



## **FREEDOM NOW**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **FREEDOM NOW ANNOUNCES IT HAS BEEN RETAINED TO REPRESENT CUBAN DISSIDENT DR. OSCAR ELIAS BISCET**

Freedom Now is excited to announce that it has been retained by the family of Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, a prominent Cuban human rights activist, to help secure his release from prison.

Dr. Biscet is the founder of the Lawton Foundation for Human Rights and is serving a twenty-five year sentence in Combinado del Este for calling for peaceful change in Cuba. Dr. Biscet was arrested on December 6, 2002, on the way to a colleague's home for a meeting with the "Friends of Human Rights," a grassroots organization through which small groups of Cubans meet to discuss human rights issues.

Jeremy Zucker, Chairman of Freedom Now, commented, "We are excited about the opportunity to represent Dr. Biscet, whose arrest, sentence, and ongoing detention are an affront to all those who care about basic respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Freedom Now has a strong track record securing the release of prisoners of conscience worldwide, including:

- James Mawdsley, a British activist sentenced to 17 years in prison in Burma for handing out pro-democracy leaflets;
- Ayub Masih, a Pakistani Christian sentenced to death for blasphemy in Pakistan;
- Dr. Saad Eddin Ibrahim, an Egyptian-American pro-democracy activist sentenced to five years in prison for his advocacy efforts;
- Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, a Vietnamese Catholic priest sentenced to 15 years in prison in Vietnam after testifying before the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom about the lack of religious freedom in Vietnam; and
- Dr. Nguyen Dan Que, a Vietnamese pro-democracy activist sentenced to 30 months in prison after distributing a statement over the Internet calling for greater freedom of information in Vietnam.

For more information about Freedom Now, please visit our web site:  
[www.freedom-now.org](http://www.freedom-now.org).

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