

National
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Christian
Communicators
Impacting
the World



March 26, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry,

Thank you for your recent statement on behalf of Pastor Saeed Abedini, an American citizen who has been imprisoned and persecuted in Iran for his Christian faith. Members of the association I'm blessed to lead, National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), are greatly concerned with his current situation. We respectfully ask that the U.S. State Department do all it can to secure the immediate release of Pastor Abedini and his safe passage back home to the United States.

I recently wrote to you with alarm after news broke of the death in a Libyan prison of an Egyptian Christian named Ezzat Atallah, who also was targeted for his faith. We must not allow Pastor Abedini to suffer the same fate. NRB finds it unconscionable that the Iranian government would violate its own law and international covenants by treating any individual, never mind an American citizen, with such enmity and abuse because of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you again for your powerful words on behalf of this American Christian. I pray that he is returned home safely and soon. NRB is an ardent advocate of religious liberty for all people domestically and abroad, and we stand with you in the promotion of the free exercise of religion for members of all faiths in Iran, Libya, and elsewhere globally.

Thank you for your time and for your leadership of the U.S. Department of State.

Sincerely,

Frank Wright, Ph.D.
President & CEO