

# Center for Constitutional Rights

## Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

**<https://ccrjustice.org/home/press-center/press-releases/abu-ghraib-torture-victims-may-sue-us-corporation-appeals-court>**

## Public Facing Advocacy Writing

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*June 30, 2014, Richmond, VA* Today, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that victims of torture and abuse in Abu Ghraib prison could pursue legal claims for their abuse against private military contractors. The appeals court ruling [overturned](#) a lower court decision that had barred the survivors from suing U.S. corporations involved in the torture in U.S. courts. U.S. military investigators had determined in 2004 that private U.S.-based contractor CACI Premier Technology, Inc. (CACI) had participated in torture and other sadistic, blatant, and wanton criminal abuses of detainees at Abu Ghraib, yet a district judge ruled that the 2013 Supreme Court decision in *Kiobel v. Shell/Royal Dutch Petroleum* foreclosed claims arising out of Iraq. Today's decision, by contrast, recognized that CACI could be held liable in U.S. courts under the Alien Tort Statute (ATS) for its role in the torture. The case, [Al Shimari v. CACI International Inc.](#), was filed by the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) on behalf of four Iraqi men who were tortured at Abu Ghraib.

*The Center for Constitutional Rights works with communities under threat to fight for justice and liberation through litigation, advocacy, and strategic communications. Since 1966, the Center for Constitutional Rights has taken on oppressive systems of power, including structural racism, gender oppression, economic inequity, and governmental overreach. Learn more at [ccrjustice.org](http://ccrjustice.org).*

Please contact us for general press inquiries, or to set up interviews.

We can connect you with just the right person at CCR for the story you're working on.

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