

Muslim Woman Assaulted in an Alleged Hate Crime in New York, Civil Rights Violation Lawyer Investigates

A burka-wearing woman in Harlem claims she was attacked by two women.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK -- New York City police are investigating whether an attack on a 56-year-old burka-wearing woman in Harlem was a [hate crime](#).

“A hate crime is a crime with an element of bias,” explained [New York civil rights violation lawyer](#) David Perecman.

Aissatou Diallo claims that two women attacked her as she was walking on West 141st Street. She said she was attacked after she asked one of the women to stop taking pictures of her.

Diallo said Francesca Johnson, a 28-year-old black woman, began taking cell phone pictures of her while she was doing nothing more than walking to her husband's store. When Diallo asked her to stop Johnson "ducked into a building and reappeared" with Linda Paplow, a 60-year-old white woman.

"The white lady called me a f--king terrorist," Diallo said. "She said she was going to kill me. The white lady punched me in the left eye." The pair allegedly then ran off only to come back and throw Diallo to the floor, pull off her burka and curse at her.

The two women have been arrested on assault charges and hate-crime detectives are investigating whether the crime was a [bias attack](#).

“There is little question on the allegation of harassment. Now the focus is on whether or not the incident was motivated by prejudice against Diallo’s religious beliefs and presentation,” said Perecman, a [New York civil rights violation lawyer](#) for over 30 years.

In June 2011, a Brooklyn man was arrested and charged with a [hate crime](#) for pouring beer on a neighbor while calling her an "Arab terrorist."

In New York, [civil rights violation lawyers](#) understand that being charged with a hate crime can increase the severity of an assault or battery charge.

“Being charged for a [hate crime](#) can make a rotten situation even worse for someone arrested in New York,” civil rights violation lawyer Perecman said.

It is essential to prevent hate crimes and other [civil rights violations in New York](#). Civil rights violation lawyers at [The Perecman Firm](#) encourage victimized individuals to [contact](#) them.

About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:

For the past 30 years, the New York civil rights violation, gender discrimination, age discrimination, and elder abuse lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have handled all types of cases including civil rights violations. David Perecman, founder of the Firm, is a Board Director and the past Secretary and Treasurer of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (NYSTLA) and a chair of its Labor Law Committee. Mr. Perecman's achievements have brought him recognition as an Honoree in the National Law Journal's Hall of Fame, in New York Magazine's "The Best Lawyers in America" and The New York Times Magazine "New York Super Lawyers, Metro Edition" for the years 2007-2010.

The Firm has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Among the more recent victories, Mr. Perecman won a \$15 million verdict* for a construction accident, a \$5.35 million dollar verdict** for an automobile accident, and a and a \$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice****.

*later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million

** later settled for \$3.5 million

*** later settled for \$90,000.00

**** total potential payout

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