

Resettlement of Three American-Polish Children from Displaced Persons Camp in Syria

News

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Jenner & Block Special Counsel **Ian Moss** successfully represented three dual national American-Polish citizen children who had been living for years in a displaced persons camp in Northeast Syria under conditions of significant hardship and danger. The camp, home to tens of thousands of individuals, many alleged to be family members of ISIS detainees or otherwise affiliated with the terrorist organization, offered the children no access to education, psychosocial support, or medical care, leaving them exposed to the pervasive threat of extremist violence and radicalization.

After months of sustained advocacy and close engagement with US government authorities, Ian secured a critical breakthrough in fall 2025: the Department of State facilitated the resettlement of all three children, along with their mother, to Poland. The outcome ended years of precarious and dangerous displacement for a family caught in one of the world's most volatile humanitarian crises.

The timing of their departure proved to be of profound importance. Only a few months after the family's resettlement, the security situation in and around the camp deteriorated sharply, exposing remaining residents, including children, to direct threats of ISIS violence and the insidious reach of extremist ideology. Had the resettlement been delayed, the consequences for these children could have been severe and irreversible.

This matter reflects the intersection of international humanitarian law, US consular and citizenship rights, and the complex geopolitical realities of the post-ISIS landscape in Syria. It required persistent, multi-channel advocacy at the highest levels of the US government to overcome significant institutional and logistical obstacles. The successful resolution stands as a testament to the impact that dedicated legal representation can have on protecting the rights and lives of vulnerable individuals, particularly children, in some of the world's most challenging environments.

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