

Landmark Victory In New York Federal Court for US Victims of Palestinian Terror



Credit Nitsana Darshan -Leitner of [Shurat HaDin](#) (Israel Law Center) and US co-counsel for today's verdict award by Federal Judge Daniels in a case brought against the Palestinian Authority arising from terrorist funding activities during the Second Intifada fomented by the late Yassir Arafat of the Palestinian Authority and the PLO. [Newsweek](#) reported:

In the first ruling of its kind, a U.S. court has found the Palestinian Authority and Palestine Liberation Organization liable for damages suffered by 10 American families whose relatives were injured or killed in attacks in Israel.

The six shootings and bomb attacks in question took place between 2002 and 2004, during the second intifada, or uprising, [Antiterrorism Act signed into law by then President Bill Clinton](#) in 1996, which gives American courts jurisdiction over acts of terrorism that harm U.S. citizens abroad.

"We are truly grateful that an American court has heard the evidence against the Palestinian Authority and the PLO and determined that suicide terrorism was indeed their official policy during the Second Intifada," said the statement from Shurat HaDin sent in an email to [Newsweek](#). It continued:

We started out more than a decade ago with the intent of making the defendants pay for their terrorist crimes against innocent civilians and letting them know that

there will eventually be a price to be paid for sending suicide bombers onto our buses and into our cafes. The defendants have already been boasting that they will appeal the decision and we will never collect on the judgment. We will not allow them to make a mockery of the US court process, however, and we continue to pursue them until it is paid in full. If the PA and PLO have the funds to pay the families of the suicide bombers each month, then they have the money to pay these victims of Palestinian terrorism.

The *New York Times* Breaking News report places both incumbent President Mahmoud Abbas and the Administration in a quandary, as the Netanyahu government has withheld \$100 million in monthly tax revenue remittances used to fund the PA operations because of the latter pursuit of claims of war crimes brought before the International Criminal Court at The Hague in the Netherlands. Perhaps the award of \$218.5 million might be paid as compensation to Israeli and US victims of Palestinian terrorism from those taxation remittances withheld by Israel. Kol Hakavod to Ms. Leitner and the team at Shurat HaDin and US co-counsel. Their motto is: "Bankrupting Terrorism, One Law Suit at a Time."

Below is the *New York Times* report:

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/24/nyregion/damages-awarded-in-terror-case-against-palestinian-groups.html?enc=edit_na_20150223