

**Call for Paper**  
**AALS Section on Animal Law**  
**January 2018 Annual Meeting**  
**San Diego, CA**

**Corporate Transparency, Accountability, and Animal Welfare**

The AALS Section on Animal Law is seeking proposals for a panel presentation and paper relating to the topic “Corporate Transparency, Accountability, and Animal Welfare.”

Public perception of the use of animals for commercial, scientific, or entertainment purposes creates an incentive for businesses to limit the public’s access to information about their use. Even without abusive conditions revealed by undercover investigation, greater knowledge about the treatment that is permitted under state and federal regulations in general could negatively impact business by causing a change in consumer choice or by opening the door to legal action to force corporate change. To help maintain their privacy, corporations have sought legislative protection and have otherwise made it difficult for the public to know about a specific company’s animal welfare standards or compliance record. This panel will highlight these challenges and ask whether there is a social responsibility to, if not provide access to information, at least not hinder access. Current panelist topics include ag-gag legislation, SLAPP and anti-SLAPP litigation, access to agency records, and food labeling.

The Animal Law Section seeks proposals to fill an additional panelist position. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- General corporate responsibility (if any) to provide consumer information about animal welfare;
- The impact of social pressure on corporate decision making in the animal welfare context; and
- Efforts to suppress or release information about animal welfare in the scientific or entertainment industries.

Participation as a panelist will require a 10- to 12-minute presentation at the AALS Conference along with a question and answer session and the provision of an article (draft due in early January) that will be published in the *Journal of Animal and Natural Resource Law*.

Proposals should be submitted by May 31 and include the following information:

- Your name, school affiliation and title, and contact information (including e-mail address and telephone number);
- A current CV that includes past presentations and scholarship;
- An abstract of your presentation and its title; and
- Any other information that you think will be helpful to the Section in making its decision.

Proposals must be submitted by e-mail to the Animal Law Section chair, Fran Ortiz, at [fortiz@stcl.edu](mailto:fortiz@stcl.edu) by Wednesday, May 31, at 5:00 p.m. PST.

If you have any questions, please contact Fran Ortiz at the e-mail above or by calling 713-213-1421 (cell).