

Public Prosecutor
Nabil Sadek
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Madinat Al-Rihab
New Cairo
Egypt

Dear Counsellor Nabil Sadek,

I urge you to release Mahmoud Abu Zeid, better known as Shawkan, immediately and unconditionally with all charges against him dropped. He is a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for his journalistic work.

A photojournalist, he was covering the Rabaa al-Adaweya sit-in on 14 August 2013 in Cairo, when security forces swept in. More than 700 people were killed in that sit-in alone. Up to 1,000 people were killed across the country as police and army officers were deployed to disperse protests nationally.

When police found out Shawkan was a journalist, they arrested him. He has been in detention for more than three years facing trumped-up charges and receiving inadequate health care. Please release him without delay.

Yours sincerely,