

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

March 30, 2015

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

We write to express our deep concern for the welfare of Tagi al-Maidan, an American citizen of Bahraini descent, who is currently imprisoned in Bahrain. Tagi al-Maidan was born in New Haven, Connecticut, while his father attended Yale University, and we urge you to take all possible steps to secure his release, while ensuring that he is afforded every right under the judicial system of Bahrain in the meantime.

On October 7, 2012, Tagi al-Maidan was arrested and subsequently sentenced to 10 years in prison on September 24, 2013. Numerous constituents, as well as Tagi's mother, have raised concerns with us about the circumstances surrounding his arrest, the fairness of his trial, and his deteriorating health while in prison. We understand that United States Embassy Consular staff were present at Tagi al-Maidan's hearings and have subsequently visited him in prison and advocated for his access to medical care. We appreciate that the State Department has raised this case at the highest levels of the government of Bahrain and urge you to continue these efforts until you have resolved all concerns regarding his safety and welfare.

From speaking with staff of the Embassy of Bahrain, we understand that he may be eligible for parole based upon his behavior while imprisoned, and furthermore that Ambassador Bill Roebuck may request that Tagi al-Maidan be considered a potential candidate to obtain a royal decree of pardon by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, based on the mutual goodwill between our two countries. We ask that you explore these and all other possible avenues to secure Tagi's release. In the interim, we ask that regular consular services continue to be provided and that you keep us apprised of his case.

Sincerely,



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senate



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
United States Senate

Rosa L. DeLauro

ROSA L. DELAURO

Member of Congress