility to protect human rights defenders and ensure they can carry out their legitimate actions without fear of reprisals.

Yours sincerely,

A levél másolatát elküldöm:

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