

In a hearing last week, U.S. District Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle ruled that Mohammed Jawad's confession to Afghan officials was inadmissible because it had been extracted through torture. She also questioned whether the Justice Department had any evidence to proceed with a trial to determine whether he can be held as an enemy combatant.

Huvelle called the case an "outrage" and told Justice Department lawyers that their case against Jawad had been "gutted."

"They're simply trying to manufacture new ways to prolong his detention," he said.

The Justice Department's case against Jawad, whom Afghan officials say was **captured when he was just 12 years old**

, underscores the difficulties the U.S. government faces in justifying its continued imprisonment of Guantanamo detainees.

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