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**" Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David,
according to my gospel, for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment
as a criminal; but the Word of God is not imprisoned." 2 Timothy 2:9**

Dear Friends,

Many of you have prayed for our friend and advocate in Vietnam, Nguyen Van Dai ("David"). He has been a brave, gracious, and tactful advocate for human rights, religious freedom and democracy. David attended Advocates' Global Convocations in 2000 and 2004, as well as numerous Advocates Asia conferences.

David was one of the first lawyers in Vietnam to take on cases involving violations against Christians. Incensed by stories of house churches raided by the police, David became committed to defending human rights – at great personal cost. As a result of his work on "sensitive" cases, he was arrested in 2007 and served a four-year prison sentence for "spreading propaganda" under Article 88 of the Penal Code. He was released in 2011 and put under probation/house arrest, which ended in March 2015.

While under probation/house arrest, David was closely monitored by police and security agents. His home was attacked by people believed to be hired by the government, and on at least one occasion he was prevented from going to church. Then, on December 6, 2015, David was badly beaten after being involved in a conference on human rights for Catholic citizens. On 16 December 2015, David was again detained for "spreading propaganda." His colleague, Ms. Le Thu Ha, was taken into police custody on the same day. Both Nguyen Van Dai and Le Thu Ha are being held in prison in Hanoi.

Please pray with us for lawyer Nguyen Van Dai and for his family and colleagues, including Le Thu Ha. I've enclosed a postcard addressed to David's wife, Vu Minh Khanh. Feel free to mail it directly to her—or send it back to us here and we'll send it along with others we receive. On the back of this letter are some prayer points that we shared by email last month.

Please continue to pray with us for our ongoing work in Vietnam and other nations. Your engagement with us through prayers and financial support allow us to encourage and equip Advocates to do justice with compassion around the globe. Praise God that His Word is not imprisoned.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO

MONDAY: Pray for Christian lawyer Nguyen Van Dai (“David”), that justice will be done and he will be released and allowed to continue his work defending religious minorities and other victims of oppression.

TUESDAY: Give thanks for Dai’s courage and for his faith in God despite difficult circumstances.

WEDNESDAY: Pray for Dai’s young colleague, Le Thu Ha, aged 33, who is also in detention and is accused of serious crimes against the state.



THURSDAY: Give thanks for the growth of Christianity in Vietnam and the many thriving churches and missions in the country.

FRIDAY: Pray for comfort and strength for the families of Nguyen Van Dai and Le Thu Ha, and for peace about the future, especially for Dai’s wife, Khanh.

SATURDAY: Give thanks for the international community’s attention to Dai’s case and a new understanding of the situation for religious groups in Vietnam.

SUNDAY: Pray for wisdom for lawyers and advocates in Vietnam who are working for religious freedom for Christians and other minorities.