



3

Hope For
Animals In
Entertainment



8

Four Stars
For Third Year
In A Row



THE ANIMALS'

VOLUME 36 | ISSUE 3 | FALL 2017

ADVOCATE



Two Down, More To Come

Ag-Gag laws start to crumble as courts rule in favor of the Animal Legal Defense Fund and consumers

BY LAURA RAMOS | Communications Writer

It's common for factory farming facilities to be surrounded with razor wire and other barriers that make it

difficult—bordering on impossible—to find out what goes on there. Beyond those physical barriers, the animal agriculture industry is lobbying, often successfully, for state “Ag-Gag” laws that criminalize photography or video of animal agriculture facilities. With your support, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is fighting back for farmed animals.

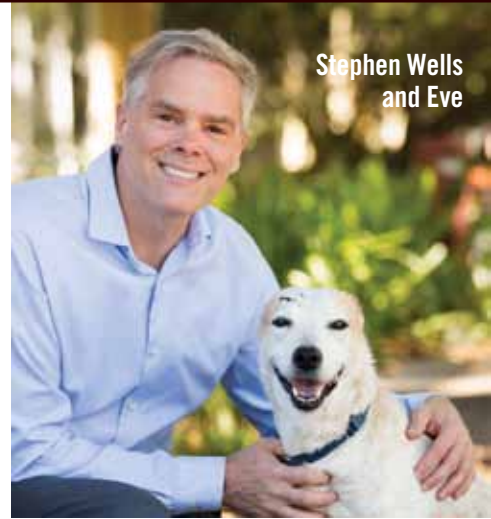
In May 2016, the Animal Legal Defense Fund released undercover footage shot at a Nebraska pig breeding facility run by The Maschhoffs, LLC.—the third largest pig producer in the U.S. and a supplier of Hormel Foods. Our undercover investigation revealed the disturbing reality for mother pigs and

[READ MORE PAGE 5](#) ►



*LETTER FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

A Tipping Point



Stephen Wells
and Eve

The fundamental problem for animals is that our laws still consider them things – “property,” rather than sentient living beings. The simple fact is that our legal system is out of step with our values as a society and our scientific understanding of animals’ individuality, and their capacities for cognition, emotion, and social structure. We know that animals are not simply property and that the law must catch up. The good news is that changes are occurring—especially when it comes to animals exploited for entertainment.

In just the past few years, much has changed in animal entertainment. Thanks to pressure from the Animal Legal Defense Fund and other animal advocates, and especially in the wake of the documentary *Blackfish*, which exposed the sad life for orcas held in captivity, SeaWorld announced an end to captive breeding and capture of orcas. Now the Animal Legal Defense Fund is working to pass a law in Florida that will ensure that the current orcas in captivity at SeaWorld will be the last.

Another wildlife exploitation icon, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, shut down forever because compassionate people like you made it clear that abusing animals for entertainment was no longer acceptable. The laws were changing, too, with many municipalities banning bullhooks—the sharp fire poker-like device used to jab elephants—without which forcing elephants to do “tricks” would be impossible.

Just this summer, Animal Legal Defense Fund members in New York City helped pass a law banning the use of wild animals in all circuses. And, going a step further, our members in Los Angeles added their voices to the successful campaign to ban all wild animal exhibitions! These major cities have laid the foundation for communities across the county to say “NO” to animal exploitation.

Now more than ever, the public understands that a life of cruel imprisonment and forced performance is no life at all for wild animals. We are at a tipping point, and with you by our side the Animal Legal Defense Fund will keep working to protect all animals from exploitation.

For the animals,

Stephen Wells, Executive Director



**Animal Legal
Defense Fund**

Stephen Wells
Executive Director

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Hope On The Horizon

Critical mass agree animal exploitation in the entertainment industry is wrong

BY LIZ HOLTZ | Contract Attorney

The tide has turned for animals exploited in the entertainment industry. For decades, animal advocates have protested outside circuses and marine amusement parks, advocated for better laws, and used the legal system to fight for protections for these animals.

But now a critical mass in our society agree that “entertainment” is no justification for animal abuse. It seems that every week another city or county institutes a ban on use of animals for entertainment. Los Angeles and New York City are the most recent major cities to take steps to ban this abuse. With the recent demise of Ringling

Bros., it’s likely that animals used in live performances will be a distant memory in a few decades.

In April, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to prohibit wild animals in performances due to the advocacy of the Animal Legal Defense Fund and other organization. Lindsay Larris, Animal Legal Defense Fund acting director of legislation testified at the hearing and is working with the coalition assisting the city attorney’s office in drafting the ordinance.

Due to lack of regulation and lax enforcement at the state and federal

[READ MORE PAGE 4](#) ▶

PAGE 3





HOPE ON THE HORIZON | FROM PAGE 3

level, more local governments like Los Angeles have taken action to protect animals in their jurisdiction. Animals exploited for entertainment suffer immensely, spending their whole lives in confined spaces, traveling constantly, and forced to perform unnatural tricks in environments not remotely simulating their natural habitats. The more cities and counties that outlaw animals in entertainment, the harder it is for traveling circus acts to tour.

But changes aren't confined to the circus—or to local government. Marine amusement parks' popularity, like SeaWorld, are also on the decline. Right now, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is leading the legislative charge for the Florida Orca Protection Act in the Florida legislature.

Modeled after California's Orca Protection and Safety Act, the Florida law would make it illegal to breed orcas in captivity, use any captive orcas for "entertainment" or performance purposes, or import additional orcas into the state or out of North America,

with limited exceptions for transfer to sanctuaries. The proposed law is merely a codification of SeaWorld's own policy to end orca captivity and will guarantee that the orcas currently in confinement in Florida will be the last orcas living in captivity in the state.

Like all animals used for entertainment, captive orcas also live difficult lives marked by abuse and pain. These highly sensitive animals live for decades in cramped tanks that are a far cry from the miles of ocean they naturally live in. Captive orcas die much younger than those living in the wild, act aggressively to their calves and companions, and suffer from medical ailments not found in wild orcas.

These new laws represent a seismic shift for the better in the way that people view animals. As society's views on animals in entertainment continues to improve, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is committed to using the legal and legislative systems to end the abuse of animals in circuses and amusement parks.

Read more about the Florida Orca Protection Act—and what you can do to help, no matter where you live at aldf.org/FOPA.



AG-GAG LAWS CRUMBLE | FROM PAGE 1

their piglets. It's hard to watch.

Pigs suffered for days or weeks with extreme injuries. There were times that the pigs went hungry, going three days at a time without food. We also saw the cruelty of what are considered "industry standards," including "thumping" piglets who are deemed sickly or too small, which involves smashing the piglets' heads against the floor in an effort to kill them. The video shows piglets thumped, then seen moving and conscious, frantically looking around as they die slowly.

We immediately contacted the Attorneys General of Nebraska and Illinois, where the company's HQs are located, urging them to open investigations. But we didn't stop there.

In June 2016, we filed a lawsuit against Hormel Foods, alleging they are misleading consumers with the

advertising for the Natural Choice® brand of lunch meats and bacon. The slogan "Make the Natural Choice®" and repeated claims that Natural Choice® products are "100% Natural" and "All-Natural," Hormel Foods is taking advantage of consumers' mistaken beliefs that "natural" meat comes from animals raised in a specific, sustainable way. According to a 2015 Consumer Reports survey, half of consumers believe the "natural" designation means animals were raised outdoors.

Hormel is capitalizing on these misconceptions even though Natural Choice® products come from the same industrialized factory farms as any of Hormel's other products.

Because of you, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is able to use every avenue possible to hold factory farms accountable. Learn how you can help at aldf.org/ProtectPigs.



UPCOMING EVENTS: JOIN US!



25th Annual ANIMAL LAW CONFERENCE

OCT. 13-15, 2017
PORTLAND, OR

The Animal Law Conference presented by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Center for Animal Law Studies and the Lewis & Clark Law School SALDF chapter will be celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Taking place at the Hilton Portland Downtown, the event will feature a weekend full of panels and discussions about issues affecting animals today with some of the most respected voices in animal law. Guests will also have the opportunity to network with other attending attorneys, students, activists and experts. Tickets are available at animallawconference.org.



Save the Date: CRUISE FOR A CAUSE

SATURDAY, NOV. 4, 2017
MARINA DEL REY, CA

Join the Animal Legal Defense Fund and other animal advocates on an evening cruise around the Marina del Rey coast as we celebrate this year's victories for animals. Guests will be able to meet the Animal Legal Defense Fund attorneys and executives while enjoying onboard entertainment and learning about how they plan to continue to advance the



interests of animals through the legal system. Enjoy a plant-based buffet and appetizers, drinks and activities aboard the yacht, while browsing the silent auction and taking in the beautiful views. Tickets are available at aldf.org/cruise2017.

Webinar: ANIMAL LAW BOOT CAMP

SATURDAY,
NOV. 11, 2017
9 am - 2 pm PDT



Join the Animal Legal Defense Fund's first annual Animal Law Boot Camp. This half-day webinar event will feature experts in animal law providing a snapshot of how animal issues relate to various fields. Sessions include constitutional law, environmental law, ethics, and criminal law. Legal professionals are encouraged to join! For more information: aldf.org/bootcamp

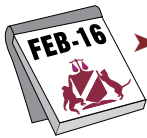
Cost: \$99 General Admission, \$10 SALDF Members (incl. possibility of project grant)

A recording will be available for purchase after the event.

Attorneys will be eligible to receive 4.25 CLE credits, including 1 ethics credit, for both live streaming participation and on-demand recording, accredited by the Oregon State Bar.

2016 Highlights

PAGE 7



► We released an undercover investigation at a puppy mill in New Mexico.

► We achieved a landmark legal victory after suing Cricket Hollow Zoo for violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for holding four tigers and three lemurs in sub-standard conditions. This was the first time the ESA was successfully used to obtain a court order to remove endangered captive animals.



► Our attorneys successfully lobbied the California Coastal Commission to compel SeaWorld San Diego to discontinue its captive orca breeding program, and SeaWorld announced it was phasing out the program entirely.



► Our reward helped lead to the conviction of a malicious puppy killer, who set a chihuahua named Angel Star on fire.

► We released an undercover investigation revealing cruelty and neglect at a Hormel Foods pig supplier.



► Our lawsuit against Animaland Zoological Park in Pennsylvania resulted in the zoo closing—sending two bears and a wolf to sanctuaries.

► After a second lawsuit under the

Endangered Species Act, we secured the release of two African lions to a sanctuary from Cricket Hollow Zoo in Iowa.

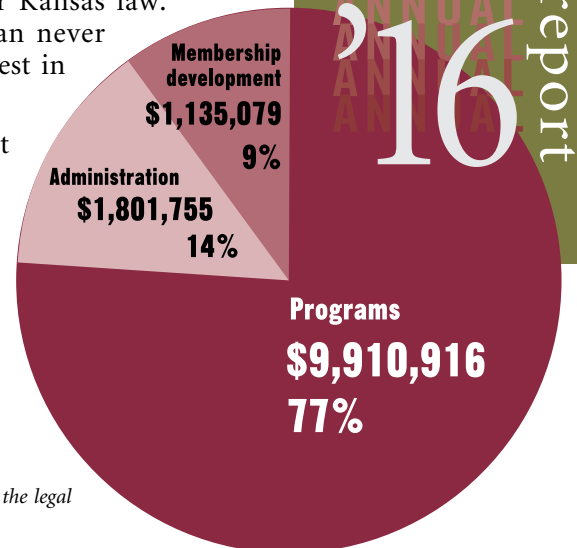


► We achieved a major win for puppy mill dogs after our lawsuit invalidated weak regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, which allowed abuse by commercial dog breeders, including confining mother dogs in cages 24 hours a day on metal wire floors.



► We shut down an annual coyote killing contest after filing a lawsuit arguing it was illegal under Kansas law. The organizer can never host another killing contest in the state.

► We won a significant appeal against the FDA in an ongoing legal battle over whether the agency must provide information it collects about hens in factory egg farms.



FINANCIAL REPORT – 2016

The mission of the Animal Legal Defense Fund is to protect the lives and advance the interests of animals through the legal system. A copy of ALDF's full audited financial statement may be obtained by writing to ALDF or visiting aldf.org.

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,241,828
Investments	5,112,235
Accounts, grants, and pledges receivable, net	1,482,940
Inventory, prepaid expenses, other current assets	86,017
Total Current Assets	\$9,923,020

NONCURRENT ASSETS

Property and equipment, net	\$2,592,309
Investments	549,574
Grants and pledges receivable, long-term portion	4,039,910
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$7,181,793
	\$17,104,813

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$469,778
Accrued payroll liabilities	283,524
Total Liabilities	\$753,302
Net assets:	
Unrestricted	\$10,842,001
Temporarily restricted	5,509,510
Total Net Assets	\$16,351,511
	\$17,104,813

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Donations (<i>individuals/foundations/corporations</i>)	\$4,660,679
Donations from estates	1,840,893
In-kind contributions	4,073,467
Conferences	89,527
Interest and dividends	100,149
Net assets released from restrictions	1,304,028
Other	130,981
Total Revenue and Support	\$12,199,724

EXPENSES

Program services:	<i>Legal programs</i>	\$7,725,674
	<i>Public education</i>	2,185,242
Supporting services:	<i>Administration</i>	1,801,755
	<i>Direct mail fundraising</i>	445,362
	<i>Other fundraising</i>	689,717
Total Expenses		\$12,847,750
(Decrease) in net assets from operating activities (648,026)		
Increase in temporarily restricted net assets 5,500,482		
Unrealized gains on investments, net 112,677		
Increase in net assets 4,965,133		
Net assets at beginning of year 11,386,378		
Net assets at end of year \$16,351,511		

**ANIMAL LEGAL
DEFENSE FUND**

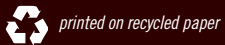
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**THE ANIMALS'
ADVOCATE**
2017



We Take Your Support Seriously

BY KEVIN CONNELLY | Development Director

For the third year in a row the Animal Legal Defense Fund achieved a perfect 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the leading charity evaluator website in America. The 4-star rating has only been achieved by a very select set of organizations multiple years in a row. We are proud to be recognized as an organization with exceedingly high standards. You have a big decision to make when you decide where to put your support, and we hope you'll continue to help us protect the lives and advance the interests of animals through the legal system.

We routinely advocate for transparency in law and policy, and are proud to embody it for our supporters.

Please take a look inside on Page 7 to review our 2016 annual summary of victories and responsible spending.

THE ANIMALS' ADVOCATE A NEWSLETTER FOR THE SUPPORTERS OF THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND



2

Animal Protection
Reaches A
Tipping Point



6

Don't Miss
Our Upcoming
Events