

# On the ATS: D.C. Circuit Splits with Second

For another twist of American courts on the Alien Tort Statute (this time, in favour of its applicability to corporations), I suggest reading the D.C. Circuit decision of July, the 8th, *John Doe VIII v. Exxon Mobil Corp* (see [here](#)). Also, the recent post of K. Anderson in [Opinio Juris](#), where he speaks his opinion against the majority in John Doe VIII. He concludes that “the corporate liability issue is so fundamental to contemporary ATS litigation – preceding, in a logical sense, the standards found in *Sosa* – and the split among circuits now so stark, that the [Supreme] Court cannot simply avoid resolving it.” (But, as he says himself, such a conclusion might be naive...)