

MATTHEW LIEBMAN

University of San Francisco School of Law, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117,
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of San Francisco School of Law, San Francisco, CA

Associate Professor, July 2020-present

Chair, Justice for Animals Program, July 2020-present

Teach Animal Law, Animals & Justice Seminar, and Professional Responsibility. Direct the Justice for Animals Program.

Animal Legal Defense Fund, Cotati, CA

Director of Litigation, January 2017-July 2020

Chief Legal Counsel, March 2016-January 2017

Senior Staff Attorney, June 2012-March 2016

Staff Attorney, October 2008-June 2012

Litigation Fellow, October 2007-October 2008

Directed a team of 12 lawyers litigating civil animal protection cases involving every aspect of animal law, including constitutional litigation, rights-based impact litigation, regulatory reform, and environmental law. Conceptualized and implemented legal reform agenda through strategic planning processes. Managed \$1.9M litigation budget. Supervised attorneys and law students of varying degrees of experience, from senior staff attorneys to staff attorneys to fellows to law clerks. Participated in all aspects of civil animal protection litigation, including investigating facts, strategizing impact litigation, developing legal theories, drafting pleadings, briefs, memoranda, and other litigation related documents, and appearing in state and federal court. Served on committee to ensure organizational adherence to stated core values. Contributed to organization-wide planning processes and strategized the direction and priorities of a national nonprofit organization with a \$12M budget committed to protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system. Represented the organization in press interviews, conferences, and other public speaking engagements.

Hon. Warren J. Ferguson, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Santa Ana, CA

Law Clerk, August 2006-August 2007

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School, Juris Doctorate with Distinction, 2006

- Honors: Deborah L. Rhode Public Interest Award, Stanford Public Interest Fellow, National Animal Law Moot Court Competition winner
- Activities: Student Animal Legal Defense Fund co-chair and founding member; Critical Legal Theory Reading Group founding member; Shaking the Foundations Conference on Progressive Lawyering conference co-chair and panel coordinator; Earthjustice Environmental Law Clinic; Youth and Education Law Clinic; National Lawyers Guild; Stanford Environmental Law Journal

University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Arts, 2001

- Highest Honors in Philosophy and the Plan II Honors Program
- Senior Thesis: “Beyond Me(a)tanarratives: Postmodernism and Animal Rights,” advisor Professor Robert C. Solomon.

PAST TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland, OR

Law Professor, Summer 2012

Co-taught *Animal Law Litigation* summer intensive course to law students.

Guest lectures to various law school classes, including USF, Columbia, and University of Denver.

PUBLICATIONS

Matthew Liebman, *Animal Plaintiffs*, MINNESOTA LAW REVIEW (forthcoming 2024).

Matthew Liebman, *Litigation & Liberation*, 49 ECOLOGY LAW QUARTERLY 101 (2023).

Matthew Liebman, *Animal Law in the United States*, in THE ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK IN ANIMAL WELFARE (2022).

Matthew Liebman, *At the Cost of an Animal*, LAW AND POLITICAL ECONOMY PROJECT (Nov. 25, 2020), <https://lpeproject.org/blog/at-the-cost-of-an-animal/>.

Matthew Liebman, *Seeking Justice for Justice*, REGISTER-GUARD (Jul. 16, 2019), <https://www.registerguard.com/opinion/20190716/seeking-justice-for-justice>.

Matthew Liebman & Justin Marceau, *Ag Gag Laws Are Unconstitutional And Aid Animal Abuse*, LAW360 (Aug. 28, 2015), <https://www.law360.com/articles/694771/ag-gag-laws-are-unconstitutional-and-aid-animal-abuse>.

Matthew Liebman, *The Guild’s ARAC Challenges Utah’s “Ag-Gag” Laws in Federal Court*, GUILD NOTES (Spring 2014), <https://www.nlg.org/guild-notes/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/11/Guild-Notes-Spring-2014-WEB.pdf>.

Bruce Wagman & Matthew Liebman, A WORLDVIEW OF ANIMAL LAW (Carolina Academic Press 2011).

Matthew Liebman, *Who the Judge Ate for Breakfast: On the Limits of Creativity in Animal Law and the Redeeming Power of Powerlessness*, 18 ANIMAL LAW 133 (2011).

Nancy Perry, Coby Dolan, Jessica Almy, Zak Smith, & Matthew Liebman, *Animal Law in Court and Congress: A Roundtable with Practitioners*, 60 JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION 285 (2010).

Matthew Liebman, *Damages in Companion Animal Cases*, ANIMAL LAW NEWSLETTER (Florida Bar Animal Law Committee), Spring 2009.

Matthew Liebman, *Love is a Burning Thing: A Review of Igniting a Revolution: Voices in Defense of the Earth*, Edited by Steven Best and Anthony J. Nocella II, 25 STANFORD ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL 231-257 (2006).

Matthew Liebman, *I Fought the Law: A Review of Terrorists or Freedom Fighters?: Reflections on the Liberation of Animals*, Edited by Steven Best and Anthony J. Nocella II, 1 JOURNAL OF ANIMAL LAW 151-169 (2005).

Matthew Liebman, *Exotic Pet Laws*, Animal Legal and Historical Center, www.animallaw.info/articles/ddusexoticpets.htm (2004).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Animal Plaintiffs, Talking Animals, Law & Philosophy, Cambridge Centre for Animal Rights Law, Online, May 16, 2023.

Teaching Animal Law as a Multidimensional Social Justice Issue, Canadian Animal Law Conference, Toronto, Canada, Sept. 17, 2022.

Litigate to Liberate? The Functions of Litigation in the Animal Rights Movement, Canadian Animal Law Conference, Online, Sept. 13, 2020.

Transforming Animals' Status through Civil Litigation, 27th Annual Animal Law Conference, Portland, OR, Oct. 26, 2019.

We Can See You: Legal Strategies to Increase Industry Transparency and Accountability, 26th Annual Animal Law Conference: Law and the Farmed Animal: Policy, Advocacy, and Culture, Chicago, IL, Oct. 13, 2018.

Shutting Down Ag-Gag Laws, Animal Rights National Conference 2018, Los Angeles, CA, June 29, 2018.

Animals' Legal Status: Current Issues & Future Directions, Animal Legal Defense Fund Animal Law Academy, online webinar, May 4, 2018.

Corporate Transparency, Accountability, and Animal Welfare, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting – Section on Animal Law, San Diego, CA, Jan. 4, 2018.

Not Your Average Factory Farmed Animal Panel: Fixing a Fouled-Up System, 25th Annual Animal Law Conference: Celebrating 25 Years of the Animal Law Conference, Portland, OR, Oct. 14, 2017.

Wild But Captive, Animal Law Symposium 2017: Wildlife Rights and Protection in the 21st Century, Los Angeles, CA, May 20, 2017.

Gagging Dissent: Ag Gag Laws and the First Amendment, NYU Law School, New York, NY, May 12, 2016.

Gagging Dissent: Ag Gag Laws and the First Amendment, Texas Tech Law School, Lubbock, TX, Mar. 1, 2016.

Ag-Gag Laws & the Fight to Save the First Amendment, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, Nov. 18, 2015.

Animals in Agriculture: Legal Challenges and Opportunities, Eat, Pray, Law: A Food Forum, Portland, OR, Mar. 13, 2015.

Civil Litigation & Legislation Update: What's Hot, 22nd Annual Animal Law Conference Animal Law in a Changing Environment: Finding Common Ground, Portland, OR, Oct. 19, 2014.

Ag Gag: Investigations, Legislation, and Litigation, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, Sept. 27, 2014.

Animals as Spectacles: Litigation to Challenge the Exploitation of Animals in Entertainment, Second Annual California Animal Law Symposium, UC Hastings Law School, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 13, 2014.

Ag-Gag, UC Davis Law School, Davis, CA, Apr. 9, 2014.

Ag-Gag, Washington State Bar Association – Animal Law Section, Seattle, WA, Jan. 31, 2014.

The Intersection of Animal Law, Race, Culture and Gender (moderator), 21st Annual Animal Law Conference, Stanford, CA, Oct. 27, 2013.

Ag gag: Litigation, Legislation and Other Approaches to Countering This Trend, 21st Annual Animal Law Conference, Stanford, CA, Oct. 27, 2013.

De-Extinction & Animal Welfare, De-Extinction: Ethics, Law, & Politics, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, May 31, 2013.

Debate - Should Non-Economic Damages Be Available in Tort Cases Involving Injury or Death to Animals?, First Annual California Animal Law Symposium, Golden Gate University Law School, San Francisco, CA, Mar. 3, 2013.

What's New in Litigation & Legislation?, 20th Annual Animal Law Conference: Celebrating 20 Years of Animal Law: Looking Back and Forward, Portland, OR, Oct. 20, 2012.

Litigation to Protect Wild Animals in Captivity, Washington State Bar Association – Animal Law Section, Seattle, WA, Nov. 7, 2011.

What's New in Litigation & Legislation?, 19th Annual Animal Law Conference: Standing Up for Animals: Can a Bad Economy Inspire Greater Goodness?, Portland OR, Oct. 15, 2011.

Developing New Legal Theories to Help Animals: Benefits and Limitations, 19th Annual Animal Law Conference: Standing Up for Animals: Can a Bad Economy Inspire Greater Goodness?, Portland OR, Oct. 16, 2011.

2010: The Year in Animal Law, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, Nov. 17, 2010.

Hot Topics in Animal Law: Legislation & Litigation, 18th Annual Animal Law Conference: Animals in Crisis: Using The Laws We Have, Getting The Laws We Need, Portland, OR, Oct. 16, 2010.

Applying Critical Legal Theory to Problems in Animal Law, Future of Animal Law Conference, Harvard, MA, Apr. 12, 2010.

SELECTED PRESS

Rupa Shenoy, *This orangutan's 'personhood' victory brings hope to US animal rights movement*, THE WORLD (Nov. 20, 2019), <https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-11-20/orangutan-s-personhood-victory-brings-hope-us-animal-rights-movement>.

Mensah Dean, *'We called Leia our daughter': Couple sue Philadelphia doggy day care over puppy's death*, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (Nov. 27, 2019), <https://www.inquirer.com/news/groom-board-leia-kait-dowling-tom-minix-doggy-day-care-lawsuit-pets-property-jordan-strokovsky-20191127.html>.

Nadra Nittle, *Will 2020 Mark the Rise of a Vegan Voting Bloc?*, SALON (Nov. 24, 2019), https://www.salon.com/2019/11/24/will-2020-mark-the-rise-of-a-vegan-voting-bloc_partner/.

Leighton Akio Woodhouse & David Zlutnick, *In Iowa, Politicians Protect the Meat Industry by Making Animal Rights Activists Criminals*, THE INTERCEPT (Oct. 12, 2019), <https://theintercept.com/2019/10/12/meat-industry-ag-gag-laws/>.

N'dea Yancey-Bragg, *A healthy dog was euthanized so a deceased owner could be laid to rest with her pet*, USA TODAY (May 23, 2019), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/05/23/healthy-dog-euthanized-virginia-deceased-owner-request/1213587001/>.

'Boycott Iowa': latest twist in legal tussle between animal campaigners and US farmers, THE GUARDIAN (Mar. 16, 2019), <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/mar/16/boycott-iowa-latest-twist-in-legal-tussle-between-animal-campaigners-and-us-farmers>.

Donnelle Eller, *Iowa's new 'ag gag' law sparks travel boycott, possible legal challenge*, DES MOINES REGISTER (Mar. 14, 2019), <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2019/03/14/iowa-ag-gag-law-sparks-travel-vacation-boycott-mercy-for-animals-aclu-animal-legal-defense-fund/3162465002/>.

Aimee Green, *Groundbreaking case of horse suing ex-owner now in judge's hands*, OREGONIAN (Sept. 14, 2018), https://www.oregonlive.com/washingtoncounty/2018/09/udge_ponders_landmark_decision.html.

Joyeeta Biswas, *Horse's case raises an important question: What would happen if animals could sue us?*, ABC NEWS (Aug. 23, 2018), <https://abcnews.go.com/US/horses-case-raises-important-question-happen-animals-sue/story?id=57167970>.

Karin Brulliard, *Seeking justice for Justice the horse: Can a neglected animal sue?*, WASHINGTON POST (Aug. 13, 2018), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/national/wp/2018/08/13/feature/a-horse-was-neglected-by-its-owner-now-the-horse-is-suing/>

Horse named Justice suing former owner for 'pain and suffering', CTV NEWS (June 4, 2018), <https://www.ctvnews.ca/world/horse-named-justice-suing-former-owner-for-pain-and-suffering-1.3958185>

Samuel Osborne, *Horse sues former owner for \$100,000 after being left severely underweight and suffering from lice*, INDEPENDENT (May 3, 2018), <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/horse-sues-former-owner-neglect-oregon-justice-a8334881.html>.

Brad Mielke and Pavni Mittal, *A horse named Justice sues former owner for more than \$100,000 for neglect*, ABC NEWS (May 2, 2018), <https://abcnews.go.com/US/horse-named-justice-sues-owner-100000-neglect/story?id=54880051>.

Barbara Rodriguez, *USDA revokes exhibitor license for Iowa roadside zoo*, ASSOCIATED PRESS (Dec. 5, 2017), https://apnews.com/07add6a9e772486f86527d341bf098e2?utm_campaign=SocialFlow&utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=APCentralRegion.

Iowa Sued Over Undercover Slaughterhouse Inspection Law, LAW360 (Oct. 11, 2017), <https://www.law360.com/articles/972818/iowa-sued-over-undercover-slaughterhouse-inspection-law>.

Marwa Eltagouri, *People are getting sick from a bacterial disease — and pet-store puppies might be to blame*, WASHINGTON POST (Oct. 6, 2017), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2017/10/06/people-are-getting-sick-from-a-bacterial-disease-and-pet-store-puppies-might-be-to-blame/>.

Karin Brulliard & Lena H. Sun, *Pet-store puppies linked to bacterial outbreak among people in 7 states, CDC says*, WASHINGTON POST (Sept. 11, 2017), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2017/09/11/pet-store-puppies-linked-to-bacterial-outbreak-among-people-in-7-states-cdc-says/>.

James West, *Top Animal Planet Show Slapped With Fine for Mistreating Animals*, MOTHER JONES (Aug. 23, 2017), <https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2017/08/top-animal-planet-show-slapped-with-fine-for-mistreating-animals/>

Arin Greenwood, *Not the Last Act: The closing of Ringling Bros. hasn't stopped advocates from trying to ban performing animals at other circuses*, ABA JOURNAL (Aug. 2017), http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/ringling_performing_animals_circus.

Danielle Kaeding, *Federal Lawsuit Challenges Wisconsin Hunter Harassment Law*, WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO (July 19, 2017), <https://www.wpr.org/federal-lawsuit-challenges-wisconsin-hunter-harassment-law>.

Stu Bykofsky, *Corporations and rivers now have rights. Animals are next.*, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (Apr. 18, 2017), https://www.inquirer.com/philly/columnists/stu_bykofsky/If-corporations-and-rivers-have-human-rights-why-not-animals-.html.

Lydia Wheeler, *Animal groups battle USDA*, THE HILL (Mar. 15, 2017), <https://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/business-a-lobbying/324006-animal-groups-battle-usda>.

Animal Groups Sue Over 'Orwellian' Removal Of USDA Docs, LAW 360 (Feb. 24, 2017), <https://www.law360.com/articles/895402/animal-groups-sue-over-orwellian-removal-of-usda-docs>.

Tom Harvey, *'If you're on private property, the First Amendment doesn't guarantee you free-speech rights': Federal judge hears arguments on Utah's 'ag gag' law*, SALT LAKE TRIBUNE (Oct. 26, 2016), <https://archive.sltrib.com/article.php?id=4507027&itype=CMSID>.

Brett Barrouquere, *Story behind the Tony, Louisiana's famous truck stop tiger*, HOUSTON CHRONICLE (Sept. 20, 2016), <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/nation-world/article/Caged-The-strange-story-of-Louisiana-s-gas-9236732.php>.

Bill Rankin, *State high court decides the worth of a pet dog*, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION (June 6, 2016), <https://www.ajc.com/news/local/state-high-court-decides-the-worth-pet-dog/CchBCQ8VwUO6UHvXynsh0M/>.

Free Candy: Louisiana chimpanzee is center of landmark lawsuit, THE GUARDIAN (Apr. 4, 2016), <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/04/candy-chimpanzee-louisiana-endangered-species-animal-welfare-zoo>.

Laurel Braitman, *The Strange Tale of Echo, the Parrot Who Saw Too Much*, ATLAS OBSCURA (Mar. 22, 2016), <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/the-strange-tale-of-echo-the-parrot-who-saw-too-much>.

Ellie Kaufman, *If You Love Animals and Free Speech, You Should Be Worried About Ag-Gag Laws*, MIC (Feb. 16, 2016), <https://www.mic.com/articles/135291/if-you-love-animals-and-free-speech-you-should-be-worried-about-ag-gag-laws>

Christopher Frizzelle, *The Fight to Free Lolita*, THE STRANGER (Sept. 30, 2015), <https://www.thestranger.com/features/feature/2015/09/30/22939219/its-time-to-free-lolita-a-puget-sound-killer-whale-thats-been-trapped-in-miami-for-45-years>.

Sarah Lindner, *A Puppy Died While In a DC Daycare—Who's to Blame?*, WASHINGTONIAN (Sept. 15, 2015), <https://www.washingtonian.com/2015/09/15/a-puppy-died-while-in-a-dc-daycare-whos-to-blame/>.

Rob Verger, *Idaho's 'Ag-Gag' Law Criminalizes Muckrackers, So a Federal Judge Struck It Down*, VICE (Aug. 6, 2015), https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/zm7xpj/idahos-ag-gag-law-criminalizes-muckrackers-so-a-federal-judge-struck-it-down.

Bob Egelko, *Animal rights groups can sue Napa restaurant over foie gras*, SF CHRONICLE (Mar. 5, 2015), <https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Animal-rights-groups-can-sue-Napa-restaurant-over-6117825.php>.

Tiger, tiger, burning rubber: meet Tony, the truck stop mascot dividing Louisiana, THE GUARDIAN (Feb. 4, 2015), <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/feb/04/tiger-tiger-burning-rubber-meet-tony-truck-stop-mascot-louisiana>.

Leah Sottile, *'Ag-gag' proposal meets torrent of opposition in Washington state*, AL JAZEERA AMERICA (Jan. 22, 2015), <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/1/22/Ag-gag-bill-angers-animal-rights-supporters-in-Washington-state.html>.

Patia Stephens, *The God Project*, STANFORD MAGAZINE (May/June 2014), <https://stanfordmag.org/contents/the-god-project>.

Melissa Leon, *Should Tony the Truck Stop Tiger Go Free?*, DAILY BEAST (June 28, 2014), <https://www.thedailybeast.com/should-tony-the-truck-stop-tiger-go-free>.

Brandon Keim, *Factory Food From Above: Satellite Images of Industrial Farms*, WIRED (Sept. 16, 2013), <https://www.wired.com/2013/09/mishka-henner-factory-farms/>.

Lex Berko, *'The Vegetarian People' File the First Lawsuit for The Right to Whistleblow on Farms*, VICE (Jul. 25, 2013), https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/nzzaww/first-ag-gag-lawsuit-utah-industrial-farms.

Elizabeth Weise, *Should we bring back the passenger pigeon and the woolly mammoth?*, USA TODAY (May 31, 2013), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/05/31/de-extinctioning-passenger-pigeon-woolly-mammoth/2378687/>.

Campbell Robertson, *A Tiger, a Truck Stop and a Pitched Legal Battle*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 27, 2013), <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/28/us/truck-stop-tiger-in-louisiana-stirs-legal-battle.html>.

Sue Russell, *Should Animals Be Considered People?*, PACIFIC STANDARD (Dec. 20, 2011), <https://psmag.com/news/should-animals-be-considered-people-38481>.

Amanda Peterka, *State Legislatures Take Up Bills Barring Undercover Videos of Confined Animal Feeding Operations*, N.Y. TIMES (May 5, 2011), www.nytimes.com/gwire/2011/05/05/05greenwire-state-legislatures-take-up-bills-barring-under-88103.html.

HONORS

Selected to *The Recorder's* 2019 list of California Trailblazers

James Madison Award, Society for Professional Journalists, Northern California Chapter, Nonprofit Organization, 2018

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