

Olmert's poor health delays hearing

by UPI

JERUSALEM -- The Israeli High Court ruled Friday the corruption hearing of Ehud Olmert will be delayed to allow the former prime minister time to undergo cancer treatment.

Ynetnews said with leading physicians citing Olmert's need for immediate treatment for prostate cancer, his hearing on the so-called Rishon Tours double-billing affair was delayed until at least May 10.

The hearing was scheduled to take place on April 19 and 27.

Attorneys for Olmert, who stepped down from his ministerial post on March 31, had opposed the scheduling of the hearing, citing a lack of a firm decision by Attorney General Menachem Mazuz regarding the allegations against their client. Ynetnews said.

The State Prosecutor's Office has opposed claims by Olmert's defense team that there is new information in the three corruption investigations against him that needs to be investigated.

"The former prime minister's legal team was made privy to the materials in the case in due time. We are sympathetic to Mr. Olmert's condition and wish him good health and a speedy recovery but there is no justification to postpone the hearings," the office said in a legal brief.

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