

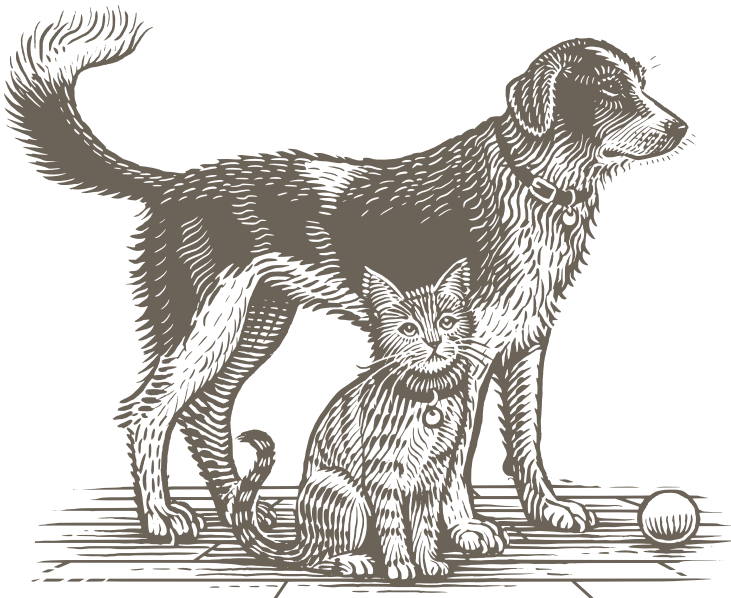


The Animals' Advocate

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Rescued roosters at Shy 38, a Kansas-based farmed animal sanctuary. Countless roosters find themselves in need of rescue as a result of the “backyard chicken” phenomenon and common hatchery practices (learn more on page 9).

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ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND EST 1979

Freedom of speech is intertwined with animals' freedom from cruelty.

That's why the free speech victories you enable are so important for animals.

Ag-Gag laws are a scourge — penalizing any whistleblower or undercover investigator who would follow their conscience to expose factory farm cruelty.

In late 2022, you helped achieve a crucial victory when a federal court in Iowa ruled that the state's latest Ag-Gag law is unconstitutional, *Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Reynolds*. It was the second such win against an Iowa Ag-Gag law in 2022 alone, thanks to your support.

Also arriving late in the year was a victory in our lawsuit on behalf of Tofurky, a plant-based food company. The lawsuit challenged an Arkansas law that censored animal-free food producers for using accurate terms like “veggie burger” on their labels and in their marketing. This law, too, was ruled unconstitutional, following a victory over a similar Louisiana law earlier in the year.

Animals suffer routine abuse on factory farms. Transparency and truthful labeling are vital tools for fighting cruelty and helping the public make informed choices about the food they eat. Thank you for everything you do to make this work possible.



For the animals,

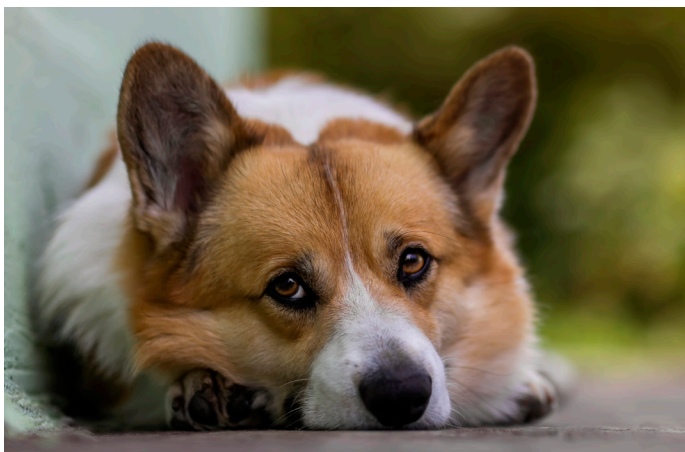
Stephen Wells
Executive Director



Justice for Animal Victims

When law enforcement officers in DuPage County, Illinois, received a report of a deceased animal whose remains had been dumped in a trail area, they quickly responded to the scene. There, they found a dog named Otis, who was later determined to have died from a combination of parvovirus, starvation, and rat poisoning.

No dog should ever suffer Otis' fate — and the officers launched an investigation that led to the home of the humans who failed him. There, they found two more dogs. Tragically, for one of them — a corgi named Bubba — it was too late. He had starved to death.



“Simply put, Otis and Bubba never stood a chance. After living in deplorable conditions, they both suffered horrible, painful, and unnecessary deaths after suffering through heartbreaking lives. While Otis’ and Bubba’s abusers have been held accountable, no animal should have to endure such abuse. Thankfully, Scooby did not meet the same fate and is now prospering, living happily with his foster family.”



*Robert Berlin
DuPage County State's Attorney*

But for the surviving dog, Scooby, the arrival of these officers meant rescue and a fresh start.

Thanks to you, the Animal Legal Defense Fund was able to provide funding that not only helped pay for Scooby's rehabilitation, but also funded critical forensic work that helped prove the cruelty case against the dogs' abusers. They were convicted of aggravated cruelty — a felony — and sentenced to three years in jail, the maximum penalty available in this case.

ANIMAL PROFILE

Case: State of Illinois v. Sarah G. & Andre N.
No. 20 CF 825

Agg. Animal Cruelty: DuPage County, IL

Case Status: Convicted

Name: Scooby

Background: Trapped in a rusted crate filled with his own waste, Scooby was emaciated and unable to walk at the time of his rescue.

Status: After extensive veterinary care, Scooby is now thriving in a loving adoptive home.

How You're Helping: You helped fund Scooby's rehabilitation — and the advanced veterinary forensic work that led to the conviction of those responsible for his suffering.



“These defenseless animals don’t have a voice and it is our duty to speak for them, to defend them and to ensure that they live their best life,”

Berlin added. “It is also our responsibility to hold accountable anyone who would harm or mistreat any animal. I thank all of our partners in this endeavor, particularly the Animal Legal Defense Fund for their continued efforts in protecting our loyal companions.”

The judge’s comments make it clear that animals are individuals deserving of care — not merely possessions to use and abuse at will. “[Y]ou turned a blind eye to companion animals that love you more than they love themselves,” the judge remarked, later adding that this “callous indifference ... in the face of the suffering of other living beings is shocking to the Court.”

Learn more about how you’re powering the fight against cruelty at aldf.org/criminaljustice.



Celebrating America’s Top Animal Defenders: National Justice for Animals Week honors attorneys, judges, and law enforcement officials who go the extra mile for animals — including the prosecutor in Scooby’s case. Learn more at aldf.org/njlaw.

FIGHTING HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE CRUELTY

When an elderly, emaciated horse named Ryder was forced to pull a carriage on a hot August day in Manhattan, he collapsed and couldn't get back up.

Compounding his suffering, the carriage driver — rather than trying to help or comfort the horse — further abused him, striking and shouting at him in an effort to get him to his feet.

Sadly, after being moved to a farm upstate, Ryder died in October.

But his story has galvanized a movement — one that will prevent suffering for many more horses like him. With your support, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is working tirelessly toward a humane outcome for the hundreds of horses still toiling on New York City streets.

Caring Celebrities Join the Cause



Partnering with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, more than two dozen celebrities — including Rooney and Kate

Mara, Joaquin Phoenix, Billie Eilish, Joan Jett, Christopher Walken, Hilary Swank, Marisa Tomei, Ricky Gervais, Edie Falco, Kaley Cuoco, and Keshia — sent an impassioned letter to the New York City Council, urging members to take action for the horses in the city.

At press time, a bill to phase out and ultimately ban horse-drawn carriages in New York City, replacing them with animal-friendly electric carriages, has gained widespread public support and numerous City Council sponsors. **Learn more and sign the petition to demand an end to carriage cruelty at aldf.org/ryder.**



The Animal Legal Defense Fund and Voters for Animal Rights announced new polling results showing New York City voters overwhelmingly support a ban on horse-drawn carriages in the city.

Results from polling voters in New York City include:

71% support a ban on horse and carriage rides proposed by some city elected leaders “because of numerous charges of abuse of the horses.”

69% said they have “been aware of the mistreatment of horses (used in the carriage industry).”

90% of city voters said that the “issue of animal rights” in New York City is very important or somewhat important to them.



SPEAKING OUT AGAINST RODEO ABUSE

In an on-campus arena at George Mason University (GMU), spectators gathered for a Professional Bull Riders Challenger Series event last fall. Rodeo events are notoriously inhumane — but even this audience of rodeo fans was disturbed by what they saw.

A bull exploded from the chute and almost immediately fell, badly breaking his right rear leg. Struggling to stand, he apparently fractured the leg yet again. Helpless and in pain, he was dragged from the arena with a rope tangled around his neck and legs.

Injuries like this are sadly common in rodeo events, where animals may suffer broken bones, punctured lungs, torn tails, organ damage, and more. Animals injured during these events are typically killed or sent to slaughter.

This incident was caught on video and released by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, exposing the truth about rodeo cruelty. As a result, more than 15,584 supporters signed our petition demanding that the Professional Bull Riders and other inhumane events be banned from taxpayer-funded venues like the arena at GMU — a public university.

Student Chapter Combats Cruelty

The Animal Legal Defense Fund GMU Law School Student Chapter leapt into action to prevent future cruelty on their campus. Student chapter members sent a letter to the university president and circulated a petition to students and faculty, urging the GMU administration to ban Professional Bull Riders from returning to campus.

Learn more about the fight to end rodeo cruelty and sign the petition at aldf.org/banpbr.

Victory: Alameda County, California, banned the cruel event known as “wild cow milking” in late 2022 following outreach from the Animal Legal Defense Fund and other animal advocates. In this event, terrified mother cows who aren’t typically handled by humans are captured and milked before a raucous rodeo crowd.



PROTECTING PUPPIES, KITTENS, AND CALIFORNIA CONSUMERS

Your support powers legislative victories that don't just help animals right now, but also pave the way for protecting them far into the future. One of California's newest laws — sponsored by the Animal Legal Defense Fund — cracks down on an unethical lending practice that harms consumers while propping up the cruel puppy and kitten mill industry.

When California passed the nation's first statewide retail pet sale ban in 2017, it was a major step forward for animals. But many animal sellers continue their businesses online. On websites that may falsely portray "humane" conditions, mill operators and puppy dealers lure consumers with images of adorable baby animals — and predatory,

high-interest loans to finance animals individuals may not otherwise be able to obtain.

More puppies are imported into California than any other state — often through online sales. By banning these predatory loans, we're striking a critical blow against puppy and kitten mill profit incentives — while fighting cruelty and consumer abuse at the same time.



“Predatory puppy financing can increase the rates of impulse puppy purchases — leading to financial hardship for borrowers, and young puppies with families that don't have the resources to properly care for them.”



*Animal Legal Defense Fund
Executive Director Stephen Wells*

**10,000 PUPPY MILLS
IN THE U.S.A.**

**OVER 2 MILLION
PUPPIES SOLD
ANNUALLY**



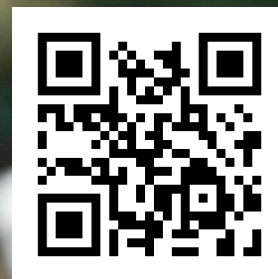
RECENTLY RELEASED

Tig's Tale: A Puppy Mill Mom

The conditions inside puppy mills are devastating, but the long-term psychological impact intense confinement, loneliness, and excessive breeding can have on mother dogs who are lucky enough to get a chance at a happy life is less documented and discussed.

This 12-minute documentary, narrated by *The Walking Dead's* Christian Serratos, follows 5-year-old, 5-pound Yorkshire terrier, Tig, through her first year adjusting to life in her new home.

Learn more at aldf.org/tig.



Scan with your
smartphone's
camera to
watch



Hit Podcast Covers Animal Legal Defense Fund Case:

Neon Hum Media's *Smoke Screen: Puppy Kingpin* explores the little-known issue of puppy laundering, in which puppies are bred in mills, "laundered" through fake rescue groups, and falsely sold as "rescue dogs" to skirt retail pet sale bans. The Animal Legal Defense Fund is on the case — and the podcast explores the issue through the lens of JAK's Puppies, an Iowa-based puppy broker that is a defendant in our lawsuit *Carey v. JAK's Puppies*. Listen and get an episode-by-episode guide with exclusive photos, evidence, and court documents at aldf.org/smokescreen.



EXPOSING INHUMANE CHICK SHIPPING

It's shocking, but legal: Every spring, countless day-old chicks and other baby birds are shipped through the U.S. Postal Service — as if they were inanimate objects instead of living beings.

Some don't survive the trip. But with your help, the Animal Legal Defense Fund is raising awareness about the lack of regulations and legal protections for these vulnerable birds.

Hatching Cruelty

At commercial hatcheries across the U.S., chicks and other birds are incubated, hatched, and packed into boxes to be shipped through the mail. These boxes offer inadequate protection from rough handling or extreme heat or cold — and the birds' journeys can last for days.

Since many customers only want female chicks, more baby roosters are hatched than buyers wish

to purchase. Shockingly, some hatcheries even use male chicks as so-called “packers” — adding them free of charge to boxes of female chicks for extra warmth and padding.

Determining the sex of a newly hatched chick isn't an exact science, and young roosters are often mistakenly sold to buyers who only want females. Compounding this problem, many jurisdictions prohibit residents from keeping roosters at all. As a result, untold numbers of young roosters are abandoned or surrendered to animal shelters once they begin to make their telltale crowing sounds.

Farmed animal sanctuaries report being inundated by requests to take in roosters in need — far more than they're actually able to rescue and house.

Learn more about how you're helping chicks and other farmed animals at aldf.org/farmedanimals.



Home to Roost

Kansas farmed animal sanctuary Shy 38 is all too familiar with the abundance of relinquished roosters in need of a roost. Notorious for being territorial and possessive, most flocks only have room for one (if any). Determined to help their feathered friends, Shy 38 created a rooster flock and found compatible combinations of bachelors willing to bunk together. Your support helped the Animal Legal Defense Fund provide new rooster houses for some of Shy 38's rescued rooster flock.

Shy 38 was one of the plaintiffs in *Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Kelly*, which successfully overturned Kansas' Ag-Gag law. The sanctuary is also home to Mangalica pigs Misty and Mina and ponies Mary and Stella who were rescued from Cricket Hollow Zoo thanks to an Animal Legal Defense Fund lawsuit.

MEET SARAH LUICK, A TRUE CHAMPION FOR ANIMALS

This past November, Animal Law Conference co-presenters the Animal Legal Defense Fund and the Center for Animal Law Studies (CALs) at Lewis & Clark University honored longtime advocate Sarah Luick with the **Champion for Animals Award**. The award recognizes Sarah's tireless efforts on behalf of animals, and the knowledge, determination, and dedication she brings to her advocacy.



Sarah's work for animals includes being the longest-serving member of the Animal Legal Defense Fund Board

of Directors, guiding the organization for more than 30 years. She's also served on multiple boards of other animal protection organizations and is active with the Animal Law Practice Group of the Massachusetts Bar Association and the Massachusetts Animal Coalition.

In presenting the award, Animal Legal Defense Fund founder and current CALs professor Joyce Tischler shared a memorable milestone in animal law history: "In the early 1980s, Sarah worked tirelessly with original founding members on the *Provimi* veal case, from its inception as an idea



to its conclusion in court. For those too young to recall it, the *Provimi* veal case is a foundational case that animal law students study in Animal Law Fundamentals courses. Sarah helped to take on the veal industry, exposing their mistreatment of calves through a clever and strategic piece of consumer protection litigation. Like so many of the early cases in animal law, the plaintiffs lost, but the case expanded consumer understanding. It was a victory for the movement."

Sarah has reached and influenced countless people in her kind, quiet, and inclusive way. As she once noted: "If animal issue groups work collaboratively toward achieving goals, we can realize more progress, such as working with environmental, wildlife protection groups, and human rights groups." We couldn't agree more. Thank you for being a true champion for animals!

Progress for calves: Through the tireless efforts of advocates including the Animal Legal Defense Fund, nine U.S. states have banned cruel veal crates. At press time, a bill to ban both veal crates for calves and gestation crates for mother pigs has unanimously passed a key committee vote in New Jersey. Learn more at aldf.org/newjersey.



SUPREME COURT HEARS FARMED ANIMAL PROTECTION CASE

On countless factory farms across the country, animals suffer in crates and cages so small that they can't even turn around, lie down, extend their limbs, or flap their wings. Running, playing, or rooting or pecking in the dirt are simple pleasures they never get the chance to enjoy.

These conditions using extensive confinement are designed to maximize corporations' bottom

125 million: The approximate number of pigs slaughtered in the U.S. every year. Nearly all are raised in warehouse-like factory farms.

7x2 feet: The dimensions of a typical gestation crate, in which mother pigs spend most of their lives on factory farms. Millions of mother pigs are currently kept in these conditions; they commonly resort to biting at the crate bars in frustration.

lines — not animals' well-being. But in multiple U.S. states, voters have stood up against this corporate animal cruelty.

One such initiative is California's Proposition 12. Approved by voters in 2018, the law has been fought by industrial animal agriculture interests ever since. But with your support, the Animal Legal Defense Fund and coalition partners have helped California defend Proposition 12 from multiple industry-brought lawsuits.

One such case, *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross*, was heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in October — a milestone in the animal protection movement.

Watch on demand: Learn about the significance of this case straight from the source — Senior Staff Attorney Amanda Howell, who spearheads the Animal Legal Defense Fund's work defending Proposition 12. **Watch now at aldf.org/webinars.**



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