



Celebrating

40

YEARS OF JUSTICE FOR ANIMALS

1979 - 2019



**ANIMAL LEGAL
DEFENSE FUND**



1979: The Animal Legal Defense Fund is founded . . .

Forty years ago, Joyce Tischler founded the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and our founding mission still holds: to protect animals' lives and advance their interests through the legal system.

In 1979, the field of animal law wasn't just nascent, it was practically nonexistent. As you'll read in this special 40th anniversary issue of *The Animals' Advocate*, a lot has changed in the last four decades. Our lawsuits, our advocacy, our tireless pursuit of justice for animals — it's leading to stronger animal protection laws and stronger enforcement of those laws. We are training the next generation of animal lawyers, too, with now more than 200 Animal Legal Defense

Fund Student Chapters at law schools in the United States. The Animal Legal Defense Fund has worked every day for 40 years to shape and transform our legal system to protect animals. We have made tremendous progress, but the work is far from done. This booklet lays out some of the many victories over the past 40 years. Changing the way the legal system views animals is a marathon, not a sprint. But the change is tangible and enforceable — and we continue to build on our successes thanks to your generous support.

We are driving a social revolution. Thank you for being part of this fight. We couldn't do it without your support.



For the Animals,

Stephen Wells



1981: The Animal Legal Defense Fund successfully halts a U.S. Navy plan to kill wild burros
(ANIMAL PROTECTION INSTITUTE V. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE)

In March of 1981, Animal Legal Defense Fund founder Joyce Tischler learned the U.S. Navy planned to kill 300 to 500 wild burros located at the Naval Weapons Testing Center in China Lake, California. The Navy contended these killings were necessary to ensure the burros wouldn't pose any danger by wandering onto an airfield or adjacent road. Six hundred forty-eight burros had been killed earlier in the month. The next killings were scheduled to begin in less than two days.

Tischler, representing the Fund for Animals — the Animal Protection Institute was later added as a plaintiff — quickly filed a lawsuit and a motion for a temporary restraining order (TRO), arguing the Navy's plans violated the National Environmental Policy Act and state law.

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California granted the TRO. The Navy then agreed not to kill the burros, instead allowing the Fund for Animals to move them to safety — while also agreeing to pay \$50 for every burro the Fund for Animals removed. This case saved the lives of some 2,000 to 3,000 burros, it established that animal lawyers could and would use state and federal laws to halt government agencies from killing animals, and it led to the creation of the first full-time paid job for an animal rights lawyer.



Within a few months of the issuance of the temporary restraining order, the Animal Protection Institute provided a \$6,000 grant to the Animal Legal Defense Fund allowing Joyce Tischler to become the organization's first full-time staff attorney in June 1981.

Learn more: aldf.org/joycetischler



Temporary Restraining Order

A temporary restraining order (TRO) is a short-term pre-trial injunction obtained by convincing a judge that the plaintiff will suffer immediate irreparable injury unless the order is issued. A judge may issue a TRO without informing the other parties and without holding a hearing. These orders are intended to be stop-gap measures and only last until the court holds a hearing on whether or not to grant a preliminary injunction.



1983: First Animal Law Conference

In the spring of 1983, the Animal Legal Defense Fund organized its first conference on animal law. Held in San Francisco, the conference brought together the leaders of the burgeoning field to discuss issues ranging from wildlife protection to estate planning to the exploitation of animals for food and research.



Today, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, in collaboration with the Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark Law School, hosts the annual Animal Law Conference — the biggest animal law event in the country.

Learn more: animallawconference.org

1986: Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys block USDA cow face-branding plan
(*HUMANE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER AND MONROE COUNTY V. LYNG*)



In the mid-1980s, the United States Department of Agriculture devised a bailout program for dairy producers. In an effort to reduce milk production, the agency would pay farmers to slaughter their cows. To prevent the cows being sold to other farmers, known as “recycling” the cows, the program required that cows be branded on their faces with hot irons prior to slaughter — an incredibly painful procedure.

Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys worked around the clock to devise a legal strategy to halt the cruel plan. Inspired by a letter to the editor in a local Rochester newspaper from an angry farmer, the team ultimately found a farmer willing to serve as plaintiff in a lawsuit.

During the trial, animal agriculture professors testified to the immense pain that branding cows on the face with hot irons would cause to the animals, as well as the damage that it could cause to cows’ facial muscles and eyes. The court ruled in the Animal Legal Defense Fund’s favor and halted the branding plan on the grounds that it forced farmers to risk violating New York’s animal cruelty laws.

Not only did the victory spare many cows from suffering, but the lawsuit also received significant media coverage — it was even discussed by Peter Jennings on the nightly news.

Learn more: aldf.org/farmedanimals





1995: The Animal Legal Defense Fund helps defeat legislation that would have sent 148 Air Force “space chimps” to a research facility.

1989: An Animal Legal Defense Fund lawsuit stops annual bear hunts in California



In 1989, the Animal Legal Defense Fund — with the Fund for Animals — successfully sued to stop California’s annual black bear hunt. Superior Court Judge Cecily Bond ruled that California’s Department of Fish and Game must halt the hunt until performing a full study of the current bear population. The last meaningful review had been conducted

in 1976, and going forward without a new full study would be a “prescription for extinction,” Judge Bond said. The following year, the Animal Legal Defense Fund won another lawsuit before Judge Bond, who this time granted the organization’s request to put a halt to the bear bowhunting season in California.

1998: Establishing the right of animal advocates to challenge federal agencies' treatment of animals (*ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. GLICKMAN*)



Barney in 1998

When the Animal Legal Defense Fund discovered a chimpanzee named Barney in a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)-licensed zoo, he was languishing in solitary confinement on the cement floor of a cage. Deprived of companionship and veterinary care, Barney suffered from severe psychological and physical distress until he escaped from his cage and was subsequently shot and killed by a game-park employee.

In 1996, the Animal Legal Defense Fund successfully sued the USDA for failing to adopt minimum standards for the humane treatment of primates at research facilities and roadside zoos. U.S. District Court Judge Charles Richey ruled that the USDA had violated the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and must rewrite its rules to prevent animal

suffering and ensure the psychological well-being of primates in captivity. Judge Richey called the USDA's failure to issue such standards "egregious."

The decision was reversed in 1997 when a panel of judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ruled that the individual plaintiffs — who were regular visitors of the zoo — lacked legal standing. But after rehearing the case, the federal appeals court ruled on September 1, 1998 that the plaintiffs did have standing — they suffered direct harm witnessing the terrible living conditions of primates. A major legal victory, the ruling established the right of animal advocates to challenge the USDA's rules regarding the treatment of animals under the AWA.

The Animal Welfare Act

The AWA is the primary federal animal protection law. Signed into law in 1966, the AWA mainly involves animals at zoos and used in laboratories, as well as animals who are commercially bred and sold, such as those in puppy mills. The AWA directs the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to set minimum standards regarding animals' "handling, care, treatment, and transportation." Dog fighting and cockfighting are also prohibited under the AWA, so long as the activity in some way crosses state lines.

The AWA is problematic on several levels: the law itself — which provides only minimal protections — and its enforcement by the USDA are frequently criticized as allowing inhumane practices to go unchecked; additionally, the AWA does not apply to animals on farms, or to roughly 95% of the animals tested upon in labs — such as rats, mice, birds, fish, and reptiles.



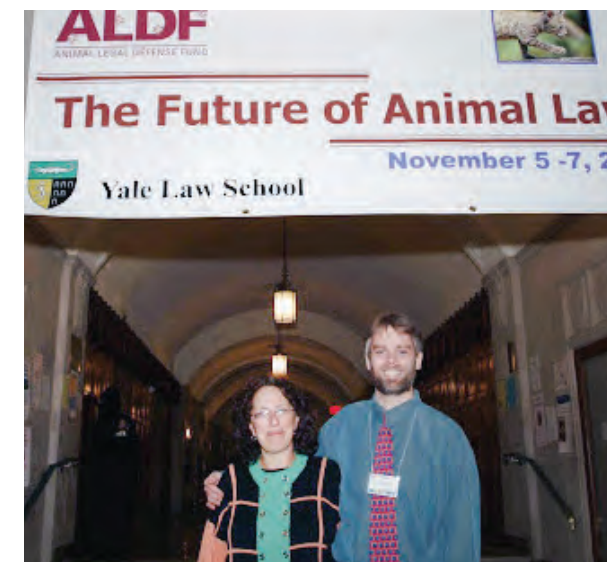
1998: The Animal Legal Defense Fund defeats Idaho’s plan to trap river otters.

1999: The Animal Legal Defense Fund launches a department to develop animal law-focused programs in law school and in private practice



When Stephen Wells joined the organization in 1999, he recognized that law students were increasingly interested in becoming involved with the Animal Legal Defense Fund’s groundbreaking work in animal law. Wells created a student chapter program aimed at organizing law students and supporting their work to develop animal law classes and curricula in law schools. At the end of 2000, there were over a dozen Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapters in law schools across the country.

Similarly, with growing interest in the work of the Animal Legal Defense Fund amongst practicing law professionals, Wells created a program to develop relationships with attorneys and law firms willing to do “pro bono” (free) legal work for the organization. By the end of 2000, the Pro Bono Network had almost 100 attorneys signed up and over a dozen law firms.



Joyce Tischler and Stephen Wells

2019 Animal Legal Defense Fund Advancement in Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Awards



Our 2019 honorees worked tirelessly on behalf of animals and helped contribute over 7,400 hours donated to our life-saving work, translating to more than \$4.5 million in legal services.

From left to right: Pro Bono Program Director, Tom Linney, award recipient, Joe Goode, accepting award on behalf of Laffey, Leitner & Goode, and award recipient, Bethany Hill, accepting on behalf of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati.

2000: “T-Bo Act” in Tennessee recognizes dogs and cats have more than economic worth



With guidance from the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the state of Tennessee became the first state to authorize non-economic damages in cases involving companion animals — specifically, loss of companionship, society, love, and affection.

The “T-Bo Act” is named for a 12-year-old Shih Tzu killed in an attack by another dog, and it was introduced by T-Bo’s

guardian, State Sen. Steve Cohen. Under the law, guardians in wrongful injury or death cases can recover up to \$5,000 in non-economic damages instead of being limited to the market value of the animal. In recognition of animals’ elevated places in our homes and lives, other states including Illinois and New York have followed Tennessee’s lead in allowing awards beyond economic damages for the deaths of companion animals.



2001: Securing justice for an abused elephant — and legal recognition that violence does not stop at species lines



Rose-Tu at the Oregon Zoo © Oregon Zoo

In April 2000, an Oregon Zoo staff member, in full view of witnesses, used a bullhook — a long stick with a pointed metal hook on its end — to beat and sodomize Rose-Tu, a six-year-old elephant. Though prosecutors initially believed Oregon’s laws prevented them from charging Rose-Tu’s abuser, with the Animal Legal Defense Fund’s extensive legal assistance — and highlighting the mounting public outcry, they successfully secured a conviction. The Animal Legal Defense Fund followed up this victory by drafting

Oregon’s “Rose-Tu bill,” which became law in 2001. Two of the legal leaps forward included in Rose-Tu’s bill were statutorily recognizing connections between domestic violence and animal cruelty, and removing the requirement that prosecutors prove an animal victim experienced pain (a technically complicated undertaking) in order to charge animal cruelty. These changes mean, for example, that abusing an animal as part of terrorizing a child is treated with particular seriousness. Similarly, in the wake of Rose-Tu’s

Bill, prosecutors in Oregon no longer need to prove that the emotion experienced by an elephant with over 176 cuts on her body is pain; instead, the legal question is simply

whether the defendant injured the elephant. Laws, like Rose-Tu’s bill, that acknowledge violence to animals seldom stops there, are becoming more common.

“The Link”

People who engage in anti-social violence do not typically limit their targets to only animals: someone who hurts animals often also hurts people. The connection between cruelty to animals and violence toward humans is generally referred to as “The Link.” Studies of The Link have established relationships between animal cruelty and a range of violence directed against humans, including domestic violence, child abuse, and elder abuse. This relationship is yet another reason why cruelty toward animals must be taken seriously by law enforcement and by society at large. This is for the sake of the animals themselves, and for people who are also at risk. By taking a comprehensive approach that recognizes anti-social violence directed at both animals and humans as being part of a continuum, Link-aware laws and policies — both animal- and human-focused — enable better strategies for prevention and intervention.

Learn more: aldf.org/thelink



Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys conduct full-day trainings for prosecutors and law enforcement officers, walking officials through each step of an animal cruelty case — from crime scene to courtroom.

2002: Florida outlaws gestation crates for pigs in factory farms

In 2001, the Animal Legal Defense Fund drafted a Florida ballot initiative for a state constitutional amendment to outlaw gestation crates for pigs — tiny crates used on factory farms to confine mother pigs. In November 2002,

some 2.6 million Floridians voted in favor of the measure. With 54% of the vote, the initiative passed, and Florida became the first state to ban this cruel practice.



As of 2019, 12 states have enacted such bans; and, in 2018, California voters not only strengthened standards concerning the confinement of farmed animals, but also mandated products sold in California come from operations that meet or exceed these standards.



2005: The Animal Legal Defense Fund rescues more than 300 dogs from hoarders using North Carolina’s civil cruelty law (*ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. WOODLEY*)



In 2004, the Animal Legal Defense Fund became aware of a couple in Sanford, North Carolina, hoarding hundreds of dogs in horrific conditions. The organization launched an investigation, then filed a lawsuit in North Carolina District Court using, for the first time, a state law that allows private parties to bring civil cases against abusers for violating animal cruelty laws.

The Woodleys tried to get the case dismissed on a lack of standing but were unsuccessful. Veterinarians at trial testified about finding the dogs living in feces and urine, some even eating the waste for lack of other food. The dogs

had serious untreated medical conditions; and one dog was found in a cage roughly 24 by 18 inches, lying in a puddle of her own urine and feces. Emaciated and unable to rise more than partway before collapsing, this ravaged dog was taken from the property for medical treatment and euthanized two days later.

On March 31, 2005, the court issued a landmark ruling finding the Animal Legal Defense Fund had presented extensive and compelling evidence of cruelty to hundreds of dogs and granting the organization custody of every animal on the property.

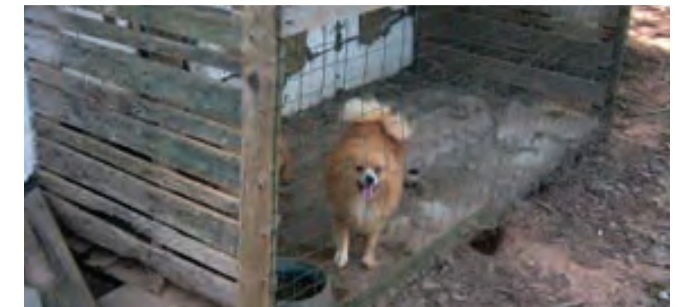
The Animal Legal Defense Fund scrambled to create an ad hoc shelter in Sanford, dubbed the “Halls of Hope,” and marshal an army of local volunteers and veterinarians who donated countless hours caring for these dogs, treating their medical needs, as well as their social needs, and daily requirements. The dogs learned to trust and play — for the first time — while waiting for foster families to open their homes to them.

The case was appealed all the way to the North Carolina Supreme Court, which issued a final decision on October 11, 2007, in favor of the Animal Legal Defense Fund — a historic legal precedent. As a result, the rescued dogs were allowed to be permanently adopted by their foster families and every one was placed in loving homes.

One of the areas in which animals’ lack of rights is most pronounced is when it comes to standing. Animals’ status as “property,” and their corresponding lack of fundamental legal rights, are persistent barriers to protecting their lives and advancing their interests through the legal system.

Criminal animal cruelty laws can usually be enforced only by prosecutors, not private citizens. North Carolina’s law is unique in that it allows for private action.

Learn more: aldf.org/woodley



Standing

In order to bring a lawsuit, the plaintiff must have “standing.” Legal standing is the requirement that the party filing a lawsuit has been, or will be, harmed by the defendant — and that the court can remedy this harm.

GRACIE, EDGAR, AND STEVE

The dogs rescued in the Woodley case needed some help learning to feel safe and loved — but all of the dogs found a loving home.

Gracie, a min pin, was timid with bald spots on her tail and ears when she arrived to her new home in Arizona. She had lived her entire life in a crate — so open rooms disoriented her. She was provided a kennel with opaque walls, so Gracie could feel secure in a safe space. After two years of love and coaxing, Gracie jumped up and joined her family on the couch — and she started lowering her defenses one after another, after that.

One of the last to be adopted, Edgar, a Boston terrier, hit the jackpot and found a home with Animal Legal Defense Fund founder Joyce Tischler in California.

Steve, a Jack Russell terrier — named after Animal Legal Defense Fund Executive Director Stephen Wells, had to learn how to walk on a leash. It took some time to get used to strange noises and he often fled from strangers — but enjoyed watching TV and eating treats. His family says his complexities make him interesting.

Learn more: aldf.org/woodley





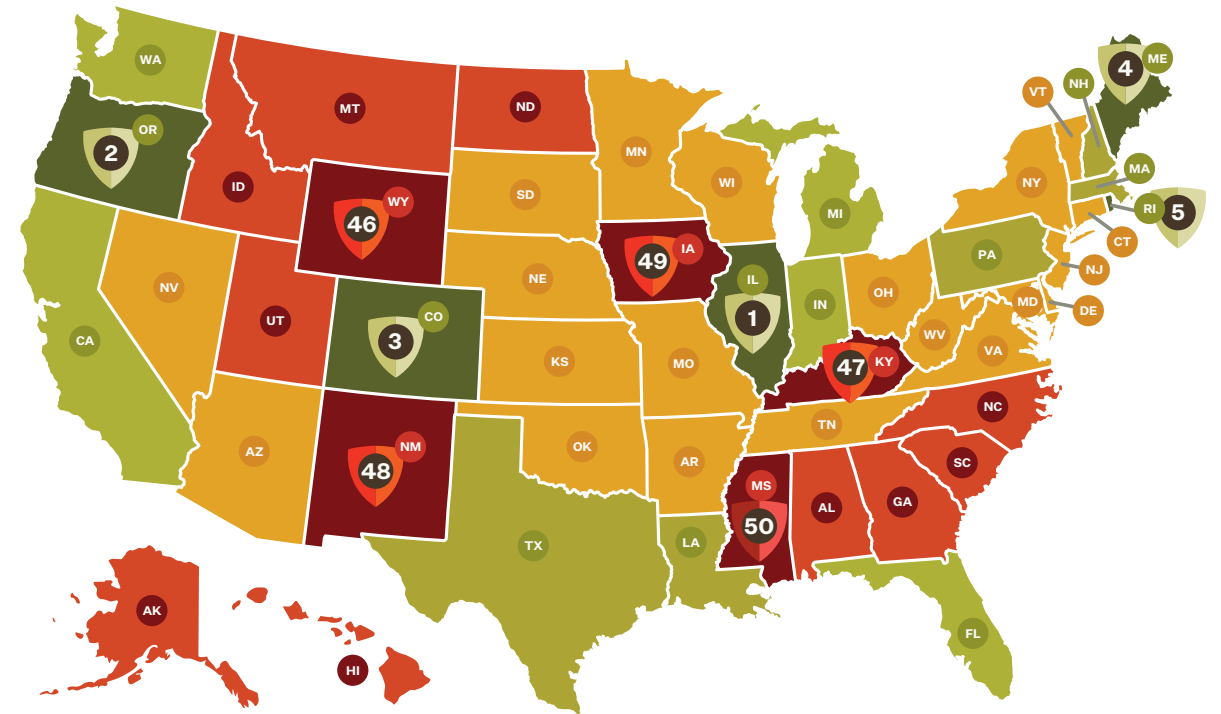
In 1994, the Animal Legal Defense Fund launched a campaign focused on improving state animal cruelty statutes. The campaign included legislative advocacy, assistance to prosecutors and law enforcement officials, and public education. To track the growth of animal protection laws as well as encourage other states to adopt stronger laws, in 2006 the Animal Legal Defense Fund formalized the report and began releasing the U.S. State Animal Protection Laws Rankings Report every year.

The report highlights states most in need of improving and helps identify key issues in each state. For example, in 2008, only seven states had felony anti-cruelty provisions. By 2005, that number had increased to 42 states. In 2019, all 50 states had enacted felony animal cruelty laws.

The rankings are the nation's longest-running and most authoritative report of its kind.

Find out where your state ranks: aldf.org/staterankings

2019 RANKINGS UNITED STATES ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS



RANKINGS BEST TO WORST

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 ILLINOIS | 16 VIRGINIA | 36 ALASKA |
| 2 OREGON | 17 NEW JERSEY | 37 MONTANA |
| 3 COLORADO | 18 WEST VIRGINIA | 38 HAWAII |
| 4 MAINE | 19 NEVADA | 39 NORTH CAROLINA |
| 5 RHODE ISLAND | 20 VERMONT | 40 GEORGIA |
| 6 MASSACHUSETTS | 21 NEBRASKA | 41 NORTH DAKOTA |
| 7 LOUISIANA | 22 KANSAS | 42 SOUTH CAROLINA |
| 8 CALIFORNIA | 23 DELAWARE | 43 UTAH |
| 9 WASHINGTON | 24 TENNESSEE | 44 ALABAMA |
| 10 FLORIDA | 25 CONNECTICUT | 45 IDAHO |
| 11 TEXAS | 26 MINNESOTA | 46 WYOMING |
| 12 INDIANA | 27 ARIZONA | 47 KENTUCKY |
| 13 MICHIGAN | 28 OKLAHOMA | 48 NEW MEXICO |
| 14 NEW HAMPSHIRE | 29 OHIO | 49 IOWA |
| 15 PENNSYLVANIA | 30 WISCONSIN | 50 MISSISSIPPI |
| | 31 MARYLAND | |
| | 32 NEW YORK | |
| | 33 SOUTH DAKOTA | |
| | 34 ARKANSAS | |
| | 35 MISSOURI | |

Territories

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 1 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA |
| 2 U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS |
| 3 PUERTO RICO |
| 4 GUAM |
| 5 AMERICAN SAMOA |
| 6 NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS |

2006: Stephen Wells becomes the Animal Legal Defense Fund's executive director, succeeding founder Joyce Tischler, who stayed on as general counsel and a key advocate for the organization



After working side-by-side with Tischler for six years, Wells had developed a clear vision for the Animal Legal Defense Fund that Joyce embraced and supported, making her decision to pursue a more outward-facing role an easy one.



Today, Tischler remains invested in the Animal Legal Defense Fund's mission and activities and is currently a law professor at the Center for Animal Law at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon.

Learn more: aldf.org/stephenwells



2006: The Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit against Hollywood animal trainer Sid Yost in 2005 for violating the Endangered Species Act and the California anti-cruelty statute by subjecting the chimpanzees in his possession to psychological and physical abuse. Thanks to the case, chimpanzees Angel, Sable, and Cody began new lives at sanctuaries in 2006. (ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. YOST)

ANGEL

Angel lives at the Center for Great Apes in Florida with her best friend Maggie (pictured). She stills visits her mother Daisy and other chimps who she has lived with. Angel and her friends travel to different enclosures through the aerial trail-way system here so that they have a variety of spaces, views, and friends.

Learn more: aldf.org/primates



2006: Oregon Appellate Court rules neglected cats can benefit from protective order
 (CAT CHAMPION CORP. V. JEAN MARIE PRIMROSE)



The Oregon Court of Appeals delivered a historic legal decision protecting neglected cats from being returned to their abuser. In a case handled by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the court allowed Cat Champion Corporation, a cat rescue in Linn County, to adopt out 11 cats seized two years earlier from appalling conditions at a private residence.

It was the first time in the United States that a court ruled that a fiduciary — Cat Champion Corporation — could be appointed on behalf of an animal guardian to determine what is in the best interests of both the guardian and her animals. It was a significant step towards recognizing that animals are distinct from other forms of “property” and have their own unique interests.

2007: 100th Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapter is formed



Lewis & Clark Law School



Golden Gate University School of Law



Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University



Florida A&M University College of Law

2008: The Animal Legal Defense Fund and Lewis & Clark Law School launch the Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark



After decades of nurturing the field of animal law in academia via its growing network of Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapters, in 2008 the Animal Legal Defense Fund helped launch the Center for Animal Law Studies (CALs) at Lewis & Clark Law School — the first institution of its kind.

CALs represents an unprecedented expansion of the range of offerings in animal law education, including

multiple classes, conferences, scholarships, and a law clinic where students are able to work on actual cases under the leadership of an experienced professor. CALs is home to the most comprehensive animal law curriculum in the world. It is also home to the Animal Law Review, the country's oldest law journal focused on legal issues relating to animals. In addition, CALs offers the world's only master of laws (LL.M.) specializing in animal law.



2008: Virginia law adds dog fighting as an organized criminal enterprise in wake of tragic “Michael Vick” case

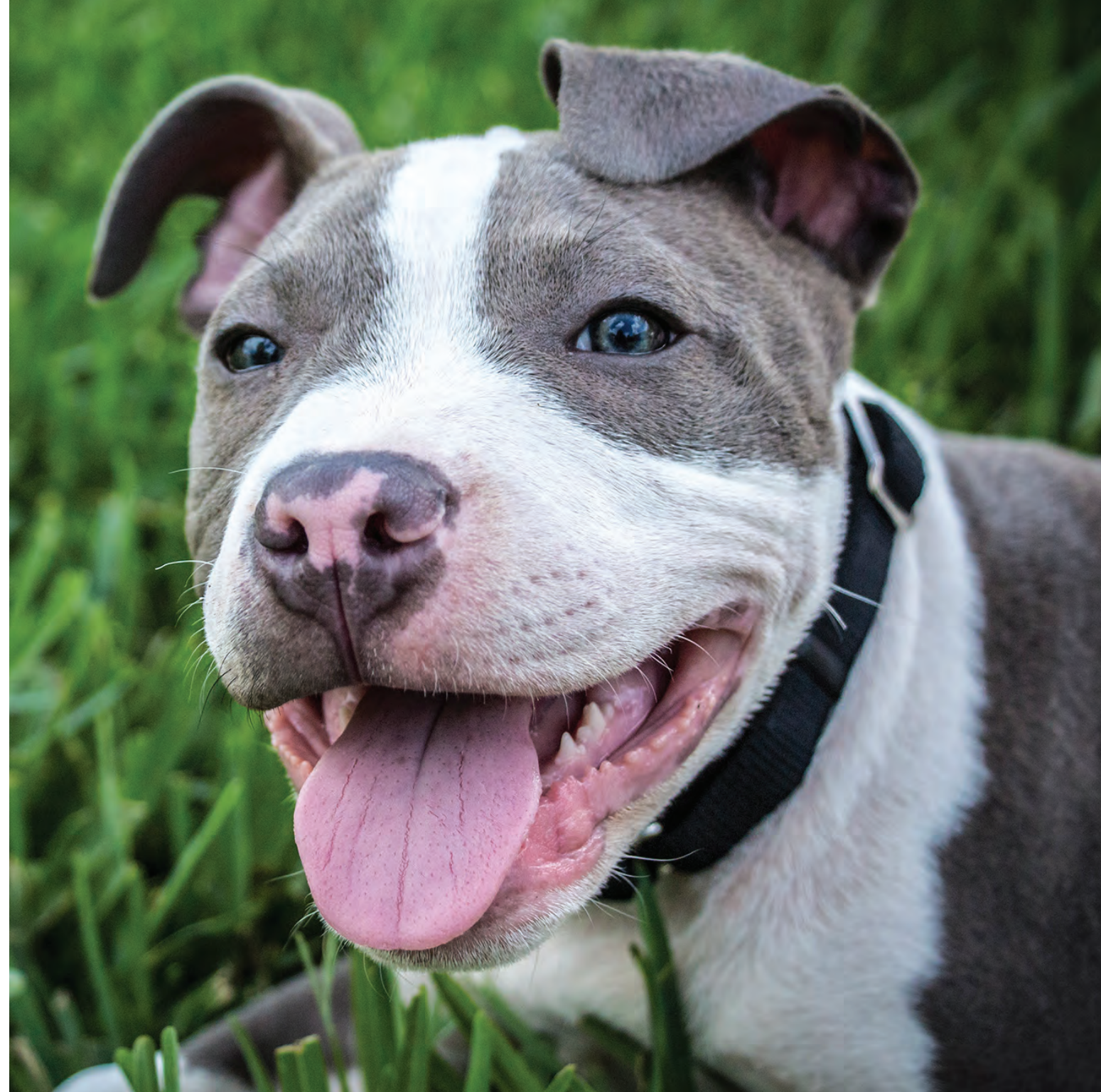


Thanks to a law written by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, in 2008 Virginia began treating dog fighting rings as an organized criminal enterprise, rather than as a series of isolated cruel incidents. In addition to more effectively preventing dog fighters from realizing profits from cruelty, the law helps prosecutors hold everyone involved in these cruel blood-sports accountable — not just the people who take the final step of putting dogs in the ring. Momentum built for this law with the highly publicized 2007 conviction

of football player Michael Vick on charges related to an illegal dog fighting operation in the state of Virginia.

Although animal fighting is illegal in all 50 states, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is working to make such crimes easier to prosecute and punishable by stronger penalties.

Learn more: aldf.org/vick



2008: California bans some of farming's cruelest confinement practices



In 2008, the Animal Legal Defense Fund worked with a broad coalition of animal protection groups to support California's Proposition 2, the Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act. Prop 2, as the initiative is known, prohibited the confinement of farmed animals in spaces so small

they cannot turn around freely, lie down, stand up, or fully extend their limbs. The initiative passed overwhelmingly, demonstrating the strong support of the public for greater legal protections for farmed animals.



2008: Advancement of Animal Law Scholarship Program is launched



As law student interest in the field of animal law continues to grow, the Animal Legal Defense Fund begins awarding scholarships to dedicated members of our student chapters who wish to pursue a career in animal law and have demonstrated outstanding commitment to our mission.

The scholarship program is part of the organization's ongoing efforts to support the next generation of animal law attorneys and nurture the future of animal law.

Learn more: aldf.org/scholarship



2009: *The Animal Legal Defense Fund Pro Bono Network rises to 800 volunteer attorney members.*

Learn more: aldf.org/collaboration

2009: Launch of National Justice for Animals Week

This annual event commemorates victories in the fight against criminal animal cruelty, celebrating the humans and animals involved in these advances.



Additionally, it offers an opportunity to draw attention to the need to address animal cruelty at all levels from various approaches — from lawmaking, to intervention, to prosecution, to prevention, to providing animal crime victims with the safe, healthy lives all animals deserve. National Justice for Animals Week also spotlights news in animal protection such as a program enabling attorneys to represent animal crime victims in court, a revolution in evidentiary science

that allows forensic techniques to be used in animal cases, new laws that better protect animals, instances of law enforcement officers going above and beyond to safeguard vulnerable animals, and cases involving rarely-defended farmed animals, such as 2015's National Justice for Animals Week Representative, Gracie the alpaca.

Learn more: aldf.org/njfaw



Gracie photos © Scott Allan Stevens

Gracie the alpaca was neglected and severely emaciated when she was rescued from an alpaca farm in Oregon. The Animal Legal Defense Fund covered the cost of care for Gracie while her abuser was prosecuted. Thanks to Cross Creek Alpaca Rescue, she has since made a full recovery and is thriving in her new home.

2010: First ban on retail pet sales enacted in West Hollywood, California

West Hollywood's ordinance, drafted by the Animal Legal Defense Fund in conjunction with local activists, banned retail stores from selling commercially bred cats and dogs — requiring instead the animals be sourced from

animal shelters and rescue groups. The ordinance was passed to combat puppy and kitten mills, which are large-scale commercial dog and cat breeding facilities where emphasis is placed on profits over the well-being of the animals.



Today, retail pet sale bans are common. Several hundred other cities and communities have passed similar laws in years since, with some also prohibiting the retail sale of rabbits.

In 2018, California and Maryland both passed the country's first statewide retail pet sale bans. The California law went into effect in 2019. Maryland's went into effect in 2020.

2011: Oregon animals included in domestic violence protective orders



In 2011, the Animal Legal Defense Fund joined other animal protection, domestic violence, and law enforcement organizations to draft and advocate for a new legislative proposal that would fully protect animals from domestic

violence. SB 616, which was signed into law on June 7, 2011, allows judges to include companion animals in domestic violence protective orders.

2012: Groundbreaking lawsuit frees Ben the bear from roadside zoo (RAY V. JAMBBAS RANCH TOURS)

Ben the bear languished for years at Jambbas Ranch, a North Carolina roadside zoo. Ben lived alone in a dirty, concrete cage that measured just 12-by-22 feet. In the wild, bears love to swim, climb trees, and run. Ben could do none of those things. Instead, he ate dog food in a barren cage with only

a few pieces of wood and a ball as company. He endured noisy tourists and crying children each day. Ben was often observed pacing — caused by extreme psychological stress — and pressing his head against the chain-link fence of the cage.



In conjunction with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), the Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit against Jambbas Ranch on behalf of two concerned North Carolina residents under North Carolina's unique civil enforcement statute which allows any private citizen or organization to bring civil cases against abusers for violating animal cruelty laws. The Animal Legal Defense Fund pioneered the use of this law in its 2005 legal victory in *Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Woodley*, which provided a strong precedent for this case. The court agreed that the cage and living conditions did not meet the requirements necessary for Ben's health and well-being. After the judge granted a preliminary injunction, Ben was flown to California

to live in a spacious habitat at the Performing Animal Welfare Society's sanctuary. For likely the first time in his life, Ben was able to swim in his own pool, sleep in a straw nest under oak trees, and feel the grass underneath his paws. The judge later issued a permanent injunction.

Ben wasn't the only animal suffering at Jambbas Ranch. The roadside zoo had accumulated dozens of Animal Welfare Act violations. In 2014, in response to a subsequent lawsuit, the United States Department of Agriculture suspended Jambbas Ranch's license — ensuring the facility could not continue to exploit other animals.



Ben at Jambbas Ranch

BEN

Today, Ben the bear lives at the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), a sanctuary in northern California. Ben enjoys a large enclosure with trees, grass, and a pool where he can swim. He has good food and enrichment, and caretakers who do their best to provide Ben with everything he needs to be happy, healthy, and safe.

Learn more: aldf.org/benbear



Ben at Performing Animal Welfare Society © Lisa Worgan

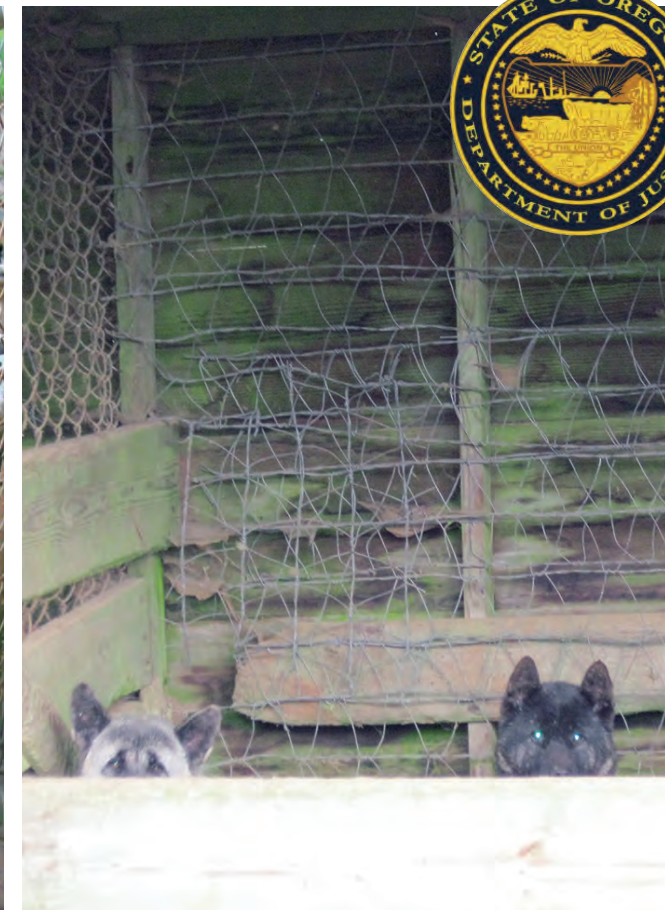


2013: In response to receiving a letter of intent to sue from the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Chief Saunooke Bear Park in North Carolina allowed eleven bears to be released from gladiator-style bear pits and transferred to the International Exotic Animal Sanctuary.

2013: The Animal Legal Defense Fund establishes the first dedicated, full-time animal cruelty prosecutor



The Animal Legal Defense Fund awarded a grant to fund the nation's first dedicated, full-time state animal cruelty prosecutor. The fully-sworn prosecutor would be available to handle animal abuse cases for any one of Oregon's 36 district attorneys, given the sole responsibility of



putting animal abusers on trial. To date, this position has remained active, thanks to funding from the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Learn more: aldf.org/prosecutor

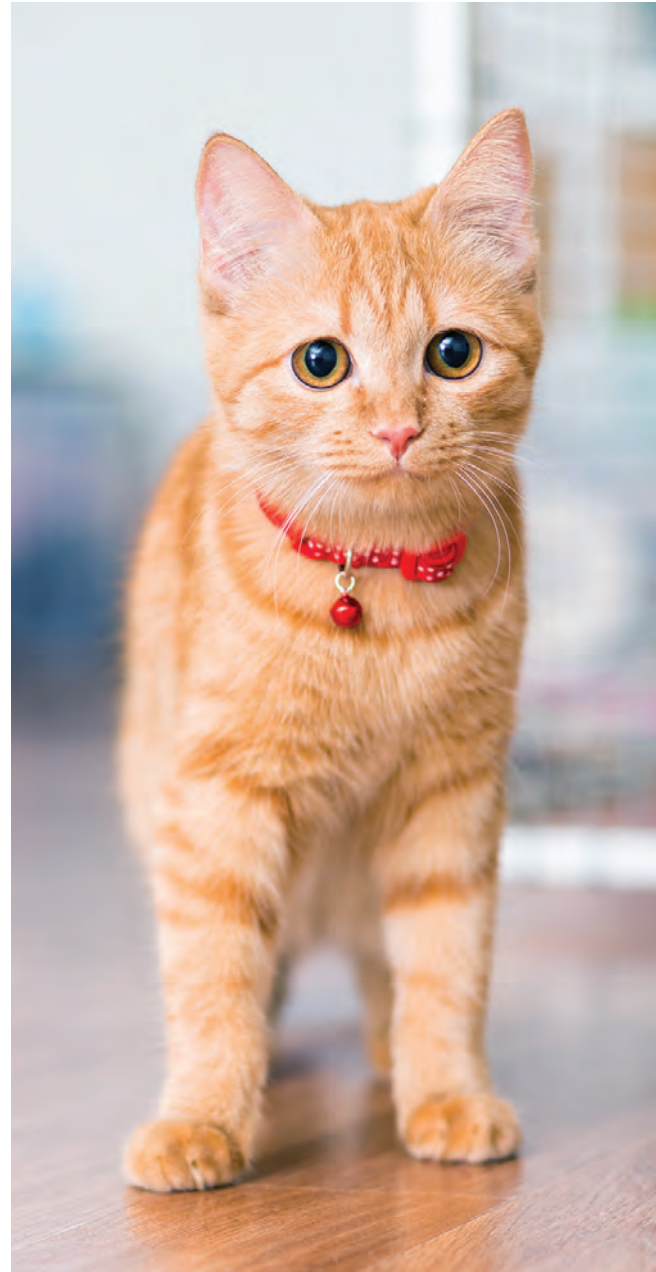
2013: Fighting for the smallest victims in court

Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys assisted in securing a felony conviction against a Michigan man after a police officer witnessed him attempt to run over a kitten with his car several times in a grocery store parking lot, before picking the kitten up and driving away. The concerned officer tailed the defendant and witnessed him throwing the kitten out of the moving car and continue driving. The Animal Legal Defense Fund worked closely with local prosecutors through every step of the criminal case. Thankfully, the kitten was later found in bushes near an intersection and was adopted.

A year later, another cat — orange tabby, Michael — was cornered in a New York stairwell and set on fire. With no leads, and Michael of course unable to testify, the investigation stalled. The Animal Legal Defense Fund put forward a reward offer for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator and, after four youths came forward with key details, the perpetrator was identified and pleaded guilty to aggravated animal abuse.

Similar response to Animal Legal Defense Fund reward offers have proven invaluable in cases such as California's *People v. Turner*, where the defendant — angered that a Chihuahua puppy named Angel Star had relieved herself inside a home — doused the dog in bleach, locked her inside a dog carrier, and set her on fire. Armed with information resulting from an Animal Legal Defense Fund reward offer, the Sacramento District Attorney's Office was able to secure a multi-count conviction against Turner and have him prohibited from owning animals for 10 years.

Learn more: aldf.org/reward



2013: Oregon animal protection bill recognizes animal sentience



Oregon lawmakers enacted the Animal Legal Defense Fund-drafted Omnibus Animal Welfare Bill, which — in addition to enhancing the consistency and clarity of the state's animal cruelty laws, addresses large-scale neglect cases, and includes a legislative declaration that animals are

sentient beings, who “should be cared for in ways that minimize pain, stress, fear, and suffering.” This powerful statement continues to make its impact felt on behalf of Oregon's animals and beyond, as other states look to that language as a model.



In *State v. Nix*, the defendant attempted to merge all 20 of his animal neglect convictions down to just one, convincing the trial court that the 20 goats and horses involved were not themselves crime victims — in other words, going for an ‘abuse one, get the rest free’ sentence. The Oregon Supreme Court ruled that individual animals can be considered crime victims when harmed by criminal abuse or neglect. On the same day, the Oregon Supreme Court issued another ground-breaking ruling, holding in *State v. Fessenden* that an officer — despite not having a warrant — acted properly in seizing a horse near death from neglect and transporting her to a veterinarian for immediate medical care. In ruling that the exigent circumstances exception applied to the officer’s actions, the Oregon Supreme Court described the horse as being the victim of the defendant’s criminal cruelty, and wrote that the officer had “a responsibility to...prevent the perpetrator from causing further imminent harm to the victim,” whether the victim was animal or human.

Though *Nix* was ultimately vacated on unrelated procedural grounds in 2015, the *Nix* rule went back into effect. The Court of Appeals adopted the Oregon Supreme Court’s rationale and affirmed multiple convictions in a cat hoarding case, *State v. Hess*, ruling that each animal qualified as a crime victim for sentencing purposes. *Fessenden* has remained good law throughout.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund assisted with the *Nix* and *Fessenden* appeals, as well as the prosecution of *Hess*. Subsequently, the Animal Legal Defense Fund has used the legal arguments they deployed in *Nix* and *Hess* to successfully counter the “abuse one, get the rest free” sentencing structures at both the state and federal level — building legal recognition that each animal, and each animal’s interests in not being subject to cruelty, are recognized.

Learn more: aldf.org/nix

“Crime Victims”

Being the victim of a crime is not the same as being a “crime victim” under the law. The former applies to anyone who has been harmed by someone else’s criminal act.

“Crime victim” is a legally meaningful category, defined either in statute or constitutionally, which gives crime victims access to certain rights and protections. Once someone qualifies for crime victim status, they enjoy certain legal rights within the criminal justice system. While details vary by jurisdiction, these crime victim rights focus on ensuring crime victims are acknowledged, respected, kept safe, and able to have a voice in the criminal justice process.

Additionally, when a crime results in multiple victims, many jurisdictions acknowledge each victim by ensuring that each victim ‘counts’ for sentencing purposes.

Learn more: aldf.org/crimevictims

2014: The Animal Legal Defense Fund brought a lawsuit against the King Kong Zoological Park, an unaccredited roadside zoo in Murphy, North Carolina, for violating the state’s animal cruelty laws
(CHARLENE SALZER, MARY ELDER, AND MARTHA BUFFINGTON V. KING KONG ZOO, AND JOHN CURTIS)



Archie while still living at the zoo

In response to a lawsuit filed by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, King Kong Zoological Park, an unaccredited zoo in North Carolina, voluntarily closed down.

Learn more: aldf.org/kingkong

2015: Exposing cruelty at chicken slaughterhouse, Tyson Foods undercover investigation



The Animal Legal Defense Fund released undercover video footage from a Tyson Foods’ chicken slaughter plant in Texas, revealing both systematic animal cruelty and dangerous working conditions. The investigation documented chickens being slaughtered at extremely fast speeds, making it impossible to humanely handle birds and allowing hundreds of chickens to suffocate on repeatedly malfunctioning equipment. The investigation also revealed food safety violations, including the “slaughter” of deceased birds.

In response to the footage, the Animal Legal Defense Fund asked the Attorney General of the State of Delaware — where Tyson Foods is incorporated — to investigate and sanction the company. The Animal Legal Defense Fund also filed complaints against Tyson Foods with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, accusing the company of misleading investors about its animal welfare and worker safety practices.

Learn more: aldf.org/tyson

2015: An Animal Legal Defense Fund lawsuit rescues Ricki the bear from Jim Mack's Ice Cream Shop
(BENNETT V. MCDANIEL)



For 16 years, Ricki, a black bear, lived alone in a bare 250-square-foot cage outside of an ice cream shop in Pennsylvania. Suffering on a concrete floor in this tiny enclosure, Ricki would repetitively pace, a clear sign of her psychological distress from being confined to these inhumane conditions.

Ricki's suffering in her tiny enclosure was confirmed by veterinary experts. After seeing Ricki in person, veterinarian Ursula Bechert warned the bear was suffering a "slow and torturous decline in physical and mental health" in these conditions. Local residents had asked for Ricki's release for years. National attention was drawn to her plight, and tens of thousands signed petitions requesting her release, including comedian Ricky Gervais.

Kelly Bennett, who lived nearby, saw the misery and harm in Ricki's situation, too. Bennett was moved by Ricki's suffering and decided to take action. Having learned about the Animal Legal Defense Fund's work on behalf of another captive bear held in inhumane conditions, Bennett reached out for help. In 2014, the Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit on Ricki's behalf — arguing the cruel conditions of Ricki's captivity violated state regulations requiring the humane care and treatment of wild animals and also posed a threat to public safety. The Animal Legal Defense Fund argued that Ricki should be moved to an accredited sanctuary where her physical and psychological needs could be met.



Additional animals were rescued from Jim Mack's Ice Cream Shop in 2017 when the owner violated the settlement agreement from Ricki's case by acquiring new animals. The Animal Legal Defense Fund coordinated the transfer of 25 animals, including two alpacas, a llama, two emus, peacocks, rabbits, chickens, goats, and a goose to sanctuaries and rescues.

RICKI

Today, Ricki resides at The Wild Animal Sanctuary in Colorado. She has 15 acres of rolling grassland to roam, and the company of other bears at her new home. She is able to hibernate and exhibit natural behaviors. She loves exploring her habitat and swimming.

Learn more: aldf.org/ricki



MAJJA THE FABU AND YOGENDRA

Two peacocks were included in the final shutdown of Jim Mack's Ice Cream Shop's menagerie. They moved to the Indraloka Animal Sanctuary in Pennsylvania, where they were named Yogendra and Majja the Fabu.

The two have flourished at Indraloka. Majja the Fabu got his name because Majja is the Tibetan word for peacock, with "Fabu" added because it suits the peacock's fabulous nature, according to sanctuary staff. Yogendra, for his part, loves to regale the sanctuary with his honking and display of beautiful plumage on the patio, serving as a sort of gatekeeper announcing every visitor.

Majja the Fabu was rescued by the Animal Legal Defense Fund from Jim Mack's Ice Cream Shop in Pennsylvania in 2017. Today, he watches over everything at the Indraloka sanctuary and cries out an alarm if anything untoward seems to be occurring. He has been described as "wise and kind with an otherworldly beauty."

Both peacocks are safe, healthy, and happy in their forever home at Indraloka.

Learn more: aldf.org/jimmack



2015: Striking down unconstitutional Ag-Gag laws (*ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER*)



The Animal Legal Defense Fund scored a landmark victory when U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho declared that the Idaho Ag-Gag statute violated the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution — the first time a court declared an Ag-Gag statute unconstitutional. As the name suggests, Ag-Gag laws seek to “gag” would-be whistleblowers and undercover activists by punishing them for recording footage of what goes on in animal agriculture.

After the state appealed the district court’s ruling, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit struck down key provisions of the Ag-Gag law — the first federal appellate court to do so. Undercover investigations play a critical role in exposing the cruelty that farmed animals endure. It’s often the only way in which the public can learn about factory farming’s most abusive practices.

Learn more: aldf.org/aggag



Today, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is leading the charge against Ag-Gag laws across the country. In addition to our victory in Idaho, Kansas’, Utah’s and Iowa’s Ag-Gag laws have also been struck down. Litigation is pending against Ag-Gag laws in North Carolina and Iowa, after it passed another unconstitutional law restricting investigations.



2016: Exposing cruelty at pig breeding facility, The Maschhoffs, LLC undercover investigation

The Animal Legal Defense Fund released undercover footage documenting severe animal neglect and violations of laws protecting both consumers and animals at a pig breeding facility owned by The Maschhoffs, LLC, the third largest pig producer in the U.S. and supplier to Hormel Foods. The footage captured pigs suffering for days and even weeks with prolapsed rectums, intestinal ruptures, large open wounds, and bloody baseball-sized ruptured cysts. For up to three consecutive days at a time, the pigs received no food. The investigation also documented cruel “standard industry practices,” which included intensively confining mother pigs in crates so small that they could not turn around, and killing small or sickly piglets by smashing their heads against the concrete floor. In the video, piglets who were “thumped” in

this fashion are seen moving, conscious and looking around, or convulsing before they die.

Following the investigation, the Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit against Hormel Foods alleging the company was misleading consumers with the advertising of its Natural Choice® line of lunch meats and bacon. Despite Hormel’s claims its products were “natural,” “wholesome,” and “honest,” our investigation revealed that the animals used to produce its meats were coming from places such as The Maschhoffs, LLC — one of Hormel’s largest suppliers — where they were subjected to the egregious conditions and practices typical of factory farming.

Learn more: aldf.org/hormel

FOOTAGE FROM THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND’S UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION OF THE MASCHHOFFS, LLC:



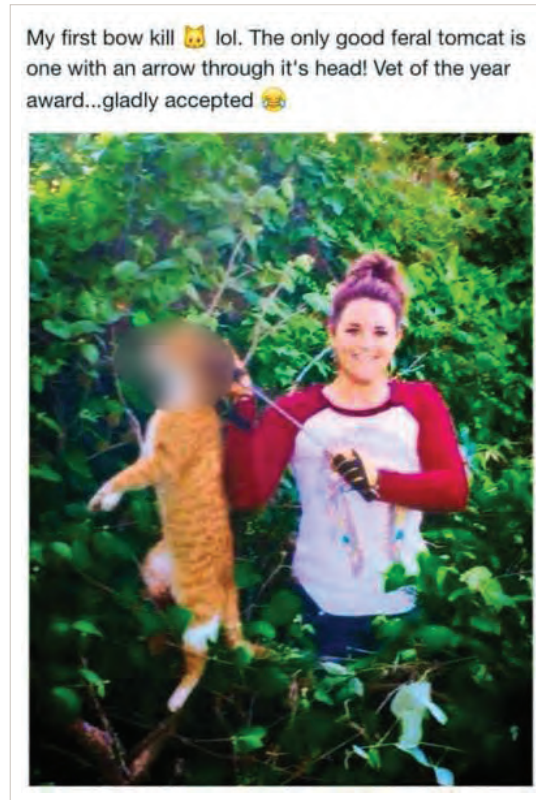
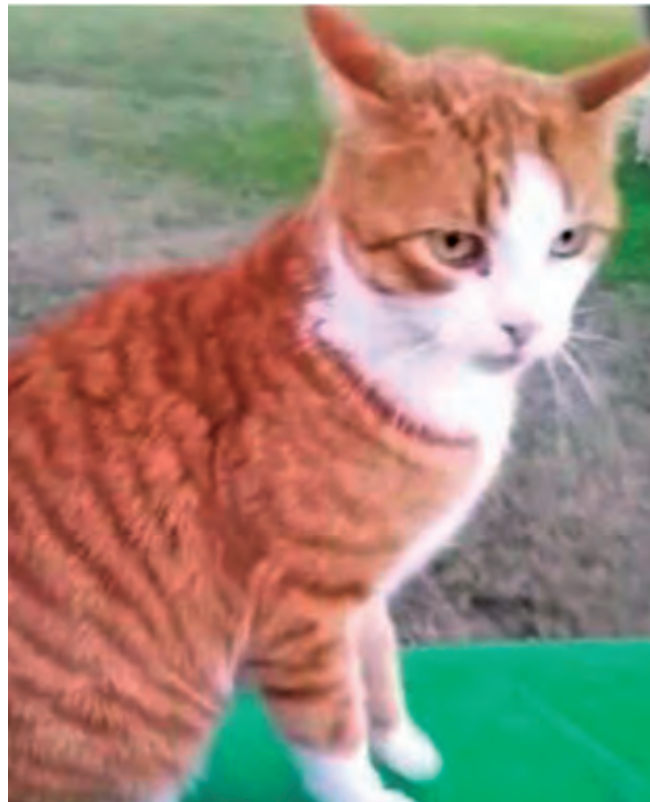
2016: Kristen Lindsey's veterinary license suspended

Kristen Lindsey, a Texas veterinarian, shot and killed her neighbor's cat, Tiger, with a bow and arrow. Her actions drew international outrage when she took to social media, posting a photo of herself grinning next to the still-impaled cat.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund called for Lindsey to be prosecuted and filed a complaint with the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners seeking to strip Lindsey of her veterinary license. Though the Austin County District Attorney declined to prosecute her, the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners moved to revoke her license.

Lindsey rejected the revocation, setting off three years of legal proceedings. Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys participated throughout, arguing before the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners that Lindsey's conduct constituted an egregious breach of the public trust placed in veterinarians. Ultimately, Lindsey's license was suspended for five years. For the first year, she was barred from practicing and, for the following four, she was put on probation.

Learn more: aldf.org./kristenlindsey



2016: Sentience matters — animals are not ‘things’ (*STATE V. NEWCOMB*)



What began as a relatively routine animal neglect investigation five years before, resolved with the Oregon Supreme Court holding that animal well-being can supersede a person's privacy interest: "A dog owner simply has no cognizable right, in the name of her privacy, to countermand [the] obligation [to provide animals with basic care]." In this case, the Oregon Supreme Court built on Animal Legal Defense Fund milestones such as SB 6 (2013), *Nix* (2014), and *Fessenden* (2014) by holding that sentience is a distinction between animals and objects that necessitates a dispositive

difference in how the law views animals — that animals cannot be treated as things.

In addition to the work on SB 6, *Nix*, and *Fessenden*, that provided the framework for the *Newcomb* court's decision, the Animal Legal Defense Fund argued via amicus brief in *Newcomb's* appellate litigation.

Learn more: aldf.org/newcomb



A lawsuit filed by the Animal Legal Defense Fund permanently shut down the Animaland Zoological Park in Pennsylvania. The lawsuit alleged that the zoo violated the Endangered Species Act and state wildlife laws by failing to provide adequate care for animals confined at the facility.

Animaland had repeatedly failed to meet even the most minimal requirements for proper care of animals under the federal Animal Welfare Act, and inspection reports from

the U.S. Department of Agriculture revealed more than 60 violations in recent years. The case focused on Bear, a gray wolf living alone in a small concrete cell, Baby, a Siberian tiger, and two brown bears, Sandy and Shawn. Ultimately, the Animal Legal Defense Fund coordinated the animals' relocation to sanctuaries in Pennsylvania and Texas.

Learn more: aldf.org/animaland



Photos from Animaland Zoo. Bottom row images © Angela Santmier

SHAWN

Shawn now resides at Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation, near Kendalia, Texas. He lives at the sanctuary, located on 212 acres, and has access to all nature can provide. Shawn and Sandy (page 105) receive the medical care they need, a healthy diet, and are able to exhibit natural bear behaviors, like scratching their backs on trees and swimming.

Learn more: aldf.org/animaland



BEAR

Bear went from living in a cement cell to a large enclosure at the Wolf Sanctuary of Pennsylvania. After an acclimation period, Bear was paired with a female wolf named Sophie. They bonded and, as pack animals, enjoy each other's company. Bear is described by those who care for him as strong and dignified.

Learn more: aldf.org/animaland





2016: Major victory for Pennsylvania puppy mill dogs (*BARBARA KEITH V. COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA*)



The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture issued two broad exemptions to its comprehensive regulations on commercial dog breeders: one allowed 50% of flooring to be metal wire strand in the small cages where mothers with nursing puppies were kept, and the second stated the department would not enforce the stipulation for “unfettered access” to an outside exercise area for dogs over 12 weeks of age, provided that daily access was available for nursing dogs.

In 2014, the Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a taxpayer lawsuit in state court on behalf of itself and three

Pennsylvania residents. The lawsuit alleged that the department unlawfully weakened the minimum legal standards for commercial dog breeders with its exemptions.

A panel of three judges from the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania ruled in favor of the Animal Legal Defense Fund in 2016, striking down the Department of Agriculture’s unlawful regulations.

Learn more: aldf.org/doglaw

2016: A precedent-setting victory, Endangered Species Act protects captive animals

(ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. TOM AND PAMELA SELLNER)



In 2016, while the Animal Legal Defense Fund's first case against Cricket Hollow Zoo was still pending, a second lawsuit was filed against Cricket Hollow based on violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) after African lions were added to the endangered species list.

The federal judge agreed with the Animal Legal Defense Fund's grave concerns about the lionesses' condition and ordered the Sellners to permit a qualified veterinarian to examine them. The parties settled soon after the examination, with Cricket Hollow Zoo agreeing to relinquish the lions.

In the span of two years, five tigers died at Cricket Hollow Zoo in Manchester, Iowa, due to inadequate veterinary care, and another tiger was found to be suffering from open wounds, untreated by a veterinarian. A capuchin monkey, also denied veterinary care, had lost her hair and was found chewing her tail — clear indications of severe boredom and frustration, and at least five lemurs died.

Over the course of several years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture had documented a long and horrifying list of federal Animal Welfare Act violations at Cricket Hollow Zoo. These included animals who died of exposure to harsh weather, animals suffering with untreated injuries, animals being handled improperly, small, filthy enclosures, lack of access to clean water and food, and contaminated food.



Endangered Species Act

The Endangered Species Act, also called the ESA, is one of the key federal laws the Animal Legal Defense Fund uses to secure stronger legal protection for animals. Enacted in 1973, the ESA protects fish, mammals, and birds — as well as plants — listed as threatened or endangered in the United States and beyond. The ESA outlines procedures for federal agencies to follow regarding listed species, as well as criminal and civil penalties for violations. This law is chiefly enforced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service.

Setting Precedent

In the American legal system, law is established in two ways: by the legislative branch through enacted laws, and by the judiciary through the courts' legal decisions. "Precedent" refers to previous court decisions that either bind or guide future courts considering cases with similar facts.

The field of animal law is still very new, which leaves a lot of room to bring new and important precedent-setting cases. The Animal Legal Defense Fund pursues many of these cases. That means we file lawsuits in cases involving novel issues of law, with the aim of securing judicial rulings that will help establish important precedents, which will go on to help animals beyond those at issue in the case at hand.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit arguing that Cricket Hollow Zoo's mistreatment of animals constituted a violation of the federal Endangered Species Act.

In 2016, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Iowa found that the ESA is applicable to captive animals and that Cricket Hollow Zoo violated that law. The court ordered that the four remaining tigers and three remaining

lemurs be removed from the zoo. In 2018, a three-judge panel of the Eighth Circuit upheld the district court's ruling that Cricket Hollow Zoo violated the ESA; in doing so, this case became an important precedent for stronger protection of captive animals.

Learn more: aldf.org/esa

NJJARRA

Upon settlement, Njjarra went to live at The Wild Animal Sanctuary in Colorado. She has glaucoma, so has lost vision in one eye, and partially in the other. Even with the compromised vision, she lives a normal life and navigates perfectly well. She has lived with other lions at times, and by herself when she wants, as she is always able to decide if she wants to interact or not. Currently, she lives in the Lion House next to other lions, but may be joining another male and female who are starting a new pride.

Njjarra's companion, Jonwah, was also relocated to The Wild Animal Sanctuary — but despite the ongoing efforts of the sanctuary veterinary staff — she passed away less than a year after her move due to medical complications from her previous years of severe neglect.

Learn more: aldf.org/esa





2016: When Luke was just a puppy, he suffered a painful shattered shoulder when he was allegedly thrown against a wall. Luke's abuser was acquitted of cruelty charges in court, but the prosecutor didn't want to return Luke to a dangerous situation and contacted us. The Animal Legal Defense Fund stepped in and developed a creative legal strategy that allowed Luke to be adopted out into a safe and loving home. (COMMONWEALTH V. KUHNS)

Learn more: aldf.org/luke

2017: Oscar's Law



Oscar, an elderly dog, was found dead outside of his home in Baltimore County, Maryland, on New Year's Day. Despite the 20-degree temperature, his guardian claimed Oscar died of old age, but a necropsy funded by the Animal Legal Defense Fund proved Oscar died of hypothermia.

The guardian entered an Alford plea to one count of animal cruelty — consequently, he was barred from possessing

animals for three years. In the wake of Oscar's death, Baltimore County passed Oscar's Law — requiring companion animals be brought inside within 30 minutes after the onset of adverse environmental conditions and clarifying that animal control and police officers have the ability to investigate animal cruelty claims.

Learn more: aldf.org/cold

Alford Plea

An Alford plea is a guilty plea in criminal court, whereby a defendant in a criminal case does not admit to the criminal act and asserts innocence.

2017: USDA intervention (*ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. VILSACK*)



The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled that animal advocacy organizations may be entitled to intervene and participate in enforcement actions against alleged violators of the federal Animal Welfare Act — a major victory for animal advocates.

This opportunity for citizen participation came at an important time, considering that a few weeks earlier, the U.S. Department of Agriculture had abruptly removed all enforcement records regarding facilities such as puppy mills, research laboratories, and roadside zoos from its website.

Learn more: aldf.org/intervention

2017: Lucky the elephant gets two companions and improved living conditions (*GRAHAM V. SAN ANTONIO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY*)



Lucky in 2017 © Amy Ashcraft

The Animal Legal Defense Fund filed an Endangered Species Act lawsuit in 2015 on behalf of Lucky, an Asian elephant living alone in a tiny enclosure with little shelter from the sun at the San Antonio Zoo. Elephants are highly social animals and require companionship. Despite complaints from the public, the zoo claimed Lucky was an unusual elephant who preferred to be alone.

The lawsuit concluded in 2017, after the zoo introduced two new elephants, Nicole and Karen, and made improvements to the elephant habitat. Though a sanctuary would be an ideal place for Lucky, we are proud to have significantly improved Lucky's life by giving her the companionship she needs along with improved living conditions.

Learn more: aldf.org/lucky

2017: War on Wildlife Services (*CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY V. APHIS*)

Millions of native wild animals including coyotes, mountain lions, foxes, bobcats, and bears are targeted and killed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, whose programs often rely on outdated science and employ painful killing methods, such as leghold traps and wire snares. In July 2017, the Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a lawsuit against Wildlife Services for failing to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which requires the agency to account for harm it causes to native wildlife.

Because of this lawsuit, in October 2017 Wildlife Services agreed to comply with its obligations under NEPA and conduct an environmental analysis of wildlife management activities in California's Northern District. The lawsuit was dismissed in exchange for this settlement agreement, and the agency's compliance will be monitored as it conducts its updated review.

Learn more: aldf.org/wildlifeservices



Since the lawsuit, Shasta, Siskiyou, Monterey, and Mendocino Counties have all terminated, suspended, or considered the environmental effects of their contracts — either voluntarily or by court order — after the Animal Legal Defense Fund and its allies took or threatened legal action. (ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND V. MENDOCINO COUNTY)



2017: Justice for horses Willow and Stormy (*COMMONWEALTH V. VITIELLO*)



Willow and Stormy were victims of severe neglect, both pregnant and severely malnourished when law enforcement found them. The prosecutor knew how important it was to win justice for Willow, Stormy, and the other horses found on the property — so she contacted the Animal Legal Defense Fund to provide support to ensure that key witnesses were available to testify before the jury.

As a repeat offender, the abuser received two years in jail from the jury and a probation revocation. She has been prohibited from owning, possessing, and caring for horses for ten years. Thanks to the great work of the prosecutor and local rescuers, today Willow and Stormy are thriving, as are their foals, in Virginia, and their abuser is behind bars.

2018: California strengthens bans on some of farming's cruelest confinement practices



The Prevention of Cruelty to Farm Animals Act, or Proposition 12, outlaws the most extreme methods of confining farmed animals in California — and bans the sale of products produced in other states using these methods. Covered under this law are calves raised for veal, pregnant pigs, and egg-laying hens. The initiative passed easily with 63% of the vote and becomes effective in 2022.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund was part of the coalition that supported passage of Proposition 12, through its efforts to build awareness and promote “getting out the vote” via messaging on social media and through our California student chapters.



2018: Victory for Florida's greyhounds! On November 6, 2018, Floridians overwhelmingly voted in favor of Amendment 13 — ending the cruel greyhound industry in the state by 2021. The Animal Legal Defense Fund is proud to have been part of the coalition of organizations supporting this historic grassroots campaign. With the passage of Amendment 13, Florida has become the 41st state to ban commercial dog racing.

Learn more: aldf.org/greyhound

2018: The Animal Legal Defense Fund files a lawsuit on behalf of a horse named Justice (*JUSTICE V GWENDOLYN VERCHER*)

The Animal Legal Defense Fund filed a groundbreaking lawsuit in Oregon state court on behalf of an 8-year-old horse named Justice, against Gwendolyn Vercher, who neglected him — and pleaded guilty to criminal animal neglect. The lawsuit seeks to recover the costs of Justice's ongoing medical care and to compensate him for his pain and suffering. If successful, this lawsuit would be the first to establish that animals have a legal right to sue their abusers in court.

Learn more: aldf.org/justice



JUSTICE

After his abuser pleaded guilty to criminal animal neglect, Justice was relinquished to Sound Equine Options, an Oregon nonprofit horse rescue and rehabilitation organization.

There, Justice has gained weight and undergone multiple medical procedures, required due to the neglect he suffered. His complicated medical needs are a barrier to finding a permanent home for him, a problem exacerbated by the significant costs of his care.

As of January 2020, Justice's lawsuit is on appeal.

Learn more: aldf.org/justice



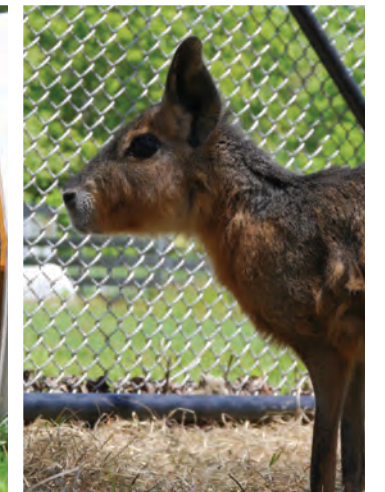
2018: The Animal Legal Defense Fund rescues 14 animals from Deer Haven Mini Zoo



After the Animal Legal Defense Fund announced its intent to sue Deer Haven Mini Zoo in Keymar, Maryland for violations of the federal Endangered Species Act and state cruelty laws in April 2018, the owners agreed to voluntarily relinquish some of the animals on the property.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund coordinated the transfer of two endangered lemurs, a bobcat, six arctic foxes, four caviars, and a coatimundi from the unaccredited roadside zoo and transferred them to sanctuaries.

Learn more: aldf.org/deerhaven



MAMA AND HER KITS

Six arctic foxes were rescued by the Animal Legal Defense Fund from Deer Haven Mini Zoo in Maryland in 2018. Now, they all reside at Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation in Texas.

Learn more: aldf.org/deerhaven



SCAR AND HAN SOLO

Foster Parrots, a bird sanctuary in Rhode Island, has accommodated cavies for roughly 13 years. The sanctuary was happy to receive the cavies from Deer Haven Mini Zoo. During the summer they have access to a large yard — during winter they stay in a large indoor enclosure.

Learn more: aldf.org/deerhaven





2019: To date, the Animal Legal Defense Fund has conferred more than 130 Advancement in Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Awards, recognizing the support animals and our cases receive from law firms.

2019: The Supreme Court of the United States denies petition, foie gras ban goes back into effect in California

Foie gras is a cruelly-produced, high-priced “gourmet” delicacy that comes from force-feeding young ducks or geese until their livers swell to eight or more times their natural size. Foie gras — French for “fat liver” — is the diseased liver of an animal who has suffered enormously. That’s why when California passed a ban on the production and sale of foie gras in 2004, it was a momentous step forward.

California’s ban went into effect in 2012. The foie gras industry filed a lawsuit challenging the ban as preempted by federal law — and on January 7, 2015, a U.S. District Court overturned California’s ban. The Animal Legal Defense Fund filed an amicus curiae brief in the subsequent appeal. In September 2017, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals revived the foie gras ban.

On January 7, 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court denied the foie gras industry’s petition attacking the constitutionality of California’s unique law. The high court’s decision let the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals’ mandate go into immediate effect, once again prohibiting the cruel product from being sold in the Golden State.

Foie gras’ disappearance from California restaurant menus and purveyors’ shelves spares thousands of ducks and geese from terrible suffering on foie gras production facilities. The Animal Legal Defense Fund is committed to ensuring the California law is followed, and to pursuing any restaurant or seller who would flout it. We have, for example, resumed legal action against La Toque, a Napa restaurant that purported to “give away” foie gras, which the California Court of Appeals deemed unlawful.

Learn more: aldf.org/foiegras



2019: Creating criminal justice partnerships



The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), in partnership with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, hosted the first-ever formal judicial convening focused on animal cruelty cases.

For two days, Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys and 10 judges from throughout the country — led by NCJFCJ staff — took a deep dive into issues surrounding animal abuse and neglect, especially those affecting domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, and dependency cases. Topics ranged from the importance of recognizing The Link (between human violence and animal cruelty), the crucial

impact cross-reporting and inter-agency communication can have on both human and animal victims, and tools already available to judges from the bench such as inclusion of animals in domestic violence protection orders and prohibiting animal possession for a certain period of time.

This convening marked the beginning of the Animal Legal Defense Fund's new partnership with NCJFCJ — the first formalized partnership between an animal protection organization and a national judicial group.

Learn more: aldf.org/ncjfcj

2019: Engaging the legal community on animals' behalf

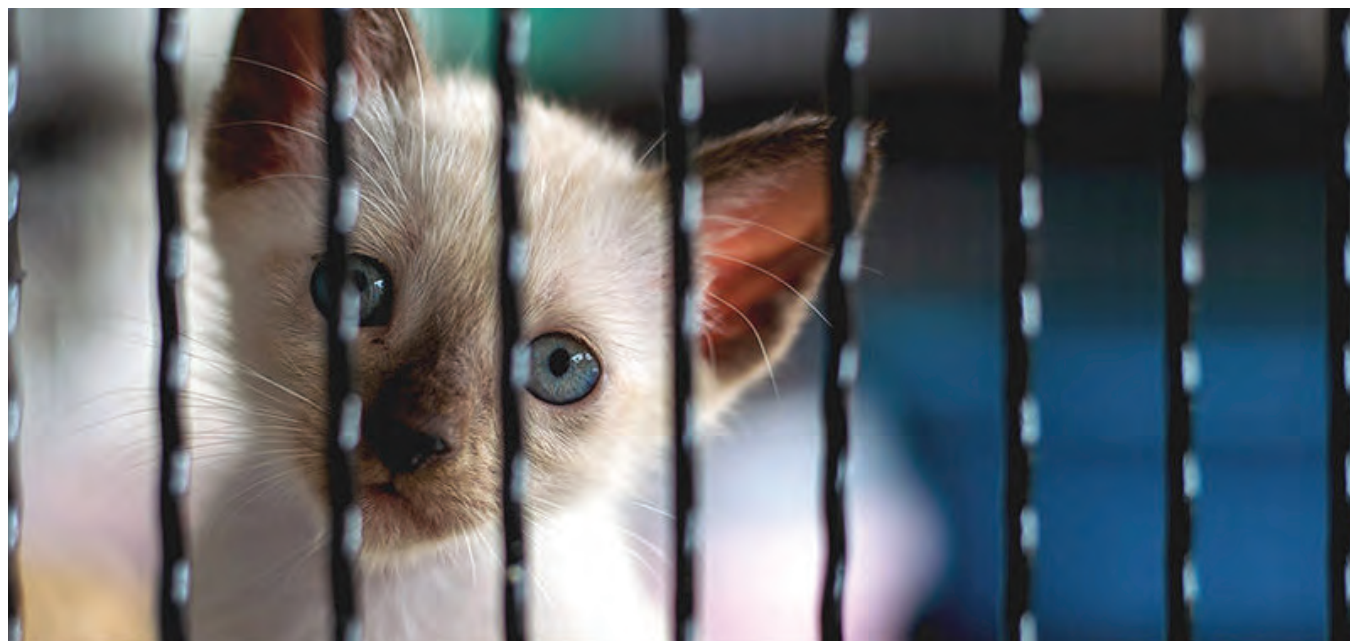


Since the Pro Bono Network's inception in 1999, the Animal Legal Defense Fund has secured more than 63,000 pro bono hours for various projects, totaling more than \$23 million in legal work for animals. The country's largest pro bono network for animal protection has grown to 2,400 talented individual law professionals and 450 law firms nationwide.

Nationally, there are now over 200 Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapters and over 165 law schools offering one or more animal law class.

Learn more: aldf.org/collaboration

2019: Cruel cat experiments end following lawsuit (CAARE v. SUNY)



In November 2019, a settlement agreement was reached with the State University of New York (SUNY) in a lawsuit over painful experiments on cats' brains. As part of the settlement, SUNY has committed to producing documents that prove its College of Optometry has ceased its experimentation on cats. Since 2002, SUNY's College of Optometry engaged in experiments on cats with the stated purpose of understanding the part of the brain controlling vision. However, the research — which began at Rockefeller University in 1985 — has killed hundreds of cats without producing any information applicable to human vision disorders.

SUNY's refusal to release public records regarding these invasive experiments violated New York's Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) — a state law similar to the federal Freedom of Information Act, which requires and facilitates government transparency. The lawsuit, brought on behalf of Citizens for Alternatives to Animal Research and Experimentation (CAARE), was filed in 2018 to force the university to provide these records and comply with FOIL.

Learn more: aldf.org/suny

FOIA Request

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) gives the public the right to request records from federal government agencies. The federal agencies must disclose the requested information unless one of nine exemptions apply for reasons such as national security or trade secrets.

2019: Rescuing 400+ animals from Cricket Hollow Zoo (KUEHL v. SELLNER)



In November 2019, the Animal Legal Defense Fund received a landmark decision when a court enforced state anti-cruelty laws using a nuisance statute — ordering the removal of all the animals from Cricket Hollow Zoo in Manchester, Iowa. On December 9th, the Animal Legal Defense Fund and several partner organizations descended on the property to remove the animals, provide necessary veterinary care, and transport the animals to sanctuaries and new loving homes, as appropriate.



Two black bears, three covies, three coyotes, a wallaby, three baboons, numerous rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, rats, fish, and birds, in addition to other animals, were rescued. Unfortunately, many other animals were missing at the time of the rescue, including grizzly bears, mountain lions, a camel, and others. The Animal Legal Defense Fund is taking further action to find, and rescue, the missing animals. The zoo has now effectively been shut down.

Learn more: aldf.org/crickethollow



SANDY

Sandy was rescued from Animaland in Pennsylvania, and now resides at Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation, near Kendalia, Texas. She lives at the sanctuary, located on 212 acres and has access to all nature can provide. Sandy and Shawn (page 71) receive the medical care they need, a healthy diet, and are able to exhibit natural bear behaviors like scratching their backs on trees and swimming.



ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

525 East Cotati Avenue
Cotati, California 94931

THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

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