

URGENT ACTION

RIGHTS LAWYER AND JOURNALIST RELEASED

Mahienour El-Massry and Youssef Shaaban were released on 13 August after serving their 15-month prison sentence. Loay El-Kahwagi, who was sentenced in the same case, is still serving his sentence and is due to be released in March 2017.

On 13 August, human rights lawyer and prisoner of conscience **Mahienour El-Massry** and journalist **Youssef Shaaban** were released from jail after serving their prison terms of one year and three months handed down by an Alexandria appeal court on 11 May 2015.

The incidents of the case started on 29 March 2013 after the two participated in a protest in front of al-Raml Police Station in Alexandria. The protest was in solidarity with lawyers being detained and interrogated inside the police station, after they accused police officers of verbally and physically attacking them.

In February 2015, both were sentenced to two years in prison. The sentence was reduced by the appeal court on 11 May 2015 to one year and three months. Both men were convicted of “protesting without authorization”, “damaging police property”, “attacking security forces” and “threatening public security”.

Loay El-Kahwagi, who was sentenced in the same case, is still serving his sentence at Borg El-Arab Prison and Amnesty International will continue to monitor his case. He started serving his sentence in December 2015 and has exhausted all of his appeals. He is due to be released in March 2017.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the third update of UA 107/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/MDE12/2845/2015/en/>

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