



## How Pets Can Help Abused Children: The Dynamics Between Animal Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Child Abuse

*(This article is reprinted with permission from the  
American Prosecutors Research Institute.)*

By Allie Phillips

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I love my pets very much and I couldn't live without them.  
When I'm sad they always make me glad that I have them.  
My pets don't put me down and they're always by my side.  
They always love me. Why can't some people return their love?  
They always return ours.  
-- William, Grade 4<sup>1</sup>

Studies have shown a frightening connection between animal abuse and family violence in the home.<sup>2</sup> In fact, one of the first studies to address the link between child abuse and animal abuse discovered that 83 percent of homes with abused or neglected children also had abused and neglected pets.<sup>3</sup> Similar links exist between domestic violence and animal abuse.<sup>4</sup> Many law enforcement and child protection professionals are now aware that children or adults who abuse animals were often abused themselves as children. Research has also shown that people who abuse children often abuse companion animals<sup>5</sup> in the home.<sup>6</sup> This article will take a unique approach regarding the connection between animal abuse and family violence by outlining: (1) the relationship between children and their companion animals and how abused children may protect and seek comfort from their companion animals during cycles of abuse; (2) how abusers in the home may use and fulfill threats against companion animals to seek compliance and silence from child and adult victims of sexual and physical abuse; (3) how animal abuse in the home can be explored in the forensic interview to learn if companion animals are used as targets against children or adults in the home; and (4) how animal-assisted therapy can facilitate a child's disclosure of their own abuse as well as help the child through subsequent therapy.

### From Abusing Animals to Abusing Children and Beyond

Most people are surprised to learn that animal protection laws and animal protection organizations existed before child protection laws. Dating back to 1874 in New York City, a young child named Mary Ellen was rescued from an abusive foster home environment by the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. No other organization existed at that

## Editor's Note

Welcome to the latest issue of the Animal Law Section's Newsletter. This issue is a little behind schedule for a variety of reasons. We are still committed to publishing three issues this year.

There will be no Chair's Corner column by Jean Ligon in this issue. Jean was in a severe car accident in late June and is not able to complete her column. She is recovering and will have a column in the next issue.

I have provided a mix of articles in this issue. In particular, there are articles of interest to prosecutors.

Articles in this issue include:

- Section member Allie Phillips's article on the relationship between animal abuse and child abuse
- Section member Barbara Goldman's update on the Royalwood case that she reviewed in the last

Newsletter, and a report on a second Royalwood case that involves a similar issue. Both cases are on appeal.

- My article on a precedent-setting cruelty case in Missouri. The interviews for the article were interesting and let me talk to people on the front-lines of cruelty prevention.
- Section member Bee Friedlander's charts on pending legislation at the state and federal level.
- A number of shorter informational articles regarding symposiums, publications, events in animal law, etc.

Susan Oudsema of the State Bar of Michigan has been a huge help in improving the graphics of this and the prior issue. I hope that you like the format and presentation of the Newsletter.

Remember that we have the Animal Legal Lifeline for section members to provide information about possible cases. We also have a section Listserv to permit communication among members. Information about these is on the final page of the newsletter.

I already have some articles and ideas for the next issue. Ideas for articles – and offers to write them – are greatly appreciated. Remember, the articles can be of a wide range from the scholarly (“law journal quality”) to the discussion of one of your cases that may not even require footnotes. You can help!

Feel free to communicate with me at [donaldgarlit@yahoo.com](mailto:donaldgarlit@yahoo.com) or 734-981-6311. I welcome all comments on the Newsletter.

You should expect to see the next issue no later than October. 🐾

*Donald Garlit*

## ABA Animal Law Committee Program at August ABA Convention

On August 6, 2005, during the ABA Convention in Chicago, Illinois, the Animal Law Committee will sponsor a program called: *“It's a Dog's Life: What Does Tort and Insurance Law Have to Say About It?”* The Committee's materials describe the event this way:

“Utilizing a combination of outstanding lecturers and expert panelists, we will investigate and evaluate how tort litigation and insurance underwriting is changing, and provide practice pointers, including declaratory judgment strategies. The tort panel will examine animal injuries and injuries caused by animals in the context of strict liability and negligence, focusing on economic and non-economic

damages, with special attention to veterinary malpractice cases. The insurance panel will explore a wide range of insurance issues, including homeowners' and renters' coverage, exclusions, and reinsurance criteria, common carrier insurance, and intentional act exclusions. We will specifically look at tort and insurance challenges, as well as property law principles, in the context of equine law. Our keynote speaker is the nationally recognized Temple Grandin, author of *Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior.*”

State Bar of Michigan Animal Law Section member Julie Fershtman will be one of the panelists presenting

on issues of equine insurance at the program. Also, during the ABA Annual Meeting, Animal Law Committee Chair Barbara Gislason will nominate Fershtman to become one of the committee's Vice-Chairs. 🐾

*Julie Fershtman provided this information along with the other note on the ABA Animal Law Committee.*



## How Pets ...

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time to advocate for the well being of children. As a result of Mary Ellen's case, child protection laws began to develop and the first Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was established.

Due to the alarming connection between family violence and animal abuse, law enforcement, domestic violence and child protection professionals must be aware of animal abuse occurring within homes for several reasons: (1) Animal abuse displays serious antisocial behavior by the offender (whether child or adult); (2) Animal abuse is a relatively common occurrence in the lives of many children; (3) Animal abuse witnessed by children has potential negative developmental consequences for the child; (4) Animal abuse is related to interpersonal and family violence; (5) The well-being of companion animals is at risk in violent homes; and (6) If animal violence is reduced, this could help achieve a less violent society for children and adults.<sup>7</sup>

Recognizing these issues, many states are now moving toward mandating animal control officers to report evidence of child abuse or domestic violence when investigating animal abuse cases.<sup>8</sup> Animal control officers are often in a position to observe a neglectful environment shared by humans and companion animals. These same states are cross-training child protection workers, domestic violence professionals and animal control officers to work with each other to report both child and animal abuse discovered in the home. Many states are now bringing law enforcement officers, domestic violence and child protection professionals, and animal control officers together in a coordinated response to help protect children, domestic partners, and companion animals from abuse in the home. Doing so will help to marshal and coordinate treat-



*Gigi, a therapy dog from the Midland Children's Advocacy Center in Midland, Texas with a young girl.*

ment and services for the entire family (including companion animals), all in an effort to end the cycle of family and animal violence in the home.

### The relationship between children and their companion animals

The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates that 70 percent of American homes with children under the age of 6 have at least one companion animal (primarily a dog or cat). Seventy-eight percent of American homes with children over the age of 6 have at least one companion animal, and 72 percent of companion animals with children in the home have women as their primary caretakers.<sup>9</sup> Ask young children who their best friend or favorite "sibling" is, and many will cite their pet. Companion animals often provide comfort, security and unconditional love to frightened and abused children. When a child overhears parents violently arguing, it is understandable that a child may go to his/her companion animal for comfort. After a child has been physically, sexually or emotionally abused by a member of the

household, the family pet is there to give unconditional love during the child's time of need. A story written by a second grade student named Melissa describes this relationship:

*"My rabbit is quiet. I feed him and give him water. He keeps me company when I'm mad, sad or angry. I tell my secrets to him. He listens quietly. I don't know what I would do without him."<sup>10</sup>*

### How offenders use companion animals to seek compliance and silence from children and domestic partners

An abusive parent or member of the household may exploit the loving bond among child, domestic partner and companion animal to threaten them into silence regarding the abuse, or to force compliance by threatening to harm or kill the family pet. By silencing the child or domestic partner, the abuser also seeks compliance with future occurrences of abuse. Some women and children may even allow

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themselves to be victimized to save their companion animal from being harmed or killed.

Many women in abusive homes are hesitant to flee with their children to a place of safety because of prior threats made by the abuser toward companion animals. If a companion animal is left behind in the home, abusers may use the pet as a pawn to force their domestic partners or children to return. When companion animals can be placed in a safe environment (at a no-kill humane shelter or a pet-friendly family violence shelter), abused family members are more likely to leave the home. Police officers and other first responders should ask abused domestic partners if she/he will leave the home with the children if safe housing can be provided for the companion animal(s). If provided the option of safe housing for companion animals, more abused domestic partners will leave the home with their children, thus preventing future abuse of the entire family. In order to accomplish this, family violence shelters should consider providing on-site housing for family pets so that families can leave abusive situations and remain united during difficult times.<sup>11</sup> If on-site housing is not possible for companion animals, then family violence shelters and local law enforcement agencies should

coordinate with local humane society no-kill shelters or animal welfare rescue groups to safely house the animals removed from abusive homes at no cost until abused family members can find safe housing.<sup>12</sup>

Training police officers, animal control officers, domestic violence and child protection professionals to ask children or other family members whether companion animals have been injured or killed in their presence, or whether the abuser has verbalized threats against pets, will enable these front-line professionals to take appropriate action to safeguard the entire family, and provide necessary counseling and services. Having a plan of action for safe placement of abused domestic partners, children and family pets is essential to stopping the cycle of violence for the family.

**The forensic interview process**

Depending on the age of the child and severity of the abuse, some children are withdrawn and hesitant to disclose abuse to a stranger, such as a forensic interviewer or a law enforcement officer. In the rapport-building stage of a forensic interview, finding avenues to provide comfort and security to the child is essential. By asking a child about a companion animal during the Rapport phase, the forensic interviewer may learn of the child's bond to the pet, or even of abuse, killing or threats of abuse toward the family pet. This discussion may provide comfort to the child and lead the child to disclosing his or her own abuse.<sup>13</sup> In some situations, allowing the child to have the companion animal present during a forensic interview may also help the child to disclose. The Mississippi Children's Advocacy Center went one step further by providing a trained therapy dog to sit in therapy sessions with children and sit at their feet while they testify

in court.<sup>14</sup> The Center currently has a cat named Pookie that assists children during forensic interviews and therapy sessions. Catherine Dixon, the Director, has seen the direct positive effect that a loving pet can have on an abused child. "We know that rapport building begins the instant a child enters the building. When a frightened and bewildered child comes into our center and is greeted by a big white cat, the effect is incredible. Three steps into the door and the child changes visibly, smiling and crouching down to talk to Pookie. Everything just goes better after that."

The Boat Inventory on Animal-Related Experiences may be helpful in formulating appropriate questions for the forensic interview.<sup>15</sup> These questions provide an avenue to help children disclose animal abuse in the home, their own abuse, and whether they have abused an animal. The Inventory explores whether the child's pet has been a source of comfort to the child, whether the child has felt afraid or worried for their pet, and whether the child has lost a pet as a form of punishment or to make the child do something. Forensic interviewers may wish to start a discussion regarding companion animals by asking the child: (1) Do you have a pet? (2) Tell me about your pet. (3) Is your pet happy? (4) Is your pet safe? These questions are simply provided as suggestions since each forensic interviewer must formulate questions to the development and circumstances of the child. Providing any person, particularly a child, the opportunity to talk about a companion animal often yields a great deal of personal information, in turn allowing the forensic interviewers and front line professionals to understand the dynamics of abuse in the home and assist in stopping the cycle of violence.

**Animal-Assisted Therapy**

Many child advocacy centers understand the therapeutic importance that pets can provide when helping children



*Abby, a therapy dog, and a staff member of the Midland Children's Advocacy Center in Midland, Texas.*

who have suffered abuse or witnessed abuse. Beth Franklin, Founder and Executive Director of Hand-in-Paw in Birmingham, Alabama, initiated a program called *Pawsitive Living* that works with victims of abuse. The 12-week program teaches anger management and compassion to children between the ages 6 to 17. Dogs, cats and rabbits are integral members of the program and approximately 60 percent of the therapy pets are animals from shelters or rescue situations. When children have been abused or have witnessed abuse of a parent or beloved pet, they may begin to lose empathy and compassion for others. Programs such as *Pawsitive Living* help children regain feelings of empathy and compassion which, in turn, may end the cycle of abuse for that child.

The Midland Rape Crisis and Children's Advocacy Center in Midland, Texas, has a variety of "greeter dogs" to welcome children as they come to the center for therapy or forensic interviews. Andra K. Chamberlin, Program Director, has dogs of all sizes and breeds available to interact with the children. The therapists at the Center have started including some of the dogs during individual therapy sessions with abused children and have noticed beneficial results the pets play in helping the children, as well as adults, talk about their own abuse. Therapy animals are also helpful to the work performed by prosecutors offices. State Attorney Barry Krischer in Palm Beach County, Florida, has initiated the CATCH Program (**C**anine **T**herapy for **C**hildren) to provide a comfortable environment for children while visiting the office. Morgan, a Labrador Retriever, is a trained therapy dog who visits the office three times per week, as well as visiting domestic abuse shelters. Morgan also provides an unintended benefit to the staff at the States Attorney Office by helping to reduce stress for the employees. Her friendly wagging tail greets the staff after a stressful day on the job and helps

reduce tension in the office.

Child advocacy centers and forensic interviewers should consider inviting a child's companion animal to the forensic interview or therapy session to help the child through the interview process. The bond between children and their pets can help child abuse professionals reach a level of rapport with children to help them disclose and discuss their own abuse. If a child has lost that special bond with animals, animal-assisted therapy may help the abused child regain the feelings of empathy and compassion. By restoring these feelings in the child, the cycle of violence may end. In creating an animal-assisted therapy program, consider adopting a pet from your local animal shelter or animal rescue groups.<sup>16</sup> These shelters and groups always have an abundance of well-behaved dogs, cats, rabbits and other animals that would be amenable to pet-therapy training, while also providing the joy of saving the life of a loving homeless pet.

Abused children who come to advocacy centers for forensic interviews or therapy are understandably nervous and uncomfortable. A happy dog with a wagging tail or a purring kitty waiting to greet abused children can only bring a smile to that child's face and help in the healing process for the child.

## Conclusion

"Enhancing our awareness and knowledge about the relationship between violence to animals and violence to children provides a unique opportunity to enhance our services to both."<sup>17</sup> Children who have been victimized by physical, sexual or emotional abuse, or who have witnessed abuse toward their parent or pet, and who have difficulty with disclosure in the forensic interview process may find comfort in discussing the ir companion animals or having their pet present for the interview or therapy session. Children who have witnessed abuse and have lost touch with empathy and compassion

may greatly benefit from animal-assisted therapy. Abused adults can also benefit from the loving attention of a therapy pet. It is important to educate all child abuse, animal abuse and family violence professionals about asking abused children and adults about companion animals in the home and possible abuse of those animals. Doing so will assist the professionals to understand the dynamics of violence in the home and gather evidence to aid in the prosecution of the abuser and treatment for the family. 🐾

## Notes

Dr. Barbara Boat and Allie Phillips, J.D. presented on "The Connection between Child Abuse and Animal Abuse: How to interview children to obtain disclosure of multiple forms of abuse occurring in the home" at APRI's *Beyond Finding Words Conference* in Charleston, South Carolina from October 11-14, 2004. Please contact APRI's National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse or National Child Protection Training Center for more information.

Allie Phillips is presently writing an article for a book entitled *Reasonable Efforts: Trial Strategies for Child Protection Attorneys* due to be published in 2006. Her chapter will address the connection between animal abuse and child abuse, why child protection workers and attorneys need to understand this connection in order to properly and effectively assist families in crisis, and whether children witnessing animal abuse in the home is sufficient grounds for CPS intervention. She has written several other articles related to this topic in recent years and given presentations related to the topic on behalf on the American Prosecutors Research Institute across the United States.

She is a member of the Animal Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan. 🐾

*Allie Phillips is a Senior Attorney with the American Prosecutors Research Institute in Alexandria,*

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*VA working with the National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse and the National Child Protection Training Center. The author wishes to thank Caitlin Parkinson and Reeta Prakash, NCPTC interns, for their research and assistance on this article.*

**Endnotes**

- 1 Raphael, Pamela, Colman, Libby & Loar, Lynn: *Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers and Parents*. (The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 1999, p. 6).
- 2 Arkow, Phil: *Breaking the Cycles of Violence: A Guide to Multi-Disciplinary Interventions*. (The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 2003, p. 8-9).
- 3 Boat, B.W.: "Links Among Animal Abuse, Child Abuse and Domestic Violence." *Social Work and the Law*. (Haworth Press, 2002, p. 35); Ascione, Frank R., Ph.D., Weber, Claudia V., M.S., and Wood, David S.: "The Abuse of Animals and Domestic Violence: A National Survey of Shelters for Women Who are Battered." *Society & Animals*, Vol. 5, No. 3 (1997), pp. 205-218. In this study involving 48 shelter programs, family violence shelter workers reported that 85.4% of women entering the shelter disclosed animal abuse occurring in the home, and 63% of children also spoke of animal abuse in the home. Yet only 13 of those 48 shelters specifically ask questions about family pets during the intake process. (Ascione, Weber & Wood, 1997)
- 4 In a 2001 study conducted by the Humane Society of the United States involving 1,677 intentional cruelty cases against animals, it was discovered that 89% of those cases also involved males perpetrating domestic violence, 67% of those cases involved co-existing child abuse, and 50% of the cases involved co-existing elder abuse. See, Arkow, Phil: *Breaking the Cycles of Violence: A Guide to Multi-Disciplinary Interventions*. (The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 2003, p. 17).
- 5 The terms "companion animal" and "pet" will be used interchangeably throughout this article.
- 6 Boat, Barbara W.: "Abuse of Child and Abuse of Animals: Using the Links to Inform Child Assessment and Protection." In, Ascione, F.R. & Arkow, P., eds.: *Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse, Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention*. (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 1999, p. 83-108).
- 7 Flynn, C.P.: "Why family professionals can no longer ignore violence toward animals." *Family Relations*, Vol. 49, No. 1, (2000), pp. 87-95.
- 8 California currently mandates that animal control officers report suspected child abuse; Colorado mandates that veterinarians report suspected child abuse; Maine and Ohio require agents of humane society shelters to report child abuse; and the following states require that all persons (which would include animal control officers, humane society agents, and veterinarians) report child abuse: Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wyoming.
- 9 Arkow, Phil: *Breaking the Cycles of Violence: A Guide to Multi-Disciplinary Interventions*. (The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 2003, p. 7-8).
- 10 Raphael, Pamela, Colman, Libby & Loar, Lynn: *Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers and Parents*. (The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 1999, p. 9).
- 11 The Shelter for Abused Women and Children in Naples, Florida, opened its new family violence shelter in November 2002 which now includes an on-site shelter for family pets. The women and children who reside at the shelter take care of their pets and veterinarians donate their services for free to help the pets with medical services.
- 12 Some family violence shelters are now allowing women and their children to bring their companion animals to the shelter. Others contract with local humane shelters to house the pets until the family can be safely reunited. For example, in 1999, *Pet-Safe*, a safe shelter program was created in Maryland for animals coming out of abusive homes while other family members are placed in family violence shelters. Hearts United for Animals, a no-kill shelter, sanctuary and animal welfare organization in Auburn, NE, helps animals that have been removed from abusive homes. Many similar organizations are beginning to help house animals from abusive homes until they can be reunited with their family members. Moreover, shelters in Lansing, Michigan, and Cincinnati, Ohio, provide questions on their intake forms regarding family pets so that women and their children can leave an abusive home and take the family pet(s) with them into safety. Still, only 6 of the 48 shelters surveyed (see endnote 4) collaborated with animal shelters or veterinarians to provide housing to animals. (Ascione, Weber & Wood, 1997)
- 13 This technique called "moving in and away" acknowledges that children can often talk about outside issues (what has happened to someone else) before they can talk about what happened to themselves.
- 14 Vachss, a German shepherd, was honored with the Hero of the Year Award in 1994 for his work with the Mississippi Children's Advocacy Center in Jackson, Mississippi.
- 15 Formulated by Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D., The Childhood Trust, Department of Psychiatry at University of Cincinnati. For a full version of the Inventory, please contact APRI.
- 16 To locate shelters and animal welfare organizations in your area that have homeless animals available for adoption, please go to [www.petfinder.org](http://www.petfinder.org). Many shelters and animal welfare organizations can provide temperament testing or information on selecting an animal for adoption that would be an appropriate for therapy pet training.
- 17 Boat, Barbara W.: "Abuse of Child and Abuse of Animals: Using the Links to Inform Child Assessment and Protection." In, Ascione, F.R. & Arkow, P., eds.: *Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse, Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention*. (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 1999, p. 92).

## "Animal law nuzzling its way into prominence" – Page 1 Article in Michigan Lawyers Weekly

Michigan Lawyers Weekly had a Page 1 article about animal law in the May 23, 2005 issue. The article had a discussion about animal law and reports regarding several recent important cases. Section members and other attorneys were interviewed for the article.

We would like to thank Publisher/Editor-in-Chief Lynn Ingram, Esq., Reporter Todd Berg, Esq., and Reporter Denise Callahan for the coverage of animal law. Lynn and Todd attended the Animal Law Section Symposium in March and discussed the idea of an article with section members at that time.

Be sure to read the article. We may reprint it in a future newsletter.

# Animal Abuse: A Calf's Pain and a Mother's Anguish Result in Legal Precedents

By Donald Garlit

This is a story about a felony charge for cruelty to livestock, with an unusual twist. Although it happened in Missouri in 2002, it is precedent setting and can be instructive. Read on.

Animal abuse is never a pleasant story. The following report does not have a "happy" ending for the animals involved although one was rescued. It does, however, show that innovative investigation and prosecution can result in new legal approaches and appropriate penalties. The case did not get much coverage in the animal-related law press at the time. This article will try to rectify this omission. Some of the sadder details are removed so we can concentrate on the legal aspects of the case.

## The Location: McDonald County, Missouri

The story begins in McDonald County, Missouri. McDonald County is the most southwestern (or lower left "corner") county in Missouri bordering on Arkansas and Oklahoma. It has a population of about 22,000 people (per the 2000 census) spread out over 540 square miles – about 40 people per square mile. By comparison, Detroit has 40 times the population in about 20% of the area – about 9,000 people per square mile. The county is rural with much farming. The county has had a mini-economic boom in recent years as Arkansas-based businesses have moved some of their operations into the area. Pineville is the county seat with a population of about 800. Noel is the largest city with a population of about 1,500 people.

## Animal Abuse: Drinking Gets Out of Hand

Three young men from the local



community were rafting along the Elk River near Noel during the Memorial Day weekend of 2002 along with others in their party. They were Brent Colville, 27, of Pineville; Rick Roark, 27, of Anderson in McDonald County; and Jeff East, 22, of Garfield, Arkansas. They decided to stop on private property which belonged to a local cattle farmer, Bob Parish. Mr. Parish had a farm of about 400 acres with about 200 cattle. Their plan was to chase cattle and do some "bull-dogging." This is a rodeo event where the cowboy jumps from his horse and wrestles the steer to the ground.

While chasing the cattle, they came upon a young bull-calf. Rick Roark admitted later that they had been drinking and he described their condition as "drunk."

Only the three named young men participated in the animal abuse that followed. The others in the party were not involved. The calf was only three weeks old and still with his mother. The three men proceeded to drag the calf around and caused serious injury to him. The injuries were so bad that he

was euthanized about three days later.

Throughout this abuse, his mother cow tried to intervene and stop the harm to her calf. It was to no avail as she was driven away by the young men when she tried to help. Note that they never physically touched her or hit her with thrown objects. They apparently waved arms and ran at her to get her to go away.

After inflicting the injuries, the young men continued to float down the Elk River.

## The Mother: Never the Same

After the abuse to her calf, she was never the same. She was described as going "crazy." She had once been friendly to the Parish family and considered somewhat of a "pet." Later no one could control her and she would even charge a pick-up truck if it came into her pasture. It is believed that this pronounced change could only be explained by her witnessing the abuse to her calf.

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Title, Bill No.	Purpose	Sponsor, Date Introduced, # Cosponsors, MI Cosponsors	Status (most recent action)
<b>Sportsmanship in Hunting Act</b>  S. 304  H.R.1688	Amends Federal criminal code to prohibit knowingly transferring, transporting, or possessing a confined exotic animal for purposes of allowing the killing or injuring of that animal for entertainment or the collection of a trophy	<u>Sen Lautenberg</u> [NJ] 2/7/2005 Cosponsors: 16 including <u>Sen Levin</u> 2/7/2005  <u>Rep Farr</u> [CA] 4/19/2005 Cosponsors: 29, none from MI	2/7/2005: Referred to Senate Committee on the Judiciary  4/19/2005: Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary
<b>Computer-Assisted Remote Hunting Act</b>  H.R. 1558	Prohibits computer-assisted remote hunting whereby a person remotely controls the aiming and firing of a weapon to kill or injure an animal while not in the physical presence of the targeted animal	<u>Rep Davis</u> [VA] 4/12/2005 Cosponsors: 2, none from MI	5/10/2005: Referred to Subcommittee [of Judiciary] on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security
<b>Pet Animal Welfare Statute of 2005</b>  S. 1139  H.R. 2669	To amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen the ability of the Sec'y of Agriculture to regulate the pet industry	<u>Sens Santorum</u> [PA], <u>Durbin</u> [IL]  <u>Rep Gerlach</u> [PA] 5/26/2005 Cosponsors: 1, none from MI	5/26/2005: Referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry  5/26/2005: Referred to House Committee on Agriculture
<b>Drive Fisheries Resolution</b> S. Res. 99	Expressing the sense of the Senate to condemn the inhumane and unnecessary slaughter of [certain] small cetaceans...in certain nations	<u>Sen Lautenberg</u> [NJ] 4/6/2005 Cosponsors: 3, including <u>Sen Levin</u> , 4/6/2005	4/6/2005: Referred to Committee on Foreign Relations

## Animal Care and Control Forum Announced for October

The Animal Law Section will present a forum for attorneys, animal care and control agencies, public and mental health service providers, veterinarians and related professionals. The conference is scheduled for October 1, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing. Its focus is the legal basis for the interaction of guardians of companion animals with various professional animal care and control and service providers. Section members Wanda Nash and Cathy Wolfe are organizing the conference.

This full-day forum will start with the round table panel of experts whose work involves government control agencies and not-for-profit protection agencies, service providers (e.g., veterinarians, groomers, and trainers), public health agencies (animal hoarding issues), and law enforcement. Break-out

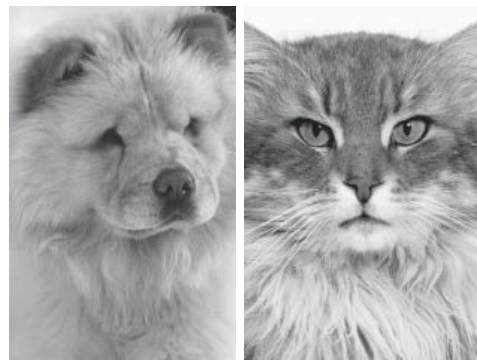
sessions will follow. The day will wrap up with a plenary session that builds alliances and future goals.

Topics related to animals care and control to be covered include: the Dog law of 1919, the Michigan Penal Code, Feral Cat Colony Control, Domestic Violence, and others. Speakers will be announced in the future.

Attorneys will gain an understanding of the issues facing clients who have companion animals. There will be opportunities to meet many of the most active professionals who will share their concerns over the legal issues of contracts (breeder and consumer; rescue organization and consumer), animal control grievances, the hoarding of animals as a public and a mental health concern, and free-roaming cats as a public health concern. They will also discuss the training and supervision of both government and not-for-profit

employees charged with the responsibilities of protecting and educating the public in the care and control of companion animals.

Please save the date October 1, 2005 and look for more information and a registration form in the next newsletter as well as electronic communications through the section listserv. Contact person: Wanda A. Nash at 269-789-1340 or [animalscribe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:animalscribe@sbcglobal.net). 🐾



# Michigan Legislative Update

All Information from the Michigan Legislative Website, <http://michiganlegislature.gov>

Current as of 6/04/2005

Editor's Note: Internet Hunting Ban bills updated to 7/11/2005

Bill No., Title	Purpose	Sponsor, Date Introduced, Cosponsors	Status	ALS Council Position
<b>H.B. 4254</b> <b>Dissection</b> <b>Choice</b>	“The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall ensure that, if a course includes dissection of an animal in a classroom and a pupil expresses a moral objection to the dissection, the teacher shall offer an alternative activity to the dissection.”	<b>Rep Lipsey,</b> 2/10/2005, Reps Lemmons, Tobocman , Leland , Gaffney , Gleason , Kolb, Condino , A. Smith, Farrah , V. Smith	2/10/2005: Referred to Committee on Education	SUPPORT
<b>H.B. 4465</b> <b>Internet</b> <b>Hunting Ban</b>	“A person in this state shall not use the internet to operate a firearm, bow, or crossbow for the purpose of taking an animal, whether or not the animal is in this state.”	<b>Rep Steil,</b> 3/8/2005, Reps Espinoza, Shaffer, Taub, Bieda, Pavlov, Green, Sheen, Anderson	6/15/2005: House passed substitute bill applicable to in- state animals only; 6/29/2005: Senate passed substitute bill applicable to animals both in- and out-of-state; 6/30/2005: House adopted Senate- passed substitute bill	SUPPORT (with suggestion that penalties be added and scope broadened to include out-of- state animals).  Jean Ligon, Section Chair, testified at the 6/07/2005 Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee hearing.
<b>S.B. 373</b> <b>Computer</b> <b>Assisted</b> <b>Remote</b> <b>Hunting Ban</b>	A person shall not engage, or provide or operate facilities for computer-assisted remote hunting, defined as “the use of a computer or any other device, equipment, or software to remotely control the aiming and discharge of a firearm, bow, or crossbow to take game located in this state.”	<b>Sen McManus,</b> 4/13/2005, Sens Kuipers, Birkholz, Basham, Patterson, Barcia, Goschka, Gilbert, Jelinek, Toy, Sanborn, Cherry, Allen, Bishop, Prusi	6/29/2005: Senate passed substitute bill applicable to animals both in- and out-of-state; <i>and</i> House referred bill to Committee on Conservation, Forestry & Outdoor Recreation	
<b>S.B. 620</b>	Amends penal code to provide misdemeanor penalties for violation of internet hunting ban; tie-barred to S.B. 373 and H.B. 4465	<b>Sen Patterson,</b> 6/21/2005, Sens McManus, Jacobs, Basham, Brater, Barcia, Cropsey, Sanborn, Jelinek	6/29/2005: Senate passed substitute bill; House re-ferred bill to Committee on Conservation, Forestry & Outdoor Recreation	

Bill No., Title	Purpose	Sponsor, Date Introduced, Cosponsors	Status	ALS Council Position
<b>H.B. 4493</b> <b>Transfers regulation of game, etc. from Natural Resources to Agriculture</b>	Natural resources; hunting; authority for regulation of "game" and protected animals; transfer to department of agriculture. Amends secs. 40102, 40113a & 42701 of <u>1994 PA 451</u> (MCL 324.40102 et seq.)  "The commissioner [of Agriculture] shall have the exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game ... The commission shall, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize principles of sound scientific management in making decisions regarding the taking of game."	<b>Rep Hune,</b> 3/15/2005	3/15/2005: Referred to Committee on Conservation, Forestry & Outdoor Recreation	
<b>H.B. 4848</b> <b>Prohibits hunting of exotic mammals in enclosures</b>	"A person shall not buy or sell the right to hunt a nonnative wild mammal held in an enclosure in this state."	<b>Rep Bieda,</b> 5/31/2005, Reps Lipsey, Tobocman, Condino, Smith, K Law	5/31/2005: Referred to Committee on Conservation, Forestry & Outdoor Recreation	
<b>HJR "J"</b> <b>"Right to Hunt" on 2006 ballot</b> <b>Natural resources; hunting; hunting and fishing as a constitutional right; establish. Amends the state constitution by adding sec. 25 to art. I.</b>	"Subject to conditions established by law and based on principles of scientific management of natural resources, the people have the right to hunt or fish for, and to harvest, game or fish that are the property of the state and are held in the public trust"	<b>Rep Hildenbrand,</b> 5/11/2005, Reps Farhat, Palsrok, Vander Veen, Taub, Booher, Hansen, Walker, Ball, Hoogendyk, Elsenheimer, Drolet, Caswell, Green, Kahn, Pearce, Jones, Gosselin, Hune, Nitz, Rocca, Huizenga, Caul, Garfield, Hummel, LaJoy, Casperson, Baxter, Pastor, Moore, Shaffer, Moolenaar, Marleau, Proos	5/11/2005: Referred to Committee on Conservation, Forestry & Outdoor Recreation	

**Animal Abuse ...**

Continued from page 7

She could not remain at the Parish farm and was shipped to another state.

**The Investigator and the Prosecutor: Taking Action**

Allen Miller is chief statewide investigator for the Humane Society of Missouri based in St. Louis. The society is

one of the oldest in the United States, having been founded in 1870. It is the only humane society in the country that has state-wide animal abuse investigative powers. Investigator Miller had 20 years of police experience before coming to the humane society 15 years ago. He says that his police experience is a great help in getting police to recog-

nize animal abuse and help him. He was involved in the investigation of the case.

Steve Geeding is McDonald County prosecutor. After the Sheriff Department's report, he recognized the severity of the case and prepared to bring charges. The main charge was to be a Class D Felony because ani-

Continued on next page

## Animal Abuse ...

Continued from page 11

mal suffering was caused as a “result of torture or mutilation consciously inflicted while the animal was alive...” per Missouri law (RSMO 578.012). In a recent interview, Prosecutor Geeding recalled that his office was inundated with letters and calls from around the US and the world asking him to prosecute this case with the utmost vigor.

### The Legal Resolution: Defendants Plead Guilty and Creativity Occurs

The young men knew they were in trouble and attempted to make amends. Steve Geeding was surprised that young men from the local community would commit this kind of abuse. The young men offered to and did pay restitution to Bobby Parish. They thought that should be the end of the matter.

However, the criminal charges were not dropped and they each faced a Class D felony charge of animal suffering to the calf and a misdemeanor charge of trespassing. All parties agreed to settle the case in late July 2002 (about 2 months after the acts).

The three defendants were to enter guilty pleas to the charges and receive suspended sentences, without jail time in recognition by Prosecutor Geeding that none had a prior criminal record. Furthermore, each defendant was to pay a \$1,000 fine and do 300 hours of community service. By the time of the hearing at which they were to plead guilty, each already had paid the \$1,000 fine stipulated by the prosecutor.

Creativity now entered the situation. Investigator Miller and Prosecutor Geeding remembered that the maximum fine for trespassing in Missouri is \$500; the defendants had already paid \$1,000. Just as they were entering the courtroom, Miller suggested that the misdemeanor charge be changed from trespassing to animal abuse related to the mother cow. Arguably, she had been harmed, too. Geeding agreed

and the defendants accepted the new charge. After all, based on their payment of restitution, they appeared to want to get the situation behind them.

The judge accepted the guilty pleas from each defendant to a felony count and a misdemeanor count for animal abuse. They were given suspended sentences. The defendants were each placed on probation for three years, fined \$1,000 each, and ordered to do 300 hours of community service with the Missouri Department of Conservation. (The community service consisted of 50% of the time cleaning highway rest-stops and 50% of the time picking-up dead animals along the highway.)

### Aftermath: The Legal Precedents

Immediately after the sentencing, Investigator Miller discussed the case with the judge and noted that the judge had been involved in setting two legal precedents that day. The judge recognized the first one. The case was the first time in the history of Missouri that a felony animal abuse conviction involving livestock had been obtained.

The misdemeanor also was precedent setting. The defendants never touched, hit, or threw things at the mother cow by all interviews and accounts. The abuse could only be characterized as “mental anguish” as she watched her calf being harmed and tried to intervene. As a result, she went “crazy” and could not be controlled by the Parish family. This was the first time that anyone in the state had ever been convicted of animal abuse for causing mental anguish to an animal.

### Aftermath 2: Implications

What do the convictions mean? It can be argued that the case represents a significant advance in defining harm or cruelty to animals.

First, this case reinforces the notion that harm to livestock can be the basis of a felony charge.

Second, harm can come to an animal without a physical touching as in the case of the mother cow.

Third, an animal can suffer mental anguish. The implications of this include recognition that animals have cognitive abilities.

There are possibly other implications to this thought-provoking and sad case. The case broke new ground in terms of legal theory and recognition of different kinds of animal abuse. Perhaps, the real test of its implications lies with prosecutors around the county and whether they are willing to make a similar argument with judges who determine whether such abuse is contemplated by their particular state animal cruelty state, and even with state legislators who are in a position to give statutory recognition to this type of abuse.

### Aftermath 3: The Mother Cow

The mother cow was sent to OohMahNee Farm, a farmed animal sanctuary in Pennsylvania. Eventually she came to trust some humans and liked being with the other cattle. She was renamed Gaia. However, she was pregnant when she left Missouri. She died while giving birth about six months after her arrival in Pennsylvania. Despite veterinary efforts, her calf died, too. They are buried side-by-side at the farm where they rest peacefully.

### Notes:

*This article was based on the following:*

- *Associated Press articles of July 26 and 28, 2002*
- *Interview with McDonald County Prosecutor Steve Geeding in June 2005*
- *Interview with Humane Society of Missouri Investigator Allen Miller in June 2005*
- *Interview with Jason Tracy, Co-Director of OohMahNee Farm, in July 2005*
- *OohMahNee Farm website: <http://www.oohmahneefarm.org>*
- *Case background information write-up provided by McDonald County Assistant Prosecutor Ed Hack in May 2005* 🐾

# ABA Animal Law Committee

The American Bar Association formally approved the establishment of an Animal Law Committee this year. According to the ABA's website at [http://www.abanet.org/tips/animal/home\\_old.html](http://www.abanet.org/tips/animal/home_old.html), the Committee's purpose and mission is described as follows:

Animal law is broader than laws pertaining to animals. It is the body of law reflecting the efforts of people to create a just world through the rule of law.

The status of animals in our legal system is in flux and attorneys are discovering creative and interesting ways to use legal arguments in the face of increasingly complex scenarios. Our clients are legally impacted by a vast array of human/animal interactions. They range from the legality of estate planning for companion animals, to changing liability standards and insurance coverage in dog bite cases, to compensation beyond fair market value when an animal is killed, to public and private conflicts about where an animal

can be, and finally, to the competing interests of wild animals and urban, farming, and recreational land use.

Animal law, when broken down into its component parts, has long been the subject of the rule of law all over the world. Orderly societies have wanted answers to questions like: who pays when an animal damages property or bites, where is it allowed to be, when and how can it be killed, how are risks managed, what constitutes a sale, what is the difference between lying and puffing, and under what circumstances will the treatment of an animal by a human be circumscribed.

With advances in science, the departure of a majority of Americans from rural communities and the acquisition of more than sixty-five million indoor pets, the public interest in animals has increased. This undeniable interest is reflected by the decision of thirty-seven law schools to

offer animal law courses, and the passage of animal related criminal felony bills in more than thirty-six states, where only nine existed less than a decade ago.

The mission of the Animal Law Committee is to evolve our thinking on animal issues for both the United States and the world. By attracting the best and brightest lawyers in this country, with a wide variety of perspectives, we will look at animal-related problems and issues today, and think about new ways to define, manage, and solve them. Utilizing problem-solving strategies, we will also look at the law as it exists today-fragmented around the country-and envision what it could be. The Tort and Insurance Practice Section's (TIPS) ABA Animal Law Committee will be the instrument of a paradigm shift, and will bring to the table and address legitimate business and economic interests, and humane concerns. ♣

*Julie Fershtman provided this information along with the other note on the ABA Animal Law Committee.*

## Bob Barker Gift Endows Animal Rights Law Course at Northwestern University

Bob Barker, host of the Emmy award winning "The Price Is Right" and a longtime proponent of animals, has donated another \$1 million endowment for animal law. This time the funds will go to the Northwestern University School of Law to endow a course in animal rights law. As reported in the Winter 2005 issue of the Animal Law Section newsletter, this is in addition to previous \$1 million gifts to the University of California at Los Angeles, Duke University, Stanford University, and Columbia University. Earlier the "Price is Right" production company, Femantle Media, made a similar grant to the Harvard Law School.

The Bob Barker Endowment Fund for the Study of Animal Rights Law at Northwestern will provide students an opportunity to enroll in animal law courses. Course topics could include: how humans interact with and use animals; current animal protection laws; species protection; and international wildlife law.

"Northwestern Law School is grateful for Mr. Barker's generous gift," said Dean David Van Zandt. "This fund will allow our faculty and students to explore an emerging field of law that has ramifications in many traditional legal areas."

"Many of our students can expect to deal with an animal law issue at some point in their careers," he said. "Legal

issues can cover a wide spectrum, ranging from patent and intellectual property law to criminal prosecution or defense, or constitutional law. Experimental animal cloning is a recent example of intellectual property context where animal law issues have emerged," he added.

The host of "The Price Is Right" for 33 years, Barker has long been associated with the animal rights movement. He established the DJ&T Foundation in memory of his wife and mother to help control the animal population and has received numerous awards from humane organizations. ♣

*This article is based on a March 23, 2005 press release from Northwestern University.*

# Royalwood Cooperative Apartments Civil Rights Cases - Update

By Barbara Goldman

In the Winter 2005 issue, we reported on the case of *Michigan Dep't of Civil Rights ex rel Emmick v Royalwood Cooperative Apartments, Inc*, Mich Dep't Civil Rights No. 268485 (2004). In *Emmick*, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights obtained an award in favor of a co-op owner in a dispute over her companion animal. The defendant appealed to Oakland Circuit Court, where Judge Fred Mester confirmed the award of \$45,000 in damages but reduced the attorney's fees to \$38,730. The defendant filed a claim of appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals, but it was dismissed for procedural reasons. Royalwood then filed a delayed application for leave to appeal. At the same time however, it moved for reconsideration of Judge Mester's ruling. At press time, the motion for reconsideration had not been decided.

In a very similar case against the same defendant, *United States v Royalwood Cooperative Apartments*, (ED Mich, docket no. 2:03-cf-73034-ADT), another former Royalwood owner prevailed in a jury trial in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Joyce Grad asked for a waiver of the co-op's "no pets" policy so

she could get a dog, to help alleviate the severe depression she suffered as a result of bipolar disorder. She provided letters from a psychologist and a psychiatrist, but the co-op board denied her request. Grad moved to a more expensive apartment. At the suggestion of the Michigan Protection & Advocacy Service, she filed a complaint under the Fair Housing Act, alleging that the co-op failed to make a "reasonable accommodation" of her disability. The complaint also named the property management company, Schostak Brothers and Company, and the property manager, Richard Cail. The defendants moved the case to federal district court.

In order for the plaintiff in a disability discrimination case to prevail, she must establish a "handicap" or "disability," defined as a physical or mental impairment that "substantially limits" a "major life activity." 42 USC § 3602 (h)(1). Grad argued that she was disabled because her depression interfered with her ability to sleep and work, both of which had been defined as "major life activities."<sup>1</sup>

After a six-day trial before Judge Anna Diggs Taylor, the jury found in favor of the plaintiff and awarded her

\$14,209 in actual damages and \$300,000 in punitive damages. Judith E. Levy, of the United States Attorney's office in Detroit, represented the plaintiff. After the verdict, she moved for a permanent injunction that would require Royalwood to modify its rules to accommodate requests for service or "emotional support" animals; to send the co-op board and the property manager to a training program on housing and disability laws; and to permit Grad to visit other residents at Royalwood with her dog. Grad also requested attorney fees in a separate motion.

The post-trial motions are scheduled for hearing in June. After judgment is entered, Royalwood is expected to appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. ☛

*Barbara H. Goldman is an attorney with the firm of Sheldon L. Miller & Associates, P.C., in Southfield*

## Endnote

- 1 See, e.g., *Pack v Kmart Corp*, 166 F3d 1300 (CA 10, 1999) (sleep); *Miller v Wells Dairy, Inc* 252 FSupp2d 799 (ND Iowa, 2003) (work) (construing Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12102(1)(A)).

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## Michigan State University Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Update

By Anna Sloan

The Michigan State University Chapter of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund enjoyed another semester of working together to help the animals and learning about Animal Law issues. We were fortunate enough to have Debby MacDonald, a humane investigator from the Michigan Humane Society and "Animal Cops" fame, speak to the group on February 28, 2005 in conjunction with Professor Favre's Animal Law Class. In addition, in late April, Debora Bresch, the Eastern Regional Legislative

Liaison for the ASPCA, and Eileen Liska, the lobbyist for the Michigan Humane Society, spoke to the group about lobbying in general and how it specifically relates to animals.

MSU Law SALDF members also worked to educate their fellow students about the treatment of animals used for food by providing information pamphlets and showing "Meet Your Meat" at a table in the law school lobby. In addition, we worked to help the animals by holding the second annual MSU Law Cutest Pet Contest. Through this contest, we were

able to raise almost \$1,000 for the MSU Chapter of Remote Area Medicine, an all-volunteer medical group whose mission is to deliver veterinary care to communities where either geography or economics make such care unavailable or unaffordable. We also elected Tanya Irwin as our new President and Lauren Murphy as our new Vice President in our annual elections. We know that they will do a great job in the upcoming year. ☛

*Anna Sloan is a Spring 2005 graduate of the MSU College of Law and Outgoing President of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund*

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium Report – “Trends in Animal Law”

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Animal Law Section Symposium was held on March 11, 2005 at the Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing with the theme of *Trends in Animal Law*. Attendance was about 40 and included a number of law students. The annual symposium is an important aspect of the section's legal and public education efforts.

The speakers and their topics were:

- Josh Ard of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School discussed “The Relevance of Consumer Law.” Josh is a member of the Consumer Law Section Council.
- Barbara Goldman of Sheldon Miller & Associates in Southfield spoke on “Sinking Your Teeth Into Michigan Dog Bite Law,” a complete case law summary of dog bite law in the state. Barbara is a Section member.
- Julie Fershtman of Zausmer, Kaufman, August & Caldwell in Farmington Hills spoke on “Equine Liability,” an important topic given the value of horses and the potential of large judgments. Julie is also the Board of Commissioners liaison to the Animal Law

Section and a Section member.

- Anna Rose Stern of Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting in Lansing presented a discussion of “Michigan Case Law Update” where a variety of cases had involved animals. These included animal protection, land use, searches involving narcotics-detection dogs, and pet trusts. Rose is a Section member.

A brief panel discussion was also held to talk about predictions of the most important animal-related legal issues of the next 5-10 years. The panelists agreed that there would be more animal-related legal cases that would interrelate with existing law such as wills, trusts, and property issues.

The presentations are available from the Animal Law Section for \$10 for those interested. Contact Bee Friedlander at 734-981-6311 or [beefriedlander@yahoo.com](mailto:beefriedlander@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

Professor David Favre, students from his animal law classes, and the MSU College of Law deserve a thank you for the hosting of the symposium and help with its planning. 🐾

## University of Michigan Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Update

By Jamie Olin

Recent activities of the student group at the law school include:

1. Several lunches were held to prepare letters to judges and prosecutors about important and timely animal issues, including the mustang capture and sale program (which often results in horse slaughter) in the American West.

*Jamie Olin is now a Law 3 student at U-M Law School, co-founder, and chair of the school's Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.*

2. Our new website has been as been created and is at: [http://sitemaker.umich.edu/umls\\_saldf](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/umls_saldf).
3. We are planning a charity dog walk-a-thon for the 2005-06 school year. More details will be provided in the future.
4. A group from the law school went to Detroit to protest the Canadian seal hunt in April. 🐾

### Animal Law Section Council 2004-2005

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# Michigan Animal Law, Second Edition

*The following is based on a press release of March 21, 2005 from the MSU College of Law.*

Michigan Animal Law, 2nd ed., is edited by Wanda A. Nash, Esq. and is a project of Attorneys for Animals, licensed to MSU College of Law.

In the rather vast set of Michigan laws there is no official "Animal Code" that brings together all of the Michigan laws that relate to animals. *Michigan Animal Law* is the desktop answer to the problem; it presents the full statutory language from both the civil and criminal codes of Michigan. Both the lawyer and those working with or for animals should find the book to be a rich assortment of information about a wide variety of animal topics.

*Michigan Animal Law* has been rearranged since its first edition over a decade ago to reflect better the new laws that have been adopted. This new edition includes expanded introductions for each chapter to help the non-lawyer understand what the legal provisions require; it also includes references to some of the Michigan court opinions. References and web links are provided for the detailed explanatory materials that are located on the Animal Legal & Historical Center website.

Between the covers of *Michigan Animal Law* you'll find chapters dealing with the following topics:

- Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets (Chapter 1)
- Exotic Pet Laws (Chapter 2)
- Michigan Penal Code (Chapter 3)
- Horses (Chapter 4)
- Animals Used in Food Production (Chapter 5)
- "Ownership of Wild Animals" (Chapter 6)
- Public Health Code (Chapter 7)
- Local Units of Government (Chapter 8)
- Taxation (Chapter 9)
- Motor Vehicle Code (Chapter 10)
- Miscellaneous (Chapter 11 on fire code, housing laws, liens, etc.)
- Nonprofit Corporations (Chapter 12)

Ms. Nash has been involved with animal legal issues for more than three decades and helped form the Animal Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan. Once the second edition of *Michigan Animal Law* is added to your shelf, the Animal Legal & Historical Center will provide a regular supplement that will keep the reader up to date.

Copies of *Michigan Animal Law* can be ordered from the Animal Legal & Historical Center website: <http://www.animallaw.info/>.

*Michigan Animal Law*, 2nd ed. ISBN # 0-9724103-4-1, 305 pages, 8 1/2 x 11. It is available in three different forms: hardcopy (\$45); softcover & wire binding (\$33); and no-binding, 3-hole-punch paper [you provide the binder] (\$25). Prices do not include shipping. The book is available for purchase by credit card on the web, or payable by check. ☛



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