

Lawsuit Challenges Govt's Right to Assassinate US Citizens

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The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) filed a lawsuit [today challenging the right of the Obama Administration to assassinate American citizens outside of any current war zones.](#)

"The United States cannot simply execute people, including its own citizens, anywhere in the world based on its own say-so," insisted the Executive Director of the CCR Vince Warren.

The Obama Administration however insists that it can do exactly that, when National Intelligence Director Dennis Blair announced to Congress that [US-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, against whom no charges have been filed, was on the official CIA "assassination list."](#)

Though officials [never explained where this new power to execute without charges came from, National Counterterrorism Chief Michael Leiter later explained that it would be "irresponsible" not to try to assassinate Awlaki.](#)

The lawsuit is an effort by Awlaki's father Nasser al-Awlaki to stop the assassination of his son. So far the administration has not addressed this lawsuit.

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