



Animal Law: Working with the Grassroots



May 16, 2008

University of Washington School of Law
William H. Gates Hall, Room 115
Seattle, Washington

5.0 General CLE Credits Approved

Presented By:

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, University of
Washington Chapter

Funded by a generous grant from the Animal Legal
Defense Fund

About the Conference

The aim of this conference is to educate practicing attorneys with an interest in animal law and social change on successful models and future possibilities of collaboration between legal advocates and their colleagues in the grassroots, enabling them to effectively apply their expertise to achieve their common animal protection goals. With attorneys knowledgeable of grassroots campaigns and long-term strategy, and activists informed about how the legal system can work for them, there is tremendous potential for interdisciplinary collaboration to lead to significant advances in the humane treatment of animals. Many grassroots activists and organizations have substantial unmet legal needs given their limited resources and focus on campaigning, and attorneys will learn about the many avenues to contribute to future successes of the grassroots movement, from activist criminal defense, civil rights, and civil liberties issues to general legal support for animal protection organizations.

Who Should Attend

The conference will be of assistance to both attorneys and to grassroots activists.

About SALDF

The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF), UW Chapter, is dedicated to providing a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Litigation, legislation, and grassroots campaigns to achieve victories for animals - a case study of the Humane Society of the United States**
- **Representation of activists**
- **Using your law degree to help grassroots organizations and activists**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

8:00 am Registration and Coffee

8:25 am Introduction and Overview
Program Chair

8:30 am Opening Remarks

Joyce Tischler, Esq.
Animal Legal Defense Fund

9:00 am Litigation, Legislation and Grassroots Campaigns to Achieve Victories for Animals: A Case Study of the Humane Society of the United States

Jonathan Lovvorn, Esq.
Humane Society of the United States

Jennifer Hillman
Humane Society of the United States

The Humane Society of the United States presents an extremely effective paradigm for using interdisciplinary cooperation to advance animal protections. HSUS's efforts to improve farmed animal welfare, including its campaigns against *foie gras* and intensive confinement practices, exemplify this successful collaboration. Mr. Lovvorn and Ms. Hillman will discuss how HSUS's litigation, government affairs, and campaigns departments reinforce each others' work to achieve more humane standards in animal agribusiness.

10:30 am Break

10:40 am Representation of Activists

Shannon Keith
Activist Legal Fund

Lauren Regan
Civil Liberties Defense Center

Will Potter
Independent Journalist

Grassroots activists often need legal representation, especially in criminal, civil rights, and civil liberties matters. Frequently, they are unable to secure representation, especially if they require low-cost services. Ms. Keith and Ms. Regan will discuss the importance of activist representation, rubrics for selecting cases, and general advice to grassroots activists and their counsel, while Mr. Potter will address government and corporate efforts to repress animal activism.

12:10 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:30 pm Using Your Law Degree to Help Grassroots Organizations and Activists

Adam Karp
Animal Law Offices of Adam P. Karp

Bruce Wagman
Animal Legal Defense Fund

Many attorneys with an interest in animal protection would like to offer their services to animal activists or organizations, but don't know how they can be of help, especially if their practice doesn't focus on animal law. Likewise, animal activists and organizations often have legal questions or need legal help for non-litigation matters, such as reviewing contracts, freedom of information requests, or interpretation of animal cruelty statutes. This panel will be a forum on what lawyers have to offer animal activists, and what activists would like the assistance of lawyers for.

3:00 pm Closing Remarks

SPEAKERS

Joyce Tischler, Esq.

As one of the visionaries who co-founded the Animal Legal Defense Fund over a quarter century ago, California attorney Joyce Tischler has helped shape the emerging field of animal law. Joyce handled some of Animal Legal Defense Fund's earliest cases, including a 1981 lawsuit that halted the U.S. Navy's plan to kill 5,000 feral burros and a 1988 challenge to the U.S. Patent Office's rule allowing the patenting of genetically altered animals. She has tackled such diverse topics as challenges to hunting and trapping using the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, standing to sue, animal custody battles, the right to kill animals pursuant to will provisions, landlord-tenant issues and damages and recovery for injury to or death of an animal. Joyce served as the Animal Legal Defense Fund's Executive Director for 25 years and now serves as the agency's General Counsel.

Jonathan Lovvorn, Esq.

Jonathan Lovvorn is Vice President of Animal Protection Litigation for The Humane Society of the United States, where he manages a nationwide animal protection litigation program with dozens of attorneys prosecuting more than forty cases in state and federal courts. Mr. Lovvorn has litigated extensively on behalf of animals, authored several articles concerning animal protection, and is an adjunct professor of animal law at George Washington University, Lewis and Clark, and George Mason University law schools. He also serves as the Co-Director of the George Washington University Law School's Animal Law Litigation Project – a joint HSUS/GW Law School Animal Law Clinic. He is a 1995 graduate of the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and holds an LL.M. in Environmental Law and Natural Resource Policy from Lewis and Clark Law School.

Jennifer Hillman

Jennifer Hillman is the Director of Ballot Issue Campaigns for The Humane Society of the United States. A long-time political activist, she began her career in 1991 as the Grassroots Canvass Director here in Seattle for Greenpeace Action and as the National Canvass Director for Greenpeace USA. After leaving Greenpeace, Jennifer served on the Board of Directors and then as the Advocacy Director for the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS). At PAWS she began her experience as a state lobbyist and worked with both The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and Animal Protection Institute (API) to lobby several state bills including a ban on exotic pet ownership and the protection of citizen's initiatives banning trapping and hound hunting of cougars. In 2005, Jennifer became the Deputy Director of Ballot Issue Campaigns for HSUS and worked on the successful passage in the 2006 election of initiatives in both Arizona (banning gestation and veal crates) and Michigan (banning the hunting of mourning doves). As Director of Ballot Campaigns for HSUS, she is now working on a statewide citizen initiative for the 2008 November election in California that would ban gestation crates, veal crates and battery cages. She lives in Seattle with her 4 cats.

Shannon Keith, Esq.

Animals are considered property under the law, and Shannon Keith has been striving to change that while defending animal rights activists in the courtroom, saving dogs from being prosecuted in Los Angeles by getting them off death row, and prosecuting those who abuse animals. Shannon represents animal rights activists and organizations pro bono. In 2004, Shannon started a non-profit, tax-exempt group called ARME (Animal Rescue, Media & Education). ARME rescues homeless animals and is focused on stopping the problem at its roots, by making educational documentaries that teach people what really happens to animals and about those who risk their lives and freedom to save them. Shannon Keith then started her own production company called Uncaged Films after she learned that she was an FBI target and labeled an "Animal Rights Extremist." Uncaged Films and ARME's first feature-length documentary is called "Behind the Mask." This controversial film has questioned and challenged many peoples' perspectives about our government, about people, and about animal exploitation. Shannon has also just begun a non-profit organization called Activist Legal Fund, formed in order to provide much needed representation to animal rights activists.

Lauren Regan, Esq.

Lauren Regan is a public interest attorney specializing in environmental law, civil rights and criminal defense. She is also the founder and executive director of the Civil Liberties Defense Center, a nonprofit organization that strives to protect and educate the public as to their civil liberties and constitutional rights. She has successfully represented political activists in both civil and criminal litigation. The Civil Liberties Defense Center assists communities in curtailing government encroachment upon their right to protest, defends activists in court, assists with political prisoner issues, and monitors current governmental attempts to restrict civil liberties and dissent. The CLDC also strives to educate the public, and particularly communities of color or other higher risk communities, by conducting "know your rights" trainings throughout the west coast and beyond. She lives in Eugene, Oregon.

Will Potter

Will Potter is an award-winning independent journalist who focuses on how lawmakers and corporations have labeled animal rights and environmental activists as "eco-terrorists." Will has written for publications including The Chicago Tribune, The Dallas Morning News and Legal Affairs, and has testified before the U.S. Congress about his reporting. He is the creator of GreenIsTheNewRed.com, where he blogs about the Green Scare and history repeating itself.

Adam Karp, Esq.

Adam Karp exclusively practices animal law statewide from Bellingham, Washington. Having graduated from Gonzaga University with B.A. honors and University of Washington with a J.D. and M.S. in statistics, this is Mr. Karp's ninth year actively practicing law. He founded and served as first chair of the new Washington State Bar Association's Animal Law Section for 2002-2003. He is also a vice-chair of the American Bar Association's Animal Law Committee. In addition to serving his fifth year as a contributing editor of the Animal Legal Report, produced by Animal Legal Reports Services, he is a long term member of the Animal Legal Defense Fund. Further, he graduated from the Washington Level One Animal Control Academy and is a member of the Washington Animal Control Association and National Animal Control Association. He writes regularly for bar association bulletins on the topic of animal law and routinely speaks around the nation about animal law, including at Yale, Harvard, Vanderbilt, and Vermont Law School. Mr. Karp is an adjunct professor of animal law at the University of Washington School of Law and Seattle University School of Law. He has been quoted in TIME magazine, the *National Law Journal* and other periodicals, including a dedicated article on his practice in the *Seattle Times*. Recently he was quoted in the *ABA Journal* (November 2007) on animal law. He has chaired several animal law CLEs hosted by the WSBA, and has been a speaker at nearly 20 CLEs and conferences all on the subject of animal law. In 2007, he was invited to speak at the Georgia, Texas, and New Mexico State Bar Associations on animal law. With positive results, he has argued before the Washington Courts of Appeal on the subject of animal law. *Mansour v. King County*, 131 Wash. App. 255 (Div. I, 2006), pub.; *Williams v. MacMahon*, 110 Wash. App. 1031 (Div. II), unpub.; *Wolverton v. Young*, 2006 WL 165734 (Div. III, 2006), unpub.; and *Womack v. von Rardon*, 133 Wash. App. 254 (Div. III, 2006), pub.

Bruce Wagman, Esq.

Bruce A. Wagman is the Chief Outside Litigation Counsel for the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and a partner in the San Francisco office of Schiff Hardin. He is a 1991 *magna cum laude* graduate of Hastings College of the Law. He has been practicing animal law since 1992 in state and federal courts. His clients include private individuals in companion animal cases and a wide range of animal protection organizations on national issues affecting animals including dogs and cats, farm animals, chimpanzees, dolphins and mountain lions. In 2005, he represented the Animal Legal Defense Fund in a civil animal cruelty case that resulted in the rescue of 350 dogs suffering in a breeding/hoarding situation. He is a coeditor of *Animal Law*, the first casebook for animal law courses, which is in its third edition. He teaches Animal Law at University of California, Hastings College of the Law; University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall); Stanford Law School; and the University of San Francisco, School of Law. Mr. Wagman received a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and a bachelor of science in nursing from Columbia University School of Nursing.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Registration Information

Pre-registration is required. Please complete and return the Registration Form by May 9, 2008.

This conference is funded by a generous grant from the Animal Legal Defense Fund. There is no registration fee for this conference.

Credits


5.0 General CLE credits are approved. For more information regarding CLE credits in other states, contact UW CLE at 206-543-0059.

Accommodations for Disabilities

To request a disability accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206-543-6450 (voice); 206-543-6452 (TTY); 206-685-7264 (fax); or dso@u.washington.edu (email).

FOUR WAYS TO REGISTER

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO:

 University of Washington School of Law
CLE Registration
Box 353020
Seattle, WA 98195-3020

 TO REGISTER BY FAX: 206-685-3929

 TO REGISTER ONLINE: www.uwcle.org

 TO REGISTER BY PHONE, CALL:
800-CLE-UNIV OR 206-543-0059

Questions? Email: uwcle@u.washington.edu

REGISTRATION FORM

Animal Law: Working with the Grassroots (08E16)
May 16, 2008
University of Washington School of Law
Seattle, Washington

NAME: Mr. / Ms. _____

BAR NUMBER: _____

FIRM/ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

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I would like to register:

Friday, May 16, 2008

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