

# Jack Snelling

MEMBER FOR PLAYFORD

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE



Monday, 12 May 2008

The Hon Nguyen Tan Dung  
Prime Minister  
Socialist Republic of Vietnam  
Hoang Van Thu Street  
Ha Noi Viet Nam

Dear Prime Minister,

I write on behalf of a number of my Australian-Vietnamese constituents who have contacted me regarding the recent arrest of some members and supporters of the Viet Tan (Vietnam Reform Party) in Ho Chi Minh City.

The following democracy activists; Dr Nguyen Quoc Quan, American citizen; Mr Nguyen The Vu, Vietnamese citizen; and Mr Khunmi Somsak, Thai citizen; were arrested in November 2007 and have been detained since this time.

Prior to their arrest, I have been advised these individuals had participated in discussions with other activists on promoting democracy through peace and non-violence.

I understand Dr Nguyen Quoc Quan, Mr Khunmi Somsak and Mr Nguyen The Vu will be brought to trial on Tuesday, 13 May 2008 on terrorism charges.

Due to the circumstances of the arrests of these men, I call upon your government to immediately release the above individuals as their only activity was to peacefully express their support for freedom and democracy.

I also call upon your government to respect the United Nations Charter of Human Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which your country is a signatory.

I believe if the above requests are acted upon, this would lead to a positive image of Vietnam in Australia and elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,

**JACK SNELLING MP**  
**MEMBER FOR PLAYFORD**

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