

ANIMAL LAW NEWS – May 2018

Pennsylvania

Lycoming County: Jedi, the courthouse dog:

<http://wnep.com/2018/03/29/judge-welcomes-four-legged-employee/>

United States – Federal

Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver (WILD) Act: S.826; addresses endangered species, poaching, invasive species, and nonlethal wildlife control:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/826/text?format=txt>

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/336474-wild-act-for-innovation>

Recovering America's Wildlife Act: H.R.4647; provides \$1.3B annual funding for state fish and wildlife agencies, mainly to conserve and monitor Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN); funding from oil, gas and onshore mineral royalties paid to federal government, \$7B to \$12B annually:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4647/text>

<http://wildlife.org/policy/recovering-americas-wildlife-act/>

California: *Naruto v. Slater*, the "monkey selfie" case; Ninth Circuit held Plaintiff Naruto, a crested macaque, had Article III standing, but lacked Copyright Act standing regarding rights to "selfies" he took when defendant Slater left his camera unattended, and Slater and other defendants published them; Court criticized PETA for pleading "next friend" status when it did not show significant relationship with Naruto before dispute over photographs, and animals cannot have someone in "next friend" status:

<http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2018/04/23/16-15469.pdf>

Michigan: *Wysong Corporation v. APN, Inc.*; Sixth Circuit held pet food manufacturer could not maintain Lanham Act claims against competitors for alleged false or misleading advertising, that the fresh ingredients shown on their packaging and advertising were used in their kibbles; no reasonable consumer would believe this, there was no consumer survey evidence, and the law allows a certain level of puffery:

<http://www.opn.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/18a0086p-06.pdf>

Other States

Florida: *Simon's Trucking v. Lieupo*; \$5,211,500 personal injury verdict reversed; plaintiff tow truck driver injured by exposure to sulfuric acid responding to crash; state environmental statute creating cause of action did not allow personal injury recovery; defense argued injuries caused by ant bites:

https://edca.1dca.org/DCADocs/2017/2065/172065_1287_04182018_09035049_i.pdf

New York: *In the Matter of Nonhuman Rights Project, Inc., on Behalf of Tommy and Kiko*. New York Court of Appeals denied Project's motion for leave to appeal; Judge Fahey's concurrence agrees on procedural grounds, but discusses ethical issues and scientific evidence:

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/Decisions/2018/May18/M2018-268opn18-Decision.pdf>

http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/chimpanzees_lose_habeas_bid_in_new_yorks_top_court_one_judge_sees_a_manifest/

Oregon: *Justice v. Vercher*; suit by horse against his abuser:

http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/suit_argues_animals_have_the_right_to_sue_their_abusers/

Complaint (Washington Co., Oregon, May 1, 2018):

<http://aldf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018.05.01-Complaint.pdf>

International

ACI World (Airports Council International): aviation helping fight wildlife trafficking, pursuant to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES):

<http://www.aci.aero/Services/Member-tools-to-combat-Human-and-Wildlife-Trafficking/Wildlife-Trafficking>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1niKLj_pw8

Non-Legal News

San Francisco Chronicle Pets Remembered: pet parents may publish memorials in print in *Chronicle* and/or on-line at sfgate.com and SFChronicle.com:

sfgate.com/pets/article/PETS-REMEMBERED-pet-obituary-online-memorial-12795023.php