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Tortured Prominent Iranian Journalist Sues Nokia Siemens Networks for Human Rights Abuses

Chevy Chase, Maryland – August 16, 2010 - Isa Saharkhiz and his son, Mehdi Saharkhiz filled a lawsuit in U.S. Federal Court in Alexandria, Virginia against Nokia Siemens Networks and its parent companies Siemens AG and Nokia Inc. alleging human rights violations committed by the Iranian government through the aid of spying centers which were provided by Nokia Siemens Networks.

Isa Saharkhiz, a prominent Iranian journalist and political activist has been arrested as a result of the surveillance and monitoring of his cell phone communications in the aftermath of disputed 2009 presidential election in Iran. Since his arrest, Iranian officials have tortured Mr. Saharkhiz and subjected him to other inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment. Currently, his health is deteriorating, suffering from untreated injuries caused by torture, resulting from Iranian authorities withholding necessary medical care.

The lawsuit seeks, among other things, Nokia Siemens Networks to cease all unlawful support of intercepting centers of the Iranian government. It also asks Nokia Siemens Networks to help secure the release of Mr. Isa Saharkhiz through the use of their connections with the Iranian Government. Lastly, the suit seeks relief that would prevent Defendants from harming others in the future in other similarly situated countries like Iran.

Through their attorneys, Edward Moawad and Ali Herischi of the law firm of Moawad & Herischi, LLP, the plaintiffs in this lawsuit call upon the United States' judicial system to hold accountable businesses practices such as the ones committed by Nokia Siemens Networks in Iran.

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