



ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND EST 1979

Animal Law Boot Camp

Recorded on November 11, 2017

Speaker Bios

Justin Marceau, Professor of Law, *University of Denver Sturm College of Law*

Justin Marceau is an award winning professor of law at University of Denver Sturm College of Law. The focus of his teaching and scholarship includes criminal law, criminal procedure, federal jurisdiction, constitutional law, habeas corpus, the death penalty, and animal law. Justin graduated from Harvard Law School.

Justin holds what is believed to be the first animal law chair in the country, the Animal Legal Defense Fund Professorship. He was honored as the 2016 Vermont Law School Distinguished Scholar in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems and spent two weeks in residence at the Vermont Law School. He is actively researching a variety of food and animal law issues in preparation for a variety of courses and articles he hopes to pursue in the future.

Prior to joining the faculty, Justin clerked on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and worked as an Assistant Federal Public Defender. Justin remains an active litigator. He has represented capital prisoners, non-capital prisoners, individuals and a variety of professional organizations, including the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund. He works on cutting edge constitutional, civil rights and criminal cases. Justin is co-counsel in Animal Legal Defense Fund's Ag-Gag cases.

Cristina Stella, Staff Attorney, Animal Legal Defense Fund

Cristina Stella is a staff attorney with the Litigation Program at Animal Legal Defense Fund, where she focuses on stopping the systemic abuse of farm animals in industrial agriculture. Prior to joining Animal Legal Defense Fund, she spent five years as an attorney at Center for Food Safety in San Francisco working to improve federal oversight of U.S. food production. Cristina graduated cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center and clerked for the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

Russ Mead, Shared Earth Foundation Visiting Professor, *Lewis & Clark Law School*

Russ Mead is General Counsel of Animal Law Coalition, and is a partner in the Seattle based law firm of Allen & Mead. In the past he has served as General Counsel for two of the nation's leading non-profit animal sanctuaries. He was on the ground overseeing thousands of volunteers after Hurricane Katrina hit, and has put into motion some of the largest animal rescues in the country. His work included rescues from animal hoarders, puppy mills and dog fighting cases, including the Michael Vick case. Russ holds a BS in Accounting from Arizona State University, an MBA from Lindenwood College, a JD from St. Louis University School of Law, and earned a CPA from Arizona. He taught business ethics in the MBA program at Fontbonne University, and has taught Animal Law as a guest lecturer at Cornell University School of Law. Russ recently presented continuing legal education programs on Animal Law Ethics for

the New York City Bar as well as the Nassau County New York Bar. Russ is a frequent speaker at animal law conferences, and law schools with animal law sections.

Diane Balkin, Senior Staff Attorney, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Diane Balkin is senior staff attorney for Animal Legal Defense Fund's Criminal Justice Program. She began her career as a prosecutor in the Denver District Attorney's Office in 1979, where she has worked for the last 32 years. When she retired from the DA's office on July 15, 2011, Diane was the Chief Deputy District Attorney (trial attorney) where she prosecuted all types of felonies (including homicides) and supervised a team of junior lawyers and support staff. Diane also served as the "animal crimes" prosecutor in her office where she demonstrated time and time again her commitment to ensuring both an effective investigation and an aggressive prosecution of every animal cruelty case within her jurisdiction.

Prior to becoming Chief Deputy, Diane served as the director of the Complex Prosecution Division where she was the legal advisor to the Denver County Statutory Grand Jury and she supervised the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed against the elderly. She has also served as the director of the Juvenile Division and the Domestic Violence Unit. Diane was appointed to the Colorado State Board of Veterinary Medicine in June 2001 and served on the Board for 8 years. She received her J.D. in 1977 from the University of Denver and is a nationally ranked lecturer on animal cruelty investigations and prosecutions with a strong emphasis on training veterinarians.

Priscilla Rader, Education Coordinator, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Priscilla develops and oversees educational programs and opportunities for law students, attorneys and the general public—working closely with the Academic Outreach Manager. Priscilla graduated from Pacific University with a B.A. in Philosophy: Ethics, Society and Law, specializing in animal ethics and writing her thesis on *Virtue Ethics and Non-human Animals: bridging the gap between Singer and Regan*. Priscilla went on to earn her J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School. While in law school, she acted as the 2014 student coordinator for the Animal Law Conference and the school's SALDF co-director. After her first year of law school, Priscilla interned for Mercy for Animals where she researched state laws related to undercover investigations. Priscilla then clerked with the Animal Legal Defense Fund's Litigation Program for 1.5 years, working on cases involving captive wildlife, farmed animals and public nuisance claims. Priscilla is passionate about progressing and further validating the field of animal law through education, advocacy and mentorship. She is licensed to practice law in Oregon.

Priscilla's commitment to animal law has been recognized with the Animal Law Leadership Award, the Advancement of Animal Law Scholarship and the Richard J. Peppin Animal Rights Scholarship. Priscilla was also selected by professors and faculty of her law school to join its Cornelius Honor Society after graduation. She has been on the board of several local non-profits and is an active advocate in her community.