

**PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL**  
**November 8, 2011**

**THE ALIEN TORT STATUTE: A POWERFUL WEAPON AGAINST CORPORATIONS  
INVOLVED IN WAR CRIMES**

Richard Kellner and Scott Malzahn of Kabateck Brown Kellner wrote an article published in the Nov. 8 edition of the Daily Journal that reviews a 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals decision on Oct. 25 that further strengthens the abilities of foreigners to sue corporations under the Alien Tort Statute. The decision, *Sarei v. Rio Tinto*, came down on Oct. 25.

In the decision, an en banc panel of the 9th Circuit reversed a district court decision that dismissed a lawsuit against a multi-national mining company for alleged human rights abuses. With its decision, the 9th Circuit joined the 7th, 11th and District of Columbia Circuits in ruling that aliens can sue for violations of international law.