

Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists Offers bail for releasing journalists Momani and Khalidi but Prosecutor rejects release

The Amman-based Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists (CDFJ) has announced that the Public Prosecutor Saber Rawashdeh has again turned down the center's bailing of journalists Jihad Momani and Hisham Khalidi.

Mohammad Kutaishat attorney of the Center's legal aid unit has on Thursday February 9, 2006 offered bail on behalf of the detainees but the Public Prosecutor rejected the request.

Both journalists are still in hospital under observation.

The first trial of Momani started before Magistrate Eyad Jairoudi, but lawyer Kutaishat requested adjournment on the account of medical reports he produced that proved the inability of Momani to be present at the trial. The judge decided to postpone the trial until February 16,2006.

The Center's defense team will once again on Sunday request the release on bail of the two colleagues.