

2012 Animal Law Review Symposium Authors and Panelists

Peter Brandt*

Peter A. Brandt is the Senior Attorney for Farm Animal Litigation with the Humane Society of the United States' Animal Protection Litigation (APL) section. APL conducts precedent-setting legal campaigns on behalf of animals in state and federal courts around the country. With a staff of 12 full-time lawyers and more than 30 active cases, APL is the largest Animal Protection Litigation program in the country. Peter has been involved in animal protection issues for over a decade, and currently oversees the entire farm animal litigation docket for The HSUS. He received his J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School and he holds a B.A. from Whitman College.

Carter Dillard



Carter Dillard is the director of litigation for the Animal Legal Defense Fund. Prior to joining ALDF, Carter was appointed to the faculty of Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law, as a Westerfield Fellow. Before that he served as an Honors Program attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, legal advisor to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in the National Security Law Division, General Counsel of Compassion Over Killing, and director of farm animal litigation for the Humane Society of the United States. He has a B.A. from Boston College, J.D., Order of the Coif, from Emory University, and an LL.M. from New York University where he wrote his thesis under Jeremy Waldron. He is a peer reviewer for the journal *Bioethics*, and served as a visiting scholar at Emory's Law School in Spring 2012 as well as a visiting professor at Lewis and Clark Law School in the Summer of 2012.

Kathy Hessler



Kathy Hessler is a clinical professor of law and director of the only animal law clinic in the country. She is the first faculty member hired to teach animal law full time in a law school. She received her LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center and graduated with a J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary. Prior to teaching at Lewis & Clark, Professor Hessler taught in clinical programs at Case Western Reserve University Law School, Cornell Law School, the University of Dayton Law School, the Capital University School of Law, and Georgetown University Law Center. She has been an animal activist and vegan since the late 1980's. She has been an advisor to the journal *Animal Law* since 1998, and is currently a SALDF faculty advisor. She coaches the animal moot court teams, and has been teaching Animal Law directly since 2001 and as a part of nonviolence courses beginning in 1989. She was a board member with ALDF and helped found the Animal Law Committee of the Cuyahoga County Bar. She was the chair and a founder of the Animal Law Section of the American Association of Law Schools. She co-authored (with Pamela Frasch and Megan Senatori) the amicus brief submitted in the *U.S. v. Stevens* case, on behalf of 45 law professors who teach animal law. She co-authored *Animal Law in a Nutshell* (with Pamela Frasch, Sarah Kutil and Sonia Waisman) and has written numerous other law review and other articles and she is co-authoring two new books on animal law. Professor Hessler lectures widely on animal law and animal law education issues in the US and beyond.

Jim Huffman*



Jim Huffman joined the Lewis & Clark law faculty in 1973, was appointed the Erskine Wood Sr. Professor of Law in 2000, and served as dean from 1993 to 2006. Huffman taught constitutional law, natural resources law, water law, torts, jurisprudence and legal history. He has authored over 200 articles and chapters on a wide array of topics including a 1992 article in the *Public Land Law Review* titled "Do Species and Nature Have Rights." Huffman writes occasionally for *The Oregonian* and *The Wall Street Journal* and publishes regularly in *The Daily Caller*. He was the Republican nominee for United States Senator from Oregon in 2010. Huffman is a graduate of Montana State University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the University of Chicago.

Jeff Kerr*



As general counsel to PETA for the past 16 years, Jeff Kerr has handled a wide variety of legal issues as part of PETA's mission to protect animals around the globe. In October 2011, Kerr led the PETA legal team that conceived of and litigated the landmark case of *Tilikum v. SeaWorld*, seeking the release—under the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution—of five wild-caught orcas enslaved by SeaWorld, the first-ever lawsuit seeking constitutional rights for animals. Kerr also established and serves as general counsel for each of PETA's international affiliates in Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, the Netherlands, and the U.K. By doing the following, he has helped PETA and its affiliates defeat politically motivated litigation attacking their ability to speak out in behalf of animals:

- Thwarting three U.S. congressional inquiries—supported by industries that exploit animals—that attempted to revoke PETA's tax-exempt status
- Guiding PETA and the PETA Foundation through a 20-month, politically motivated IRS audit
- Coauthoring friend-of-the-court briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court and other federal and state courts to support the First Amendment rights of PETA staff members and volunteers
- Fighting for PETA's and PETA Europe's right to show the public undercover video footage of animal abuse in the Fairfax County, Va., laboratory Covance, Inc., the world's largest contract experimentation lab
- Exposing the decade-long conspiracy by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus to interfere with the activities of PETA and other animal protection groups that oppose the cruel beatings and confinement of elephants, tigers, and other animals who are used by circuses
- Fighting the Australian wool industry's lawsuit seeking to silence PETA's international call for a boycott of Australian wool produced through the sheep-mutilation process known as "mulesing" and getting the industry to agree to end mulesing on a timetable that PETA will oversee
- Fighting malicious prosecution charges brought by animal abusers in state and federal court in order to protect PETA's ability to bring criminal and civil complaints against people who harm animals
- Securing the PETA.org Internet domain name from a cybersquatter who sought to use it to support animal exploitation

Kerr has also defended "naked" activists and costumed protesters wrongly targeted by law-enforcement officers who attempted to silence their right to speak out for animals, and he also protects PETA and its affiliates from libel and slander. Kerr graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law and George Mason University, where he was a Weber scholar. He joined PETA in 1993 shortly after attending a lecture titled "Did Your Food Have a Face?" He has more than 25 years of litigation experience with corporate and exempt organizations and has lectured about animal law and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. His legal career and work for PETA were profiled on the U.S. website LawCrossing.com and on the U.K. website TheLawyer.com. Kerr is also a member of the board of directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia, where he chairs the Legal Panel and serves on the Executive Committee.

Jim Oleske*



Prior to joining Lewis & Clark Law School, Jim Oleske served as Special Assistant to President Barack Obama and Chief of Staff of the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. Earlier in his career, he served as Chief of Staff of the Oregon Senate Majority Office; Counsel in the Office of U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle; Appellate Attorney at the National Labor Relations Board; Visiting Lecturer at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law; and Associate at Mayer, Brown & Platt. He began his career as a law clerk to then-Third Circuit Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr.

Professor Oleske's research has focused on the intersection of free exercise rights and other constitutional values. He previously published *Federalism, Free Exercise, and Title VII: Reconsidering Reasonable Accommodation*, 6 University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law 525 (2004), and he is currently working on an article exploring the underappreciated role of equal protection analysis in the debate over religious exemptions to same-sex marriage laws.

Mariann Sullivan*



Mariann Sullivan is a lecturer in animal law at Columbia University School of Law, an adjunct professor of animal law at Brooklyn Law School and Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and is currently a visiting professor of animal law at Lewis & Clark Law School. She is also the co-founder and Program Director of Our Hen House, Inc., a not-for-profit devoted to the multimedia exploration of opportunities and techniques for changing the world for animals, by legal, and other, means, which was named by VegNews Magazine as the Indie Media Powerhouse of 2011.

Sullivan, who recently retired from her position as Deputy Chief Court Attorney at the New York State Appellate Division, First Department, found her way into animal law through the Committee on Legal Issues Pertaining to Animals of the New York City Bar Association and eventually served as chair of that committee. She has also served as chair of the American Bar Association's Tort Trial Insurance Practice Section's Animal Law Committee and is currently the chair of that Committee's Animal Agriculture Subcommittee.

She is the author, with David Wolfson, of a trilogy of articles on farmed animals and the law: "Foxes in the Henhouse: Animals Agribusiness and the Law, A Modern American Fable" in *Animal Rights: Current Debates and New Directions*; "What's Good for the Goose... The Supreme Court of Israel, Foie Gras, and the Future of Farmed Animals in the United States," in the 2007 volume of the *Duke Journal of Law and Contemporary Problems*; and "If it Looks Like a Duck: New Jersey, The Regulation of Common Farming Practices, and the Meaning of 'Humane,'" in *Animal Law and the Courts*. Sullivan is also the author of "The Animal Welfare Act: What's That?" which was published in the New York State Bar Association Journal.

Sullivan has spoken at numerous conferences and animal law related events throughout the country, as well as Animal Rights Africa's Animal Law Review Consultation Workshop in Johannesburg. She has served on the board of directors for Farm Sanctuary and The Animals Agenda, and currently serves on the board of Animal Welfare Trust and Animal Welfare Advocacy.

* Publishing in *Animal Law Review's* Spring 2012 Edition.