

Jenner & Block Named Litigators of the Week Runners-Up for Pivotal Anti-Terrorism Act Ruling in *Murad v. Lafarge*

Recognition

February 6, 2026

A Jenner & Block team led by Partners Jason Hipp, Todd C. Toral, and Brent Caslin were named as Runners-Up for Litigators of the Week by *The American Lawyer* for securing an important victory for Yazidi-American survivors of genocide. The US District Court for the Eastern District of New York ruled that plaintiffs have a right to sue under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1992 (ATA) if they hold US citizenship at the time of suit, establishing a clear right to seek relief for terror victims.

[Read More](#)

The Eastern District of New York's ruling in *Nadia Murad et al. v. Lafarge* marks the first time a court has decided this specific and enormously consequential statutory interpretation of the 1992 law in a litigated posture. Had the court ruled otherwise, the Yazidi Nobel laureate Nadia Murad, along with hundreds of the 871 plaintiffs in this case, all Yazidi-Americans, could have had their claims dismissed entirely.

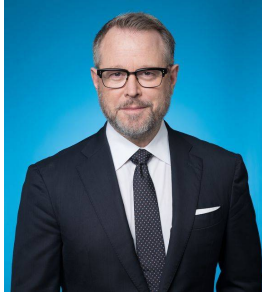
The Court denied in part defendants' motion to dismiss that sought to strip hundreds of Yazidi-American genocide survivors of their claims based on technical arguments related to the timing of their citizenship acquisition. The ramifications of this decision extend far beyond *Murad v. Lafarge*, establishing precedent for other US citizens affected by terrorism to pursue their claims and the broad relief available under the ATA.

The ruling comes after US citizens from the Yazidi community, a religious minority originating in and around Iraq, filed a civil suit in December 2023 seeking damages against French corporation Lafarge S.A. for financing the Islamic State (ISIS), a transnational terrorist group, even as it committed terrorist attacks on Yazidi villages in Iraq in August 2014.

This victory follows Jenner's representation in *Schansman v. Sberbank*, where the Second Circuit ruled in February 2025 that state-owned entities may be sued under the ATA—a decision the US Supreme Court declined to reconsider in October 2025.

The Jenner team worked alongside Willkie Farr & Gallagher *LLP*, and co-counsel Amal Clooney and her team including Alisha Mathew.

Related Attorneys



Todd C. Toral

Partner

ttoral@jenner.com

+1 213 239 2294



Brent Caslin

Partner

bcaslin@jenner.com

+1 213 239 5150

Related Capabilities

Human Rights and Global Strategy

© 2026 Jenner & Block LLP. Attorney Advertising. Jenner & Block LLP is an Illinois Limited Liability Partnership including professional corporations. This publication, presentation, or event is not intended to provide legal advice but to provide information on legal matters and/or firm news of interest to our clients and colleagues. Readers or attendees should seek specific legal advice before taking any action with respect to matters mentioned in this publication or at this event. The attorney responsible for this communication is Brent E. Kidwell, Jenner & Block LLP, 353 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654-3456. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. Jenner & Block London LLP, an affiliate of Jenner & Block LLP, is a limited liability partnership established under the laws of the State of Delaware, USA and is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority with SRA number

615729. Information regarding the data we collect and the rights you have over your data can be found in our Privacy Notice. For further inquiries, please contact dataprotection@jenner.com.

Stay Informed

