Dire Condition of Abolfazl Abedini in Karoun Prison in Ahvaz

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HRANA – Journalist Abolfazl Abedini Nasr, a former officer of Human Rights Activists in Iran, was recently transferred to Karoun Prison in Ahvaz, where he is held under severe and unfavorable conditions, and his life is currently in danger.

Based on information received by HRANA, Mr. Abedini is held in Ward 6 of Karoun prison, which is generally known as the Political Ward. In order to ramp up the the pressure on Mr. Abedini, the authorities have placed him in a cell with a number of dangerous criminals who have threatened Mr. Abedini's life on multiple occasions.

Mr. Abedini was sentenced to 11 years in prison by Branch 1 of the Revolutionary Court of Ahvaz. Less than a week after handing down this sentence to Mr. Abedini's attorney, Mr. Mohammad Oliayee Fard, and with over 14 days left to appeal the sentence, the 11th Branch of the state's Court of Appeals upheld the same ruling.

During the coordinated attacks on human rights activists by the security apparatus last winter, Abolfazl Abedini was arrested in his father's home on March 2, 2010, following a raid by over sixty armed Security Forces.

While held in Ward 2A of Evin prison, which is controlled by the Revolutionary Guard, Mr. Abedini was subjected to inhumane physical and psychological torture, so extreme that he was transferred to the clinic at Evin prison on multiple occasions for severe physical injury.

This young journalist suffers from a severe heart condition and his physicians have repeatedly warned that he cannot tolerate the stress of prison and should not be denied his medications.