

# Animal Law Careers and Volunteering Guide

Animal law careers and volunteering guidance for the next generation of legal changemakers for animals.

## ABOUT VOICELESS

Voiceless, the animal protection institute is a national non-profit animal protection organisation working to promote respect and compassion for animals.

This guide was produced as part of the [Voiceless Animal Law Education \(ALE\)](#) program. The ALE program was established to help support and develop animal law education in Australia through creating resources for tertiary education, promoting animal law initiatives, and providing opportunities for the next generation of legal changemakers.

## JOIN

Sign up to the Voiceless Mailing List [here](#).

## DISCLAIMER

Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information provided in this guide, and is not responsible for, and disclaims all liability for, any loss or damage arising out of the use of or reliance on this publication.

## FOLLOW US

 [Voiceless.Institute](#)  [voiceless.org.au](#)

 [@VoicelessNews](#)  [voiceless.org.au](#)

© April, 2022

Voiceless, the animal protection institute  
2 Paddington Street  
Paddington NSW 2021  
T: +612 9357 0723  
Contact: [info@voiceless.org.au](mailto:info@voiceless.org.au)

Voiceless acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, and pay our respects to the elders past, present, and emerging.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Written and compiled by Voiceless Senior Program Manager and Legal Counsel, Dr Meg Good.

Voiceless extends sincere thanks to the featured lawyers, academics and advocates for sharing their career experiences and invaluable advice.

This guide is dedicated to the many wonderful Voiceless legal volunteers who generously devoted their energy, skills, enthusiasm and time over the past 17 years.

# OVERVIEW

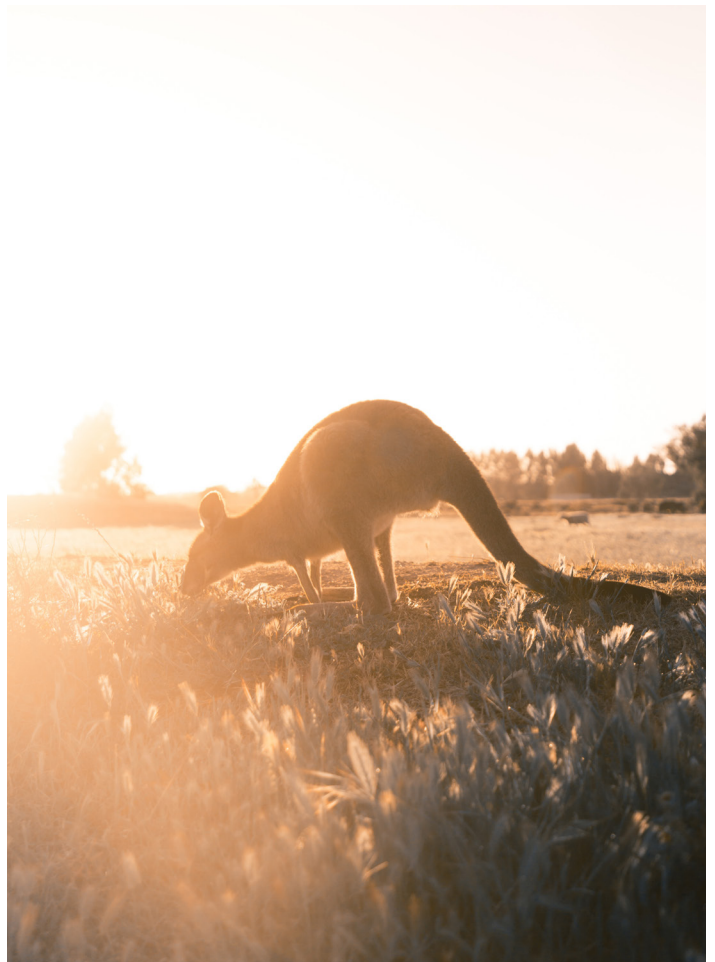
This guide provides information on animal law careers and volunteering opportunities in Australia. It includes guidance on how to get involved in the area, what to study, and what to expect from a career in animal law.

Interviews with a number of Australia's leading animal lawyers, academics and advocates provide invaluable guidance on how to forge a career in this growing space, and give insight into their day-to-day work.

As an exciting and developing legal area, now is the perfect time to engage in this important field of social justice law.

**ALE** | ANIMAL LAW  
EDUCATION

voiceless  
the animal protection institute



## CONTENTS

### PG #

- 4 What is animal law?
- 6 What is an animal lawyer?
- 6 Why are animal lawyers important?
- 8 How to get involved in animal law
- 10 How to prepare for a career in animal law
- 11 What to study
- 13 Where can studying animal law take you?
- 14 Animal law volunteering
- 18 Animal law careers

### PG #

- 19 **Animal law related roles for legal graduates**
  - 20 Animal Law Academic – University
  - 22 Animal Law Committee Member – Law Society Committee
  - 24 Director – Animal Law/Protection Organisation
  - 26 Policy Advisor – Parliament
  - 28 Policy Officer – Animal Protection Organisation
- 30 **Animal law related roles for practising lawyers**
  - 31 In-House Legal Counsel – Animal Protection Organisation
  - 34 Lawyer – Animal Law Firm
  - 36 Pro Bono Lawyer – Law Firm
  - 38 RSPCA Prosecutor – Animal Protection Organisation
  - 40 Solicitor – Community Legal Centre

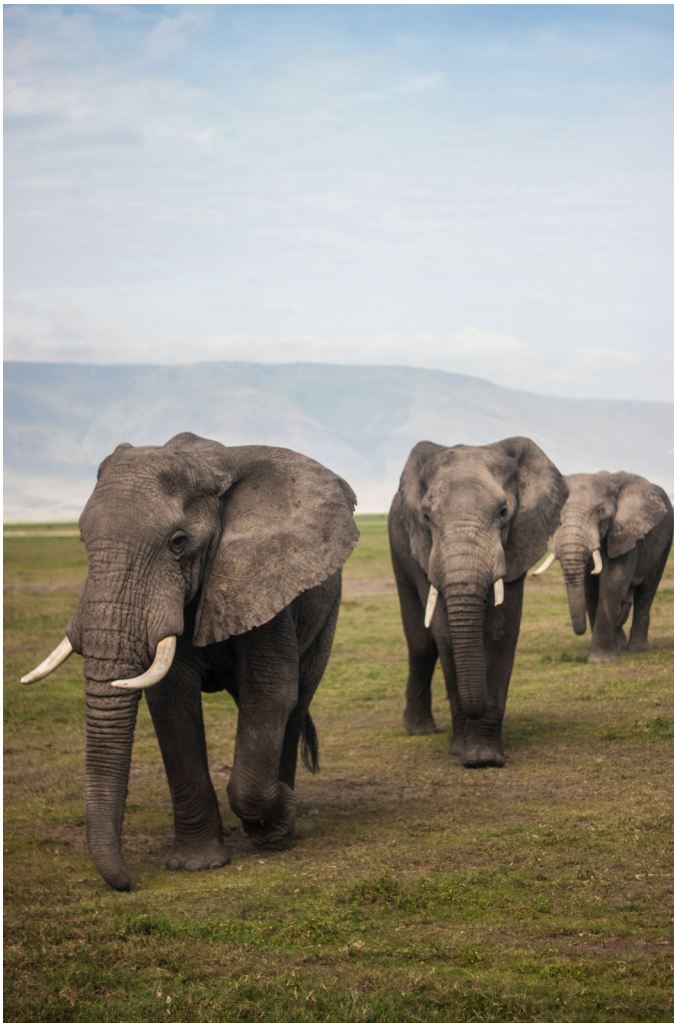
## WHAT IS ANIMAL LAW?

Animal law is a dynamic and growing area of the law in Australia, covering a wide range of legal areas concerning animals and the human/animal relationship.

As animals are present in so many different areas of our lives, the scope of animal law is consequently quite broad, reaching beyond traditional animal welfare legislation to many other areas of the law, including administrative law, consumer protection law, constitutional law, criminal law, environmental law, and more.

Australians interact with animals as owners, consumers and citizens, and these complex relationships are part of the reason why animal law so often raises fascinating and important questions of science, ethics, philosophy and justice.

You can learn more about animal law on the Voiceless website: [www.voiceless.org.au/animal-law/](http://www.voiceless.org.au/animal-law/)



## CAN YOU STUDY ANIMAL LAW IN AUSTRALIA?

Animal law is growing across the country, with seventeen Australian universities currently offering courses in animal law.

### Australian Animal Law Courses

#### ACT

- Australian National University

#### NSW

- Australian Catholic University
- Macquarie University
- Southern Cross University
- University of New England
- University of New South Wales
- University of Technology Sydney
- University of Wollongong

#### QLD

- Bond University
- Central Queensland University
- Griffith University
- Queensland University of Technology

#### SA

- University of Adelaide

#### TAS

- University of Tasmania

#### VIC

- La Trobe University
- Monash University
- University of Melbourne

Learn more on the Voiceless website:

[www.voiceless.org.au/animal-law/study-animal-law/](http://www.voiceless.org.au/animal-law/study-animal-law/)

# DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL LAW IN AUSTRALIA

**1997**

Australia's first animal law committee was established in NSW.

**2004**

Voiceless, the animal protection institute was formed, hiring one of Australia's first animal lawyers.

**2005**

- First Australian animal law course was taught at UNSW.
- Lawyers for Animals was established.

**2006**

The Barristers Animal Welfare Panel was formed.

**2007**

- First Australian animal law conference was held.
- The Voiceless Animal Law Lecture Series was established.

**2008**

- Australia's first animal law journal was published.
- Australia's first animal law textbook was published.

**2009**

The Animal Law Committee of the Law Society of South Australia was formed.

**2011**

Australia's first specialist private animal law firm was opened.

**2013**

- The Animal Defenders Office was formed as a national CLC.
- The Animal Law Clinic was established in Melbourne.

**2014**

- The Animal Law Institute was formed as a national CLC.
- The first Animal Law Education Workshop was held.
- Australia's first national animal law moot was created.

**2016**

The Law Institute of Victoria Animal Welfare Committee was formed.

**2017**

First animal law pilot program at a major law firm was established.

**2018**

- Australia's first general private animal law firm was opened.
- First Australian law student environmental/animal law society was formed at the University of Tasmania.

**2020**

The Australasian Animal Law Teachers' and Researchers' Association was formed to support animal law education across the region.

**2021**

First specialist animal law clinic was created in Victoria, focusing on puppy farming.

**2022**

The Australian Alliance for Animals was formed to pursue animal law and policy reform.



## WHAT IS AN ANIMAL LAWYER?

Animal lawyers come in many different forms. Some animal lawyers are legal practitioners working in community legal centres or law firms, whilst others work outside traditional legal practice in policy and law reform positions.

This guide adopts a broad definition of ‘animal lawyer’, to include any law graduate working in an animal law related role.



Flip to pages 18-42 to find out all the different ways you can work and volunteer as an animal lawyer in Australia.

## WHY ARE ANIMAL LAWYERS IMPORTANT?

Animal lawyers are a crucial aspect of the broader animal protection social justice movement. They play an important role in improving legal protections for animals, including through supporting advocates, challenging unjust laws, championing law reform and holding decision-makers accountable.

Even if you do not choose to become a practising lawyer, there are still many ways you can put your law degree to good use across a range of animal law related roles.

See ‘Animal law related roles for legal graduates’ on page 19.

### Animal lawyers:

- Defend animal advocates and activists
- Challenge unjust laws and propose better laws and policies
- Contribute to government law reform consultations
- Enforce animal welfare legislation and prosecute animal cruelty offences
- Provide legal advice to advocates and animal protection organisations
- Hold government and industry to account
- Educate the public about important animal law issues.

# HOW ANIMAL LAWYERS HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ANIMALS



## **Provide representation for the interests of animals**

Animal lawyers provide animals with representation in forums (such as parliament and government) where their interests may otherwise receive little or no attention due to their inability to speak on their own behalf.

## **Question the problematic legal status of animals as property**

Animal lawyers across the world are working to challenge the property legal status of animals, encouraging judges, politicians and policy-makers to ask an important question; what legal status do animals deserve? By challenging their status, animal lawyers are helping to encourage an important shift in the way animals are valued under the law.

## **Keep government and industry accountable**

Animal lawyers help to keep government and industry accountable by monitoring and challenging poor animal welfare practices, policies and decision-making. For example, Australian animal lawyers have been creatively using the Australian Consumer Law to hold puppy farmers to account, and taking Government decision-makers to court over the regulation of the live export trade.

## **Enforce and promote compliance with animal welfare legislation**

Some animal lawyers work as RSPCA prosecutors enforcing and promoting compliance with animal welfare legislation and prosecuting animal cruelty and neglect.

## **Raise community awareness and champion law and policy reform**

Animal lawyers raise community awareness about ineffective and unjust laws and policies and engage with government to help devise better approaches. They champion law and policy reform and represent the interests of animals in government consultations regarding relevant legislation.

## **Conduct academic research and educate the next generation of legal changemakers**

Animal law academics conduct important research and analysis on topical animal law issues and concepts, and help educate the next generation of legal changemakers on how to use their legal skills and expertise to benefit animals.

## **Support animal advocates and animal protection organisations**

Animal lawyers provide advice to animal advocates and organisations to help them function effectively and operate in compliance with the law. They also advise advocates and activists charged with criminal offences and provide legal representation in court.

### ALE TIP

You can explore a diverse selection of animal law cases in the 'Animal Law Casebook' published by University of Technology Sydney, [available online](#).





# HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN ANIMAL LAW



## 1. Study animal law

Studying animal law gives you a good grounding in the area, and helps you to figure out the specific areas of animal law you may be interested in exploring further. In Australia, most animal law courses are foundational elective units available exclusively to law students. However, in recent years a number of Masters level courses have been offered, and increasingly more graduates are choosing to undertake postgraduate research in the field.

- You can access a list of animal law courses [via the Voiceless website](#).
- If you are interested in postgraduate animal law research, you can contact universities and academics directly and/or you can reach out to the [Australasian Animal Law Teachers' and Researchers' Association](#) for guidance.



### ALE TIP

Visit the [Voiceless website](#) to learn all about animal law.



## 2. Volunteer

Volunteering in the space helps you to understand the daily work of an animal lawyer and establish connections in the area. You will need to reach out via email to relevant organisations to find out if they have volunteer positions available. You may also find it helpful to follow their social media accounts and sign up to their mailing lists to keep up to date with any opportunities they advertise.

Make sure that before you contact an organisation you have thoroughly read through their website information, as some organisations may not be open to receiving expressions of interest, and others may have formal processes to follow. It will also help you to stand out from the crowd if you're able to show that you've done your research and have an understanding of the organisation's work. It's also a good idea to attach a current and well-presented CV with a cover letter tailored specifically to the organisation in question.

- You can access a list of animal law organisations, law society committees and law firms offering animal law volunteering opportunities in the *Voiceless Animal Law Services Guide* on the [Voiceless website](#).
- See the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide for a list of relevant organisations to consider approaching regarding volunteer opportunities.





### 3. Connect & network

Connect with other people interested in animal law by joining relevant groups. You may be able to find animal law groups that meet up in person in your area, such as university law student societies or law society committees. Or you might choose to connect online through social media groups. Take any opportunity you can to connect and network with like-minded lawyers.

- If you're a law student, consider joining the Australian Animal and Environmental Law Student Network group on [Facebook](#).
- If you're interested in keeping informed about the latest animal law developments, events, opportunities and jobs, join the Animal Law Talk Australia group on [Facebook](#).
- See the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide for a list of animal law organisations.



### 4. Engage & learn

The best way to learn more about animal law outside of formal study is by attending animal law events, listening to presentations and reading literature in the area.

- Read the [Voiceless Animal Law Toolkit](#) to get a good general overview.
- See the 'Contacts' and 'Animal Law Education Resources' pages at the end of this guide for a list of animal law groups, guides and resources.



### 5. Get active

As an individual there are many ways you can get active in the animal law space. One great way to become more involved is by writing submissions to government when they seek public input on animal law and policy reform. You could also organise animal law events, share information with your networks or start a new animal law group in your area - the possibilities are endless!

- You can find guidance on how to write persuasive and effective animal law reform submissions [on the Voiceless website](#).



### 6. Participate in competitions

If you're a law student, consider participating in animal law student competitions, such as moots and essay competitions.

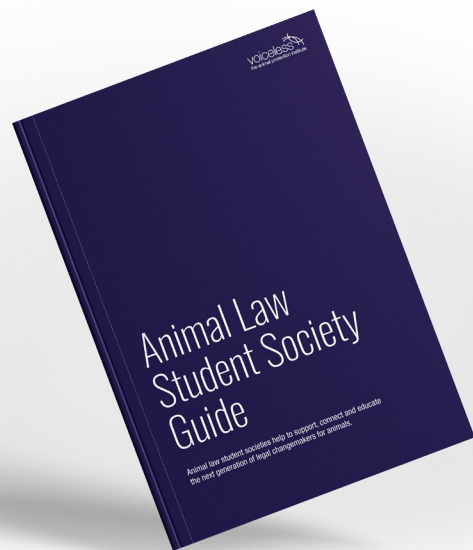
- See the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide for a list of animal law student competitions you can enter.



### 7. Create or join an animal law student society

Creating or joining animal law student societies is a fantastic way to engage with the field and meet other students interested in animal law. Societies are involved in a vast range of activities, including animal law discussion forums, careers panels, guest speaker presentations, law reform submission writing, animal law competitions, social events and much more.

- See the 'Contacts' and 'Animal Law Education Resources' pages at the end of this guide for a list of existing societies. If your law school doesn't have a society, we've prepared a helpful Animal Law Student Society Guide [available via the Voiceless website](#).



Read the [Animal Law Student Society Guide](#)



“Animal law societies are important spaces to share knowledge, to hear from prominent figures from the animal and environmental law community, and to inspire students to use their legal training to advocate for the protection of animals.”

Francesca Nyilas, Former Voiceless Intern and Founder of the Animal and Environmental Law Society of UNSW.

# HOW TO PREPARE FOR A CAREER IN ANIMAL LAW

The following four tips may be helpful if you're considering embarking on a career in animal law.

## 1. Ask yourself some important questions

It's useful to ask yourself a series of important questions before starting your animal law journey:

- What type of animal lawyer do you want to be?
- Do you want to work as a legal practitioner?
- Are you more interested in enforcing, challenging or reforming the law?
- What are your greatest assets as a lawyer and advocate?
- What do you most enjoy doing in terms of work?
- Is there a specific area you want to specialise in?
- What is your personal philosophy regarding animal protection?
- What outcomes for animals do you want to help realise?

Your answers to these questions may help inform the choices you make about how to approach this developing legal area. For instance, if you have an animal rights philosophy and a desire to work in law and policy reform, you may be best suited to a career at an animal protection organisation with a rights-based ethical perspective. Alternatively, if you're more interested in practising law and enforcing animal welfare legislation, you may be more suited to a role as a prosecutor.

## 2. Study, volunteer and engage

Learn as much as possible about the area, and try to get some volunteer experience. This will help give you an insight into the day-to-day work of animal lawyers, and assist you in forging connections in the field. However, it is important to note that few organisations have capacity to take on volunteers, so it may take some time and persistence to secure a role.

See 'How to get involved in animal law' on page 8 for further guidance.

## 3. Get practical legal and work experience

You will be more useful and eligible for animal law related roles, if you are able to draw on practical legal and work experience. Many types of work experience can be relevant to animal law, including experience working in communications and campaigning, as well as more traditional legal work experience. Unfortunately unlike other areas of law, there are no graduate programs for animal law and most positions tend to be offered at a more senior level. As a result, it can be hard to find legal work experience opportunities in the field, but don't let this discourage you. Any kind of legal work experience will benefit your development as an animal lawyer, regardless of the specific subject area.

Examples of experience that could be helpful:

- Working or volunteering in other social justice law fields
- Working or volunteering at CLCs
- Experience in policy and law reform
- Completing a traditional law firm graduate program.

## 4. Develop your legal skills and don't be afraid to specialise

It is crucial that you properly develop your general legal skills, rather than exclusively focusing on pursuing animal law opportunities. Many animal law positions are solitary and have minimal or no senior legal supervision, so the more legal experience and expertise you can bring to these positions the better. For this reason, traditional law firm graduate program training is an excellent starting point for your career as an animal lawyer. Having a commercial law background can be very helpful for many aspects of animal law practice and being trained by a team of experienced senior lawyers is invaluable for your overall development as a lawyer. In addition to general legal training, specialising in a particular area of law will often prove helpful down the track, especially if you intend to offer your services pro bono to charities and advocates relating to specialised areas of practice.

See 'What to study' on page 11 to get a feel for relevant areas of law to consider for specialisation.



# WHAT TO STUDY

As animal law is so broad in scope, a wide range of elective law units and areas of study are relevant for budding animal lawyers.

## Law Electives

ELECTIVE	RELEVANCE TO ANIMAL LAW
<b>Criminal law/criminology</b>	As animal welfare legislation creates criminal offences, both criminal law and criminology are relevant.
<b>Environmental law</b>	There are important linkages between environmental and animal law, especially concerning the welfare of wild animals.
<b>Family law</b>	Family law is particularly relevant for those intending to work in the companion animal space.
<b>Human rights law</b>	Having a solid understanding of human rights law is helpful for understanding and evaluating calls for recognition of legal rights for animals.
<b>Property law</b>	As animals are generally classified as property under the law, it is useful to understand how property law operates.
<b>Electives relevant to in-house practice</b>	For those intending to work in-house, it may be helpful to take electives with potential relevance for practice in the context of an animal protection organisation, such as intellectual property, media law, privacy law, tax law, and advanced contracts.

## Complementary areas of study

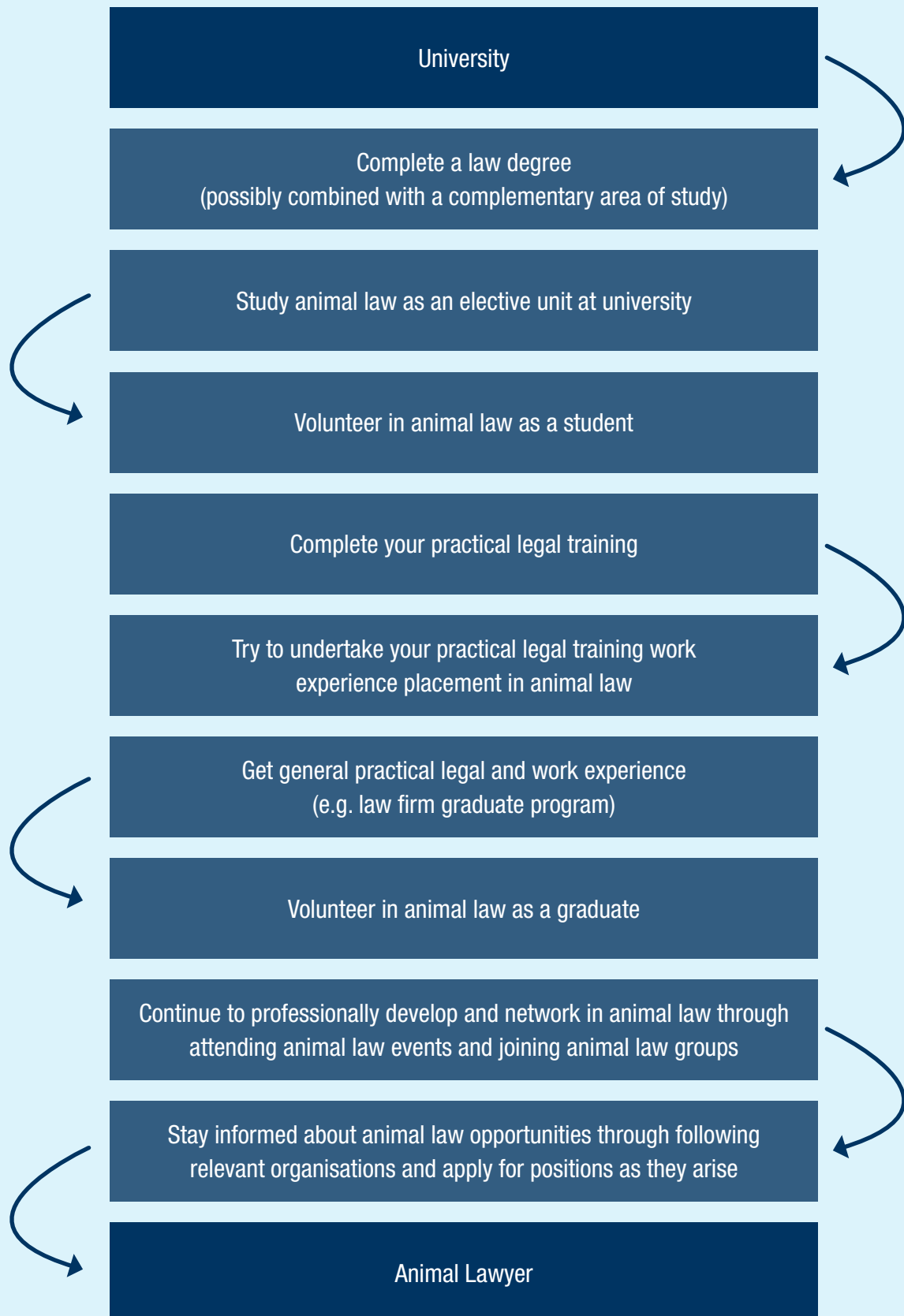
A range of areas outside of law may be relevant to pursue in addition to your law studies, including degrees in arts, communications, science and geography. Arts degrees help to develop the analytical thinking, critical writing and research skills required for animal law related roles.

Within arts, sociology, environmental studies, political science and philosophy are all relevant. Communications degrees may

also be particularly helpful if you intend to work for an animal protection non-profit, and science degrees (such as animal welfare science, zoology, etc.) may assist with understanding scientific questions and concepts raised by animal protection issues.

# EXAMPLE CAREER PATHWAY TO BECOME AN ANIMAL LAWYER

There are many different paths you can take to find your unique place within animal law. Below is one possible pathway to working in the field.



# WHERE CAN STUDYING ANIMAL LAW TAKE YOU?

Frances Medlock, Policy and Parliamentary Advisor for Andrew Wilkie MP.



## Frances Medlock

### Position

Policy and Parliamentary Advisor  
for Andrew Wilkie MP

### Studied

Animal Law

### University

University of Tasmania

### Year

2017

**“I studied animal law at the University of Tasmania and found it an enjoyable and interesting elective. I was also a member of the Student Environmental and Animal Law Society, and was President of the society the year animal law was officially added to its scope.**

I graduated in 2018 and currently work as a Policy and Parliamentary Advisor for Andrew Wilkie MP, a Member of Federal Parliament who represents the electorate of Clark. An independent MP, Andrew has a long history of campaigning on animal welfare issues, which means I often use what I learnt in my animal law studies.

Since being in this role I've worked on a diverse range of animal issues – from greyhound and horse racing, to industrial food production, salmon farming and agriculture. In particular, having an understanding of the live export regulatory system has been very useful, and I've certainly

drawn on research I undertook while studying animal law. The best example of this was drafting a Private Members Bill to establish a Federal Independent Office of Animal Welfare. As well as helping draft the Bill, it's my role to write the explanatory materials, draft speeches and organise media.

It was funny to realise that I'd actually written my major animal law essay on this exact topic and in fact could draw on a lot of the research I'd done, most of which was still relevant. The Independent Office of Animal Welfare Bill 2021 was supported by many animal welfare organisations so it was exciting to have played a part in its introduction.”



## LEARN MORE

Read about why Voiceless supports the introduction of independent offices of animal welfare [on the Voiceless website.](#)



# ANIMAL LAW VOLUNTEERING

Animal law volunteering is a fantastic way to get more involved in the area. Below you will find an outline of potential volunteering opportunities for law students, law graduates and lawyers.



## Volunteering as a law student

There are various options available for law students to volunteer in animal law. These include volunteering with animal law/protection organisations as a general volunteer, or volunteering as a legal volunteer with an animal law CLC (see 'Contacts' at the end of this guide for a list of potential organisations to approach). However, it is important to understand that charities have limited supervision capacity and resources and may not always be in a position to accept voluntary assistance.

You can also volunteer through your university by establishing or joining a student animal law society, or by arranging animal law events in your personal capacity or via an affiliation with a general law student society or animal protection organisation. For example, you could invite an animal lawyer to speak to students at your law school, or arrange a submission writing workshop in regards to a particular animal law reform proposal.

Unfortunately there are currently no formal clerkship programs in animal law specifically, although some law firms working in the area are open to providing work experience for law students.

## ALE TIPS

- Find a handy list of animal law and protection organisations in the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide.
- Read our helpful Animal Law Student Society Guide to learn more about volunteering with an animal law student society.
- Read our Animal Law Services Guide to find out which animal law organisations and law firms currently offer student volunteering opportunities. At the time of writing, the Animal Defenders Office and a number of law firms are open to applications.

[Both guides are available on the Voiceless website.](#)



“Animals are deeply vulnerable to human-made laws, and therefore I truly believe that animal law is an incredibly important tool through which we can uphold the legal rights of non-human animals.”

Aashritha Kumar, former Voiceless legal volunteer.

## Volunteering as a practical legal training student

As part of practical legal training (PLT), students are required to undertake a period of legal work experience. There are some options available to undertake your PLT placement in animal law, although these opportunities are generally quite limited. Some animal protection organisations may be open to offering a placement if they have an in-house legal counsel able to provide formal supervision.

However, most PLT opportunities in the animal law space are offered by law firms and CLCs, and these positions are generally not advertised. Accordingly, you will need to contact relevant firms and CLCs to see whether they are interested in taking on a PLT student, and you may find it beneficial to split your work experience hours across multiple organisations.

## ALE TIPS

- Find a handy list of animal law and protection organisations in the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide.
- Read our Animal Law Services Guide to find out which animal law organisations and law firms currently offer PLT placements. At the time of writing, the Animal Defenders Office and a number of law firms are open to applications.

[The guide is available on the Voiceless website.](#)



"I gained invaluable insights during my internship which made it a truly rewarding experience. I was able to deep dive into different areas of animal law, hone my legal skills and learn from my supervisor."

Stephanie D'Amelio, College of Law Practical Legal Training Work Experience Placement at Voiceless 2021.



## Volunteering as a graduate/lawyer

The majority of law graduates and lawyers engaging in the animal law space do so on a voluntary basis. Some work pro bono via law firms, whilst others volunteer with CLCs or offer their research assistance to animal protection organisations. However you choose to engage, your contribution will make an important impact.

Most of the organisations in the area face challenges with resourcing, and having access to voluntary services provided by highly educated graduates can make all the difference.

## Volunteering as a board director

One meaningful way to utilise your skills is to volunteer on the board of an animal protection or animal law organisation. Directors provide advice and oversight to charities, and assist with strategic decision-making. Law graduates are uniquely placed to provide invaluable guidance to the board of a charity, and the experience can be highly rewarding.

For more information about how to become an animal charity board director, see page 24.

## Why did you choose to become a Voiceless Director, and why do you feel this is a beneficial way to use your skills as an animal lawyer to contribute to the field of animal protection?



“When I left Voiceless to pursue a different full-time career, my decision to become a Voiceless director enabled me to remain engaged with a cause and organisation that I continue to feel very passionate about. It has provided me with the opportunity to meet and work with talented board members from many walks of life and acquire important career experience, working with people outside of my usual career context.

Over the last decade as my professional skills and connections have evolved I have been able to bring new and different insights to Voiceless’s Board and to participate in key strategic decisions to ensure the organisation continues to provide leadership in animal advocacy.”

**Katrina Sharman, Voiceless Director & former Voiceless Legal Counsel.**



“Being on the board of Voiceless has been invaluable. It has given me an understanding of the mechanics of running such an organisation; the strategies required to keep up with the ever-growing and shifting animal protection movement; and importantly, how the energy of the Board affects the organisation.

Independent board members come from different professions, and discussions around the table have given me insight into how legal advocacy can best adapt to current political climates and sync with broader issues of justice and equality. The board has added a new dimension to my work as an animal lawyer.”

**Sarah Margo, Voiceless Director & former Voiceless Legal Counsel.**



## Volunteering through a CLC or law firm

The provision of pro bono legal services in the animal protection space is crucial. It is often financially difficult or impossible for animal advocates and organisations to afford legal services. By providing your skills and time free of charge, you can help to improve access to justice in this important social justice field.

As a volunteer animal lawyer, you may work across a wide range of legal areas, including (but not at all limited to):

- Advising advocates charged with criminal offences related to their activism
- Providing advice to animal protection charities about their legal obligations
- Challenging government decisions regarding animal welfare.

See pages 34-42 for more information.

## Volunteering on animal law committees

Another excellent way to volunteer your time is by contributing to the work of a law society affiliated animal law committee. Animal law committees are formal groups operated by state/territory law societies comprised of volunteer lawyers, generally focused on understanding, promoting and reforming animal law.

There are currently three committees operating in Australia (Vic/NSW/SA), and plenty of scope for the creation of more across the country. Animal law committees are a great way to meet like-minded lawyers and keep up to date with the latest events and developments in the area.

See pages 22-23 for more information.

## General volunteering at animal law/ protection organisations

Law graduates and lawyers can also volunteer their time as general volunteers at animal law/protection organisations. As a general volunteer, you may be called upon to assist with a variety of tasks, such as helping with administrative work or conducting research. Although these roles don't involve the provision of legal services, skills developed through your studies will assist you with most of the general volunteering tasks usually offered by charities in the field.

As charities are often time and staff poor, it can be particularly beneficial to have a capable researcher on board. And for you, it's a wonderful way to learn more about the area and immerse yourself in the realities of working at a non-profit. You may be asked to research topical animal law and policy issues to inform campaigns, write law reform submissions to government or provide background research for educational fact sheets or website pages.

### ALE TIPS

- Find a handy list of animal law and protection organisations in the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide.
- Read our Animal Law Services Guide to find a list of law firms providing animal law services. [Access on the Voiceless website.](#)



**Note:** Due to a change in strategic direction, Voiceless no longer offers volunteer, internship or PLT opportunities.



“I started volunteering because it's a way that my love for the law and animals can intersect. It's rewarding to be involved in an organisation that works tirelessly to bring about a better world for animals to live in.”

Billie Shone, former Voiceless legal volunteer.



# ANIMAL LAW CAREERS

A career in animal law can be incredibly rewarding, varied and challenging. Having the opportunity to use your legal skills to advocate on behalf of the interests of animals is both an honour and a privilege.

That being said, it is important to understand that many of the lawyers working in the animal law space in Australia volunteer their services, as there are very few paid roles at present. However, this shouldn't discourage you from pursuing a career in the field. There are many positive signs that animal law is on the rise in Australia, with great potential for significant growth.

There are more lawyers practising animal law across the country than ever before, with almost 20 law firms now expressly offering animal law services. Australia's first generalist animal law firm was created a few years ago, and last year the Animal Law Institute established an Australian-first Anti-Puppy Farm Legal Clinic in Victoria.

There has also been an increase in the number of animal law courses offered across Australia, with 17 universities currently offering introductory animal law electives, and two offering masters level options. Similarly, there has been a rise in the number of animal law researchers and postgraduate students, which recently led to the establishment of the Australasian Animal Law Teachers' and Researchers' Association.

In the future we can expect more job creation, more organisational diversity, and a mainstreaming of animal law as an established area of legal practice. Now is the time to

join this growing and exciting area of the law, which is a crucial aspect of the broader animal protection social justice movement.

Law graduates can work or volunteer across a wide variety of roles related to animal law and policy. Reflecting the area's interdisciplinary and complex nature, animal law related roles include a much broader range of positions than other more traditional areas of law. In fact, not all 'animal law' roles directly involve the practice of law.

#### Examples:

- Animal law academic (researcher/lecturer) at a university
- Member of a law society affiliated animal law committee
- Board member for an animal protection charity
- Policy advisor in parliament
- Policy role at an animal protection organisation
- In-house legal counsel at an animal protection organisation, possibly in a dual role (e.g. in-house legal counsel and manager)
- Lawyer at a specialist animal law firm
- Pro bono animal lawyer at a generalist law firm
- RSPCA prosecutor
- Solicitor at a community legal centre.



**On the following pages you will find profiles of law graduates and lawyers working across a range of different animal law related roles (both paid and voluntary).**



# ANIMAL LAW RELATED ROLES FOR LEGAL GRADUATES

The following roles do not require a current practising certificate or practical legal work experience.

The positions range across animal law education, legal research, charitable governance and law reform and policy work.

They are just some examples of the various ways to get involved in animal law as a legal graduate.

- Animal Law Academic – University
- Animal Law Committee Member – Law Society Committee
- Director – Animal Law/Protection Organisation
- Policy Advisor – Parliament
- Policy Officer – Animal Protection Organisation



# ANIMAL LAW ACADEMIC – UNIVERSITY

Many of Australia's animal lawyers work as academics at universities, teaching animal law courses and conducting animal law research.

## Hours

Some animal law academics are full-time members of academic staff (such as lecturers and professors), whilst others are adjunct/honorary or sessional staff. Accordingly, it's possible to work in animal law academia on either a full-time or casual/occasional basis.

## Paid or voluntary

Generally paid, but some adjunct staff provide voluntary services.

## What does it involve?

Academia provides a unique way to engage with animal law. As an animal law teacher or researcher, you may:

- Coordinate and teach animal law courses
- Attend and present at national and international animal law conferences
- Write academic publications on animal law
- Conduct animal law research and supervise animal law postgraduate research
- Contribute to animal law reform submissions to government
- Coordinate and coach animal law moot teams
- Speak to media on topical animal law issues.

## How do you become an animal law teacher or researcher?

### 1. Complete a law degree

It is not essential to complete an animal law unit as part of your degree, but it is recommended.

### 2. Complete a postgraduate law degree

This is not always required, but most animal law academics hold a Masters or PhD in law.

### 3. Get legal teaching/research experience

In order to be eligible for full-time academic positions, it is necessary to have experience in legal education and research. This may include working as a sessional tutor/lecturer, publishing articles and contributing to academic legal research projects. Most animal law academics also have areas of expertise outside of animal law, as law schools generally require legal academics to teach and research across a range of subject areas.

### 4. Run an animal law course and/or become an animal law researcher

Although many of Australia's law schools have fantastic animal law courses, there are still numerous law schools without animal law electives. To create an animal law course at a university, you will need to pitch the idea to the head of the faculty or school. Alternatively or additionally you could focus your academic research on animal law and publish in the area.

## PROFESSOR NICK JAMES

EXECUTIVE DEAN - FACULTY OF LAW,  
BOND UNIVERSITY.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

As an academic there are three main aspects to my role: teaching, research and service. Academics have a high level of autonomy in choosing how they spend their time and what they focus upon, and given my strong interest in animal law that is inevitably one of the things I choose to specialise in. I teach animal law, primarily by way of animal law lectures and modules in subjects such as Contemporary Issues in Law and Society, and Climate Law in Context.

I engage in animal law research and scholarship, publishing papers on animal law topics and writing chapters on animal law for text books. And several of my service roles focus upon animal law: as Director of the Centre for Professional Legal Education I led the partnership with Voiceless in developing Animal Law Education modules, and as the inaugural President of the Australasian Animal Law Teachers' and Researchers' Association I get to work on exciting animal law research, education and law reform initiatives with like-minded colleagues from across the region.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I have had a strong academic interest in legal education for many years, and I became vegetarian, and later vegan, after reading Peter Singer's Animal Liberation about 15 years ago. It was inevitable that these two passions would eventually align, and I became interested in the transformative potential of teaching animal law to law students.

I strongly believe animal law is transformative in at least three main ways: learning about animal law and animal ethics has the potential to transform students' own relationships with animals and their own lifestyles; animal law more generally has the potential to shape and transform how humans collectively relate to animals; and as an area of law that brings together so many disparate legal fields and socio-legal contexts, as well as ethics and politics, animal law as

a field of study has the potential to facilitate highly engaging and transformative learning experiences for law students. The opportunity to lead, inspire and influence future lawyers, and through them have an influence in the wider community, makes the role of law teacher extremely rewarding.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

My advice would be to track down like-minded students and scholars - whether within your own school or elsewhere - and share your ideas, insights and contacts. Once you have a clear picture of the full range of activities and initiatives going on all around you, you can start to work out how you would like to contribute.

There is so much happening within the animal law space at the moment: clubs and associations and networks, workshops and conferences, papers and reports and law reform movements. It really is easy to find an initiative that aligns with your particular interest. And then it is simply a matter of reaching out and expressing interest in getting involved. Most people and most groups are only too happy to work with enthusiastic and focused law students. There is a lot of work to do and we need all the help we can get!

# ANIMAL LAW COMMITTEE MEMBER – LAW SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Serving as a law society animal law committee member is a great way to stay up to date in animal law, meet like-minded lawyers, and contribute to law and policy consultations with government.

## Hours

Generally a few hours per month for ordinary members; more for executive level members.

## Paid or voluntary

Voluntary.

## What does it involve?

Animal law committee members:

- Contribute to committee-run animal law events, such as conferences and networking gatherings
- Attend regular (generally monthly) committee meetings
- Organise and attend presentations delivered by guest animal law speakers
- Provide public animal law education via the publication of articles, fact sheets and guides
- Conduct law and policy research and assist with drafting reform submissions.

## How do you become a committee member?

### 1. Become a law student or lawyer

Membership rules differ, but generally membership is open to law students and lawyers.

### 2. Join a committee

There are three law society affiliated animal law committees in Australia (NSW/Vic/SA), and you can access their contact details via the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide.

# PROFILE

## DANIEL CUNG

FORMER ANIMAL LAW COMMITTEE CHAIR AT  
NSW YOUNG LAWYERS.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

My role as Chair was to lead and oversee our three focuses: advocacy, education and community. The Animal Law Committee advocates for animals through detailed submissions to government on topics like strengthening animal cruelty laws, the rights of animal activists, and the impacts of animal agriculture on climate change.

We educate the community on animal law issues through hosting monthly guest speakers and developing fact sheets for the general public. We also build community through volunteering days at animal shelters, vegan fundraising dinners, documentary screenings and the like. Some highlights of my role were hosting the 2019 Animal Law Conference, 'Laws of Tomorrow' with a focus on animal law reform, co-writing a short journal article on legal personhood for animals, and liaising with researchers in India on improving protections for chickens in egg production.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I became interested in animal rights and animal protection after joining the Animal Welfare Society at Sydney University. After learning about the many gaps in legal protections for animals and the need for significant reforms, I wanted to find a way to bring together my study of law with my passion for animals.

I came across the Animal Law Committee and joined via the Young Lawyers website. After getting involved in a couple of submissions, I was inspired to run for a formal role and spent five years on the Committee Executive. My involvement with the Committee has been invaluable for growing my knowledge of animal law and has given me rewarding opportunities to connect with organisations like Voiceless, the Animal Defenders Office, the Animal Law Institute, and K&R Animal Law.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

Join the Animal Law Committee! It's a very welcoming and supportive environment for students and new lawyers – no prior experience is required, and the time commitment is up to you. Take an elective in animal law if offered at your institution, and become familiar with key themes like animal sentience and legal personhood for nonhuman animals (consult Voiceless's website for lists of useful resources on these topics).

I'd also encourage people to be proactive in contacting animal law organisations about volunteering and internship opportunities, even if there are no roles being formally advertised at the time. I was very fortunate to spend some time as a Legal Intern at Voiceless to hone my skills in legal research and writing submissions, and this directly led into my Executive role on the Animal Law Committee.

# DIRECTOR – ANIMAL LAW/PROTECTION ORGANISATION

Law graduates are uniquely placed to provide invaluable guidance to the board of an animal protection charity, and the experience can be highly rewarding.

## Hours

The time commitment involved in being a director on the board of a charity differs between organisations. However, generally it involves a few board meetings a year, and some email/phone call communications throughout the year.

## Paid or voluntary

Voluntary (in most cases).

## What does it involve?

Directors on the boards of animal law/protection organisations are expected to undertake a range of responsibilities, including:

- Attending board meetings
- Making decisions about the organisation's strategy and activities
- Monitoring the organisation's finances, performance and compliance with the law.

## How do you become a director?

### 1. Get useful experience to contribute to the board

Directors often bring a diverse mix of experience to the board, so try to think about what unique skills and experience you can develop to increase the benefit of your contribution. Think beyond just legal skills – a broad range of expertise may be relevant, including experience in finance, economics, management, business, corporate governance and policy.

### 2. Familiarise yourself with the role

Educate yourself about the role of a director on a charitable board to ensure that you are prepared to devote appropriate time and energy to the position.

### 3. Make it known that you are interested in becoming involved

If you are willing and able to make the commitment required for a board position, let relevant charities know that you are interested. Generally these positions are offered to people who are known to the organisation, which again demonstrates the benefit of networking and volunteering in the field.



## PROFILE

# ANASTASIA SMJETANKA

**BARRISTER AND CO-FOUNDER/DIRECTOR AT  
THE ANIMAL LAW INSTITUTE.**



### **What does your current role in the animal law space involve?**

I am the co-founder and director of a community legal centre - the Animal Law Institute (ALI). ALI operates primarily in Victoria but also in NSW and QLD. This is a volunteer position, as I work full-time as a barrister at the Victorian Bar.

### **How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?**

I first became involved in animal law at University. Millions of animals are mistreated in Australia every day because of cruel and inadequate laws that legalise cruelty. I believe that the legal system is one avenue through which we can challenge the treatment of animals. At ALI, our mission is to devise and bring strategic litigation to challenge industry, expose cruelty and hold industry accountable. We also empower animal advocates by providing pro bono advice and representation.

### **What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?**

Become valuable. Offer a unique skill. Be reliable and dedicated. There are many law students willing to dedicate their time, but what is most valuable in the legal sphere is often experience and specific legal skills and knowledge. You should spend time upskilling and learning. You may not be doing glamorous work as a student, but if you are keen to learn and develop a specific expertise you will be very valuable in future. When you contact organisations to volunteer, explain why you are passionate about protecting animals so you stand out.



# POLICY ADVISOR - PARLIAMENT

Animal lawyers are particularly suited to law and policy reform work, such as providing policy advice to parliamentarians with an interest in animal protection.

## Hours

Generally full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

Paid.

## What does it involve?

Policy advisors:

- Provide advice regarding proposed legislation
- Develop proposed changes to the law
- Conduct law and policy research
- Draft speeches, motions and questions for parliament
- Attend meetings with ministers
- Prepare for parliamentary inquiries.

## How do you become a policy advisor?

### 1. Get a relevant degree

You don't have to be a lawyer to be a policy advisor, but it's certainly a useful skillset and many advisors do have a legal background. However, a range of degree areas may be relevant – especially those relating to public policy, communications and politics.

### 2. Gain law/policy expertise and work experience

It is helpful to have some law and/or policy work experience or training before embarking on a career as a policy advisor. Although it would be ideal to have some previous experience in the animal protection field, policy experience in any area will benefit you. Especially as anyone you work for will have a range of policy areas to address as part of their role, which means you will need to be comfortable with working across a variety of issues.

### 3. Make yourself known

Reputation means a lot in this space, so make yourself known by creating an online profile, attending relevant political and animal protection events, and volunteering strategically.

### 4. Research the political context

Understanding the political context you will be entering is crucial, so ensure that you properly research the landscape and your potential options. Try to meet people working in the area to get a feel for whether this sort of role would be the right fit for you.

# PROFILE

## TESS VICKERY

POLICY ADVISOR TO THE HON. EMMA HURST  
MLC, ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

I am an advisor to a Member of Parliament (NSW) for the Animal Justice Party. This is an exciting job where I get to be on the frontline of the legislation being debated and passed in Parliament. Animal protection laws are generally very outdated and in need of reform, so it is a great position to be in to advocate for change. A typical day for me can involve conducting legal research, drafting speeches, motions and questions for Parliament, attending meetings with Ministers and preparing for inquiries on key issues.

Most importantly, I get to use my legal training to help develop and advocate for changes to the law that will improve the lives of animals. One of my proudest achievements is working with Emma to ban the captive breeding of dolphins for entertainment in NSW – something that animal advocates have been fighting to achieve for decades.

I also worked with Emma to introduce mandatory, lifetime animal bans for people convicted of serious animal cruelty offences. It is a fast paced and high-pressure job, but one where I feel I am making a real difference. It is amazing to see the ideas you have developed turn into law.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I discovered animal law during my final year of university. I had always been an animal lover, but I never understood how much institutionalised cruelty is inflicted on animals - particularly in factory farms - and how poorly our legal system is set up to protect animals. I always imagined I'd have a career protecting the rights of humans, but this subject made me realise that animals really need legal advocates, too.

After graduating, I worked as a litigation lawyer for about 5 years. It gave me a great base of training and experience, which I used to help animals outside of my day-to-day work. For example, I volunteered with the Animal Law Institute to

run cases against unscrupulous puppy farmers who sold sick dogs to consumers in breach of the Australian Consumer Law. I eventually decided I wanted to do more for animals. So, after practising for 5 years, I decided to take a leap and move to the United States to get my Masters of Animal Law. It was an amazing experience, and one that ultimately led to me getting my current role as policy advisor.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

I would encourage anyone interested in animal law to just jump in and get involved. Reach out to animal law and advocacy organisations, ask them if you can volunteer or support their campaigns. As a law student, I found the idea of reaching out quite intimidating, but it really is the best way to gain experience and connections – and you'll generally find organisations are thrilled to hear from you! It's important to remember that you don't need to be working as a full time 'animal lawyer' to make an impact. There are so many other ways to be involved.

For example, while I was working as a lawyer, I worked with my firm to set up an 'animal law program' which allowed lawyers to volunteer their pro bono time on animal cases. You don't even need to be working directly as a lawyer to make a difference - you could use your legal skills to work in a policy role, or as a campaigner in an animal advocacy organisation, or in teaching and academia. Having a strong understanding of the law and legal system is always an asset.

# POLICY OFFICER - ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANISATION

Another excellent way to get involved in law and policy reform as an animal lawyer is to work in a policy role with an animal protection organisation.

## Hours

Generally full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

Generally paid.

## What does it involve?

Policy officers:

- Design animal law and policy reform campaign strategy
- Work with stakeholders to develop policy
- Write submissions to government
- Meet with politicians and government officials
- Speak on animal law and policy issues at public events and parliamentary inquiries
- Engage in media advocacy.

## How do you become a policy officer?

### 1. Get a relevant degree

You don't have to be a lawyer to be a policy officer, but it's certainly a useful skillset to have and many people working in policy do have a legal background. Having a handle on communications is also beneficial, given that policy officers often draft copy for campaigns and have to communicate with a wide range of stakeholders.

### 2. Gain law and policy expertise and work experience

Understanding the political context you will be entering is crucial, and the best way to do this is by gaining some law and policy work experience or training.

### 3. Make yourself known

Reputation means a lot in this space, so make yourself known by creating an online profile, attending relevant political and animal protection events, and volunteering strategically.

## PROFILE

# DR JED GOODFELLOW

DIRECTOR, POLICY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS,  
AUSTRALIAN ALLIANCE FOR ANIMALS.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

I'm responsible for leading the Alliance's law and policy reform agenda and government relations work. This involves developing reform policy with the Alliance member organisations, designing reform campaign strategy, writing submissions to government, appearing before parliamentary inquiries, meeting with politicians and government officials, and general public and media advocacy. I was previously the Senior Policy Officer at RSPCA Australia, responsible for providing advice on legislative and regulatory issues affecting animal welfare, advocacy on key campaigns like banning battery cages and live animal exports, and government and political liaison.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I first became interested in animal protection as a teenager. I've always had a strong sense of justice, so naturally, as I learnt more about the vast array of ways humans exploit other animals, I became pretty affected by it and decided early on that I would dedicate my career to representing their interests. At first, I wanted to work as an RSPCA inspector enforcing animal welfare law. I did this for several years in Queensland while at law school and the experience gave me a very real perspective of the many deficiencies in our animal welfare legislative regime. I studied Animal Law in my undergrad degree and soon after graduating I secured a job as the Legal Officer for RSPCA SA managing prosecutions under the Animal Welfare Act.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

Continue educating yourself on the issues, familiarise yourself with the literature, and start getting involved in the animal law field, today. There are plenty of opportunities to participate, whether as part of an organisation or even individually. Join an animal law organisation and volunteer your time to their activities. Follow and sign up to the key animal protection organisations to receive updates on law reform opportunities and write submissions. The more you immerse yourself in the field the better placed you will be to apply for positions as they become available.



# ANIMAL LAW RELATED ROLES FOR PRACTISING LAWYERS

The following roles require a current practising certificate and practical legal work experience.

The positions range across in-house practice, private practice, community legal centre work and animal law enforcement.

They are just some examples of the various ways to get involved in animal law as a legal practitioner.

- In-House Legal Counsel – Animal Protection Organisation
- Lawyer – Animal Law Firm
- Pro Bono Lawyer – Law Firm
- RSPCA Prosecutor – Animal Protection Organisation
- Solicitor – Community Legal Centre



# IN-HOUSE LEGAL COUNSEL – ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANISATION

A number of Australia's major animal protection organisations employ an in-house legal counsel to help navigate their legal obligations.

## Hours

Generally full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

Paid.

## What does it involve?

In-house lawyers at animal protection organisations:

- Identify legal issues and provide legal advice
- Ensure compliance with legal obligations
- Review and draft legal documents
- Supervise legal interns/volunteers and liaise with pro bono lawyers.

## How do you become an in-house legal counsel?

### 1. Become a lawyer

You will need to be an admitted lawyer, ideally having completed your required period of supervised legal practice (given that most in-house positions are solitary).

### 2. Get legal work experience and training

You will be most useful to an organisation if you already have a degree of practical legal experience, ideally in areas of relevance to in-house practice (e.g. IP/privacy/contracts). In-house roles at small to medium sized charities aren't generally appropriate positions for recent graduates, as charities usually aren't able to provide sufficient legal training and supervision.

### 3. Learn about animal law

Although you can undertake an in-house legal counsel position without a solid understanding of the broader animal law context, it is advisable to gain some understanding of animal law prior to applying for in-house roles. Volunteering is an excellent way of doing this. For more information, see above page 8 'How to get involved in animal law'.

### 4. Apply for in-house positions

These positions are very rarely available, so apply as soon as they are advertised. Often animal protection organisations include as part of their selection criteria a 'demonstrated interest in animal protection'. Accordingly, having a history of volunteer work in the area will stand you in good stead.

## PROFILE

# SHATHA HAMADE

LEGAL COUNSEL, ANIMALS AUSTRALIA.



### **What does your current role in the animal law space involve?**

My role is a blend of: general legal work (contracts, IP law, drafting, property law, estates, consumer protection, admin law, etc); advocacy (submissions, participation in Parliamentary inquiries, etc); investigations (leading to formal legal complaints filed with relevant authorities); and litigation (for example, administrative law challenges).

### **How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?**

I chose to get a law degree to become an advocate for animals. The way in which the law discriminates between protecting some animals and not others is a justice issue that affects me at a very deep level. It not only adversely affects the welfare of millions of animals each year, but it occurs in a largely misleading and hidden manner so that the community remains in the dark.

So-called 'animal protection laws' for a majority of animals are largely just 'codified cruelty'. These laws and codes were set by industry to provide them with a shield to continue practices such as factory farming, live export and other practices that are at odds with what a compassionate and evolved community would accept. It's time to lift the veil and take the power back. For animals, and for our humanity.

### **What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?**

Dream big. Assume there is no template and just follow your inspiration. Then you will find yourself open to aligning with unexpected opportunities and individuals that you never thought possible.



## DR MEG GOOD

HEAD OF PROGRAMS AND LEGAL COUNSEL AT  
THE AUSTRALIAN ALLIANCE FOR ANIMALS.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

There are two main aspects to my role at the Australian Alliance for Animals. As Legal Counsel, I'm responsible for identifying and addressing any legal issues that arise in the course of our work. This involves ensuring compliance with our legal obligations as a charity, drafting legal documents, providing advice to the team and reviewing public-facing materials. As the Head of Programs, I wear another 'hat' which requires a different skill-set and perspective from my in-house role. Through this position, I work with the team on strategy for our law reform campaigns and handle our communications with stakeholders, supporters and the public.

I was formerly the Senior Program Manager and Legal Counsel at Voiceless, where I coordinated the Voiceless Animal Law Education and Animal Protection Education programs. I continue to engage with animal law education through my position as Secretary of the Australasian Animal Law Teachers' and Researchers' Association, and in my capacity as an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Tasmania. In the past, my Adjunct role has involved coordinating the UTAS Animal Law unit, supervising animal law honours theses and publishing academic articles in the field.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

Although I had a passion for animal protection from early childhood onwards, I originally studied law with the intention of becoming an environmental lawyer. As animal law wasn't offered as an elective during my studies, I didn't even realise that animal law existed until my final year when I attended a public lecture by an RSPCA prosecutor. I was immediately attracted to it, and although I then commenced a PhD in environmental law, I continued to think about animal law. A year or so into my PhD, I heard that applications were open for the Voiceless Grants Program. I applied successfully for a grant of \$10,000 to run Tasmania's first animal law conference to enable Tasmanian law students and lawyers to learn about this important area of the law.

The conference was a crucial turning point for me. I was introduced to the wonderful animal law community we have here in Australia, and I was further educated on a number of truly concerning issues, including how the law operates in many contexts to actively facilitate harm to animals. From there, I became more and more involved in the field on a purely voluntary basis. I was invited to take on roles with the Barristers Animal Welfare Panel and the Animal Law Institute, and I was a regular speaker in the Voiceless Animal Law Lecture Series. It was all of this voluntary work which eventually led to my first full-time job in the area at Voiceless.

I decided to focus my career on animal law so that I could be a part of the social justice movement to reform our legal systems to better represent and protect the interests of animals. Law helps shape our views on what is ethically right and wrong, and in the context of animal protection law has traditionally operated to justify a wide range of conduct that causes pain and suffering to animals. The status quo is unacceptable, and I strongly believe that through animal law education and animal law reform advocacy we can shift the way animals are valued under the law, and significantly improve the lives of millions of sentient animals across Australia.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

I stand by all of the advice provided in this guide, but I would emphasise the importance of three qualities – humility, reliability and innovative spirit. Humility in the sense of recognising that you have so much to learn from the many people who have been pouring their heart and soul into this area for many years. Reliability in the sense of becoming a reliable and genuinely hard working member of the animal protection movement, approaching volunteer work with the same level of respect you would give to a paid position. And innovative spirit – the ability to go beyond the opportunities presented to you, to find unique and useful new ways to contribute that help push the area forward and distinguish you as a real asset.

# LAWYER – ANIMAL LAW FIRM

Although there are currently only a handful of law firms specialising exclusively or predominantly in animal law, it is a growing area of legal practice.

## Hours

Varies, can be part-time or full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

Paid or pro bono.

## What does it involve?

Animal lawyers working in specialist firms:

- Provide legal advice regarding animal law related matters, including advising animal advocates charged with criminal offences and advising animal charities re their legal obligations and options.
- Draft submissions for animal charities regarding animal law reform proposals.

## How do you become an animal lawyer at a law firm?

### 1. Become a lawyer

Become a fully admitted lawyer.

### 2. Specialise in animal law

Educate yourself about animal law, study the area, attend animal law events, join an animal law group, and keep up to date with the latest developments. Try to get as much practical legal experience in the field as possible.

### 3. Create an animal law practice area at your firm or create/join a specialist firm

Most law firms do not list animal law as a discrete area of practice. You could join a generalist law firm and create your own practice area in animal law, or you could join or create a specialist animal law firm. You can find more information about possible law firms to approach in the [Voiceless Animal Law Services in Australia Guide on the Voiceless website](#).

## MIKE ROSALKY

PARTNER, K & R ANIMAL LAW.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

Along with my colleague Naaman Kranz, I co-founded K & R Animal Law, which is a private law firm dedicated to helping animals and their human defenders. Primarily, this means providing legal advice, and general information about animal protection matters, to clients and members of the public who want to create a better world for animals. For example, some of the matters we've taken on include:

- Corporate and commercial law – Advising animal charities about corporate structures, commercial arrangements, and governance arrangements.
- Administrative law – Acting for animal-loving clients who have had adverse decisions made against them by government agencies in relation to actions aimed at protecting animals.
- Criminal law – Advising clients about criminal charges laid against them where their conduct was aimed at benefiting animals.
- Consumer law – Advising clients whose animals have been harmed in the course of a third party providing animal related goods or services.
- Legislation – Drafting submissions for animal charities about proposed government legislation affecting animals.
- Property law – Acting for clients who dispute the ownership of an animal, as animals are currently classified as property under the law.
- Defamation law – Acting for animal loving clients who have been defamed.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

Before I started university, I learnt that it was legal in Australia for sentient animals to be subjected to extreme violence and conditions that amount to torture in the course of producing animal products, and in other arenas such as animal experimentation and 'entertainment' involving animals.

For example, see the documentary *Dominion* [Editor's note – this documentary contains graphic footage]. I strongly disagreed with that so I decided to study law because I wanted to be a part of changing the law so that it protects all sentient animals from suffering.

After I graduated, I began volunteering with the Animal Defenders Office (ADO) in 2014. Naaman and I then met as volunteer lawyers with the ADO. In 2018, Naaman wanted to start a law firm and asked me if I wanted to join him in establishing an animal law firm. We established K & R Animal Law in 2019.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

I recommend reading animal law textbooks (e.g. [Animal Law in Australia](#)) and material like the [Voiceless Animal Law Toolkit](#). These resources give a good overview of, and valuable context about, animal law. The Animal Defenders Office website ([www.ado.org.au](http://www.ado.org.au)) and the Animal Law Institute website ([www.ali.org.au](http://www.ali.org.au)) also have great information about animal law. People may also benefit from speaking with a lawyer who volunteers or works as an animal lawyer to gain a better understanding of what is involved in practising as an animal lawyer. K & R Animal Law also interviews people involved in animal protection in a podcast aimed at educating listeners about animal law (see [Animal Law Matters | Podcast](#)). I think it is also worth following animal protection organisations, such as [Animals Australia](#), to understand the various issues affecting animals and what people can do to help animals. And of course, the Voiceless website is a fantastic animal law resource too (see [www.voiceless.org.au](http://www.voiceless.org.au)). Once people/students have a good understanding of what animal law entails, they could consider approaching an animal law or protection organisation to see if there are any work or volunteer opportunities.

# PRO BONO LAWYER – LAW FIRM

An increasing number of lawyers and law firms in Australia provide pro bono legal services to individuals and organisations working in animal protection.

## Hours

Generally part-time/ad-hoc.

## Paid or voluntary

Pro bono.

## What does it involve?

Pro bono animal lawyers:

- Provide legal advice to individuals and organisations working in animal protection
- Review and draft legal documents
- Conduct legal research.

## How do you become a pro bono animal lawyer?

1. Become a lawyer
2. Join a law firm
3. Ask to provide pro bono animal law assistance

As this is a growing area of the law, you may need to educate your firm about the importance of animal law. This will help to contextualise your request to take on pro bono matters in this space. They may find it useful to know that a number of major Australian law firms are now offering pro bono animal law assistance.

# PROFILE

## CHAD BOCHAN

PARTNER, CLIFFORD CHANCE SYDNEY.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

Providing pro bono legal assistance to select animal protection organisations. In the past, we provided assistance to Voiceless.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

We reached out to Voiceless directly to offer pro bono legal assistance: acting responsibly in the community in which we operate (such as by engaging in pro bono work) is a core value of our Firm, and this is an area of law that I find particularly rewarding.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

Jump in!



# RSPCA PROSECUTOR – ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANISATION

Working as an RSPCA prosecutor gives you the opportunity to be on the frontline of animal welfare enforcement.

## Hours

Generally full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

Paid.

## What does it involve?

RSPCA prosecutors:

- Decide whether to proceed with a prosecution
- Draft prosecution briefs, policies and procedures
- Liaise with witnesses to prepare statements and reports
- Work collaboratively with RSPCA inspectors and identify training opportunities
- Conduct prosecutions in court
- Analyse relevant evidence and present it in court.

## How do you become an RSPCA prosecutor?

### 1. Become an admitted lawyer

Complete your law degree, practical legal training and ideally your period of required supervision before applying to become a prosecutor.

### 2. Get experience in criminal law

Try to get as much experience in criminal law as possible, as you will generally have minimal legal support once you are in the position so you will need to be confident in how to conduct prosecutions by yourself.

## DR MALCOLM CAULFIELD

PROSECUTIONS OFFICER,  
RSPCA TASMANIA.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

RSPCA Tasmania enforces the Animal Welfare Act in Tasmania in relation to companion animals, and also 'livestock' such as sheep, goats or cattle, where small numbers are involved. Farm animals are dealt with by the Primary Industry Department in Tasmania. My role is to work closely with the RSPCA inspectors to decide whether to start a prosecution for animal cruelty, and when a prosecution is started, to carry that all the way through the court system.

This involves critical analysis of relevant evidence and presenting that evidence in court. The key evidence usually comes from vets, so it is necessary to understand the basics of relevant veterinary science and be able to interact constructively with the vets who provide the evidence. Stating the obvious, it also requires detailed knowledge of the Tasmanian Animal Welfare Act, plus all the bits and pieces involved in conducting cases in the Magistrates Court.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I have been involved in animal welfare matters since about 2000. 'Things I have done' would be a very long and boring list. But I got into this role because one of my former co-members of the Tasmanian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, who is the head of the RSPCA Inspectorate, asked me to do it. The work is very interesting, although it should be said it is disappointing it does not involve farm animals, which is where the majority of cruelty is. What is most interesting for me is the forensic and analytical side, working out who did what and when, in order to present a convincing argument.

The huge majority of cases involve neglect, rather than deliberate cruelty. My aim is to achieve successful prosecutions in order to get the message over that owning an animal is not a trivial matter, and if you let the animal down you will be punished. I am helped in this by the high level of media interest in animal cruelty cases. So far all the

prosecutions have been successful, but that is because the inspectors try to resolve issues by education first, followed by infringement notices, followed in the last resort by prosecution. And I will only prosecute if there is a reasonable chance of success.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

The best place to start is a volunteer organisation, such as the Animal Law Institute. These are people who know what they are doing, and handle real cases. They are great folks who are very welcoming, and you will learn a lot by being involved with them. Plus they are just a nice bunch of people. Of course the best thing to do if you are a student is to do an animal law course.

The Voiceless website will help you find out which institutions are running courses. You don't have to get involved in cases - there are all sorts of ways to make contributions, including making submissions to governments about animal welfare issues when they arise, joining animal welfare organisations, or agitating by writing letters or posts on social media or mainstream media.

You will find that animal welfare people are very, very approachable, so if you want to find out about anything, just look people up and get in touch. And you can contact me at [mcaulfield@rspcatas.org.au](mailto:mcaulfield@rspcatas.org.au).

# SOLICITOR - COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE

A number of Australia's animal lawyers work in animal law community legal centres (CLCs) as solicitors and/or law and policy researchers.

## Hours

The time commitment varies depending on the nature of the role. Some lawyers volunteer pro bono on an ad hoc or occasional basis, whilst some volunteer or are employed full-time.

## Paid or voluntary

A mix of paid and voluntary roles.

## What does it involve?

Solicitors at animal law CLCs:

- Provide legal advice on animal law matters
- Deliver community legal education about animal law issues
- Research and publish on animal law
- Advocate for animal law reform.

## How do you become an animal law CLC lawyer?

### 1. Become a lawyer

To work as a solicitor at a CLC, you will need to first become an admitted lawyer with a practising certificate. It is generally not necessary to have previous animal law experience, as most 'animal law' matters involve a wide range of general areas of law.

### 2. Get practical legal experience

Having some degree of practical legal experience would also be beneficial, especially as CLCs often don't have the capacity to provide close supervision and training for junior lawyers.

### 3. Contact a CLC to volunteer your services

You can find a list of relevant CLCs at the end of this guide under 'Contacts'. Although some paid roles have been offered in the area, the vast majority of roles are voluntary.



# PROFILE

## TARA WARD

MANAGING SOLICITOR,  
ANIMAL DEFENDERS OFFICE.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

I am the Managing Solicitor for the Animal Defenders Office (ADO). The ADO is run entirely by volunteers, and I am the only full-time volunteer. The ADO is a nationally accredited community legal centre. All our legal services are free, so that anyone wanting to protect animals has access to justice. We provide free legal advice on anything to do with animals and the law. This means we cover a wide range of legal topics, from the Constitution down.

We also represent people or organisations in courts and tribunals, where we have helped disadvantaged clients save dogs on death row, fight against unscrupulous breeders, take action against factory farms and slaughterhouses, stop the killing of animals used in research, and challenge government decisions to kill native wildlife.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

After completing my arts degree in Australia in the mid-1990s I heard about a subject taught in England called 'Animal Law' and decided that that was what I wanted to study. I went on to complete a graduate law degree in Australia, but it was another 10 years before animal law reached this country. Animal law was first offered as a postgraduate course in Australia, so I did that and absolutely loved it!

Since then I've gone on to teach animal law, and co-found the first community legal centre specialising in animal law on the mainland of Australia, with help from a generous Voiceless grant! In 2016 I gave up my day job to volunteer full-time to practise animal law, and I've never looked back. I love animal law because it is a unique way of using our skills as lawyers to help not only the most vulnerable beings on the planet, but also their human defenders.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

My advice to law students who want to get involved in animal law is to be a good generalist lawyer first. Don't worry if what you do when you get out of law school isn't directly related to animal law. You are positioning yourself to be a great animal lawyer if you are learning to be a good lawyer in general. The animal law movement needs people who are good at contract law, property law, litigation, consumer law, criminal law, and all the other conventional areas of law!

At the other end of the spectrum, don't be afraid to be an animal activist too. That way you get to know the issues, and the people who are making things happen in the animal protection world. As community lawyers, we are there to serve our community, and for animal lawyers, our community consists of those who defend animals.

## PROFILE

# ERIN GERMANTIS

LAWYER, ANTI-PUPPY FARM LEGAL CLINIC  
AT THE ANIMAL LAW INSTITUTE.



### What does your current role in the animal law space involve?

I manage an Anti-Puppy Farm Legal Clinic at The Animal Law Institute. We provide legal advice to people who have purchased a domestic pet from a breeder, and later learned their pet was suffering from an underlying health condition not disclosed prior to sale. This involves applying the Australian Consumer Law to the sale of domestic pets.

### How did you get into the area, and why did you choose to get involved?

I began volunteering with The Animal Law Institute in 2015 in both a legal and non-legal capacity. I chose to get involved originally because animals deserve legal representation, and The Animal Law Institute offered a way for me to pursue my interest in this area of practice.

### What advice do you have for people (and students particularly) who are keen to get more involved in animal law?

Volunteer, advocate, educate. Where possible, try to get involved in animal law activities in practice, as a side role to your studies or full-time job. Think about all of the legal and non-legal skills you are developing, as law students or graduates. I also encourage you to develop advocacy skills and learn how to effectively communicate your views to others, and where appropriate, help educate other people about topical animal related issues. Best of luck!





# INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Animal law is on the rise across the world, with a variety of exciting opportunities available for Australian law students and lawyers to explore comparative and international animal law.**

The US is the most developed jurisdiction in terms of animal law practice and education, home to the world's first and only advanced legal degree in animal law. In the below interview, Dr Rajesh K. Reddy of the Center for Animal Law Studies (CALs) in the US, outlines the animal law study options available at CALs.

Although beyond the scope of this guide, there are a range of other fantastic options for animal law study in the US (such as the Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School) and around the world. See the 'Contacts' pages at the end of this guide for a list of selected overseas and international animal law organisations.



Where can studying animal law overseas take you? Read about the career of Australia's first CALs graduate Tess Vickery on page 27.

Visit the CALs website [here](#).

## INTERVIEW WITH

# DR RAJESH K. REDDY

## GLOBAL ANIMAL LAW AND ANIMAL LAW ADVANCED DEGREE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR ANIMAL LAW STUDIES.



### What is CALS and what is your role?

The [Center for Animal Law Studies](#) (CALS) at Lewis & Clark Law School was founded in 2008 with the core mission of educating the next generation of animal law attorneys. Animal law was a fledgling area of study at the time. If schools did offer it as part of their curriculum, it was usually a survey course that might've been taught every other year, if that.

Against this backdrop, the emergence of CALS was groundbreaking in that it represented the world's first animal law program. Suddenly, animal advocates had a degree tailored to their life's calling, an institution that could equip them for success, a community where they might belong.

That's what drew me to the Center for Animal Law Studies in 2014. Now, as a graduate of Lewis & Clark, I direct CALS' [Animal Law Advanced Degree](#) and [Global Animal Law](#) Programs.

With respect to the former, I oversee our Animal Law LLM Degree Program, the world's first and still only advanced legal degree in animal law, which is designed for U.S. and international law graduates hoping to specialise in this burgeoning field. While we have offered the LLM in-person since 2012, we have just broken ground on our online Animal Law LLM in order to meet the needs of advocates in the U.S. and beyond.

As to the latter, CALS strives to support the development of animal law around the world by championing the efforts of our international alumni, furnishing them with grant funding and other support to encourage their advocacy efforts at home and beyond. On top of these duties, I teach a pair of our advanced animal law courses.

### What animal law study options does the Center offer?

There are too many to list. Beyond our core animal law survey course, we offer: advanced animal law; animal legal philosophy; animal rights jurisprudence; animal law trial advocacy; animal law legislation and lobbying; industrial animal agriculture law; aquatic animal law; companion animal law; crimes against animals; food law; international animal law; the law and ethics of animal testing; non-profit animal law; wildlife law, and more.

On top of these more traditional offerings, CALS also features three distinct animal law clinics: a general animal law clinic; an animal law litigation clinic that focuses on agricultural issues; and an international wildlife clinic.

In addition to our [robust curriculum](#), Lewis & Clark is also host to the [Animal Law Review](#), an entirely student-run journal dedicated exclusively to advancing the field, as well as to the first and largest [Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapter](#).

## Can Australian law students study at CALS? What are the benefits of doing so?

Absolutely! Our program has welcomed students from numerous countries, including Australia, with our first Australian LLM, [Tess Vickery](#), having graduated in 2019. Armed with her Animal Law LLM, Tess is now working as a Legal and Policy Advisor to one of the Animal Justice Party MPs in the NSW Parliament. Tess is also a recipient of one of our Global Ambassador Program grants, which she and another graduate are directing towards the development of animal law education.

Notably, Tess's path to Lewis & Clark was made possible in part due to the scholarship support CALS is able to offer. With our ability to offer full and partial scholarship support to well-qualified candidates and the development of our asynchronous online track, we expect our global reach to grow significantly in the coming years. All those who apply by our deadlines are automatically considered for the scholarships we have.

Like with Tess, our international students take what they learn to effect positive change back home. While many of our courses focus on US animal law issues, our professors engage in comparative analyses and students are encouraged to address how similar animal issues are regulated in their home country. In this way, each course offers an unparalleled opportunity to share successes, observe hurdles and strategies, as well as collaborate across jurisdictional boundaries.

A great many of our graduates have gone on to use their degrees and the knowledge they've gained to champion the interests of animals. Some are becoming the first to teach animal law in their university if not country, others have launched animal protection non-profits, and more still are working to prosecute animal crimes and have taken leadership roles in animal welfare and rights organisations.

To see what some of our graduates are doing, please visit our [Alumni in Action page](#).



## Join the next generation of legal changemakers for animals

A career in animal law can be incredibly rewarding, varied and challenging. Having the opportunity to use your legal skills to advocate on behalf of the interests of animals is both an honour and a privilege.

To help you get started, the following pages list useful animal protection and animal law contacts as well as a range of Voiceless animal law education resources.

*“Progress is made by pushing forward the boundaries of legal protection ...  
And now a new frontier beckons – animal welfare, protection and rights.”*

- Voiceless Patron and Former Justice of the High Court, The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG.



PHOTO: SAMMANTHA FISHER  
[www.sammanthafisher.com](http://www.sammanthafisher.com)

# CONTACTS

## Animal protection organisations

### Animals Australia

[www.animalsaustralia.org](http://www.animalsaustralia.org)

### Animal Liberation

NSW [www.al.org.au](http://www.al.org.au)

Qld [www.alq.org.au](http://www.alq.org.au)

SA [www.animalliberation.org.au](http://www.animalliberation.org.au)

Tas [www.facebook.com/animalliberationtasmania](https://www.facebook.com/animalliberationtasmania)

Vic [www.alv.org.au](http://www.alv.org.au)

### Animal Welfare League

Australia [www.awl.org.au](http://www.awl.org.au)

NSW [www.awlnsw.com.au](http://www.awlnsw.com.au)

Qld [www.awlqld.com.au](http://www.awlqld.com.au)

### Australian Alliance for Animals

[www.allianceforanimals.org.au](http://www.allianceforanimals.org.au)

### FOUR PAWS (Australia)

[www.four-paws.org.au](http://www.four-paws.org.au)

### Humane Society International (Australia)

[www.hsi.org.au](http://www.hsi.org.au)

### International Fund for Animal Welfare (Australia)

[www.ifaw.org/au](http://www.ifaw.org/au)

### People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

(PETA) Australia

[www.peta.org.au](http://www.peta.org.au)

### RSPCA

Australia [www.rspca.org.au](http://www.rspca.org.au)

ACT [www.rspca-act.org.au](http://www.rspca-act.org.au)

Darwin [www.rspcadarwin.org.au](http://www.rspcadarwin.org.au)

NSW [www.rspcansw.org.au](http://www.rspcansw.org.au)

Qld [www.rspcaqld.org.au](http://www.rspcaqld.org.au)

SA [www.rspcasa.org.au](http://www.rspcasa.org.au)

Tas [www.rspcatas.org.au](http://www.rspcatas.org.au)

Vic [www.rspcavic.org](http://www.rspcavic.org)

WA [www.rspcawa.org.au](http://www.rspcawa.org.au)

### Voiceless, the animal protection institute

[www.voiceless.org.au](http://www.voiceless.org.au)

### World Animal Protection (Australia)

[www.worldanimalprotection.org.au](http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.au)

## Animal law organisations, law firms and legal centres

### Animal Defenders Office

[www.ado.org.au](http://www.ado.org.au)

### Animal Law Institute

[www.ali.org.au](http://www.ali.org.au)

### Anti-Puppy Farm Legal Clinic (Victoria)

<https://www.ali.org.au/advice>

### Barristers Animal Welfare Panel

[www.bawp.org.au](http://www.bawp.org.au)

### K & R Animal Law

[www.kandranimallaw.com.au](http://www.kandranimallaw.com.au)

### Lawyers for Animals

[www.lawyersforanimals.org.au](http://www.lawyersforanimals.org.au)

### Lawyers for Companion Animals

[www.lawyersforcompanionanimals.com.au](http://www.lawyersforcompanionanimals.com.au)

You can access a broader list of organisations and law firms offering animal law services via the Voiceless website [here](#).

## Animal law student competitions

### ANIMAL Moot

National animal law moot competition, offered annually.

[www.ali.org.au/animal](http://www.ali.org.au/animal)

### NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Essay Competition

National animal law essay competition, offered occasionally.

[www.lawsociety.com.au/legal-communities/NSW-young-lawyers/committees/animal-law](http://www.lawsociety.com.au/legal-communities/NSW-young-lawyers/committees/animal-law)

## Law Society committees

### Animal Law Committee of the Law Society of South Australia

[www.lawsocietyysa.asn.au](http://www.lawsocietyysa.asn.au)

### Law Institute of Victoria Animal Welfare Committee

<https://www.liv.asn.au/web>

### NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee

[www.lawsociety.com.au/legal-communities/NSW-young-lawyers/committees/animal-law](http://www.lawsociety.com.au/legal-communities/NSW-young-lawyers/committees/animal-law)

# CONTACTS

## Social media groups

**Australian Animal and Environmental Law Student Network**

[Facebook](#)

**Animal Law Talk Australia**

[Facebook](#)

## International & overseas animal law organisations

A selection of international and overseas animal law organisations.

**Advocates for Animals (UK)**

[www.advocates-for-animals.com](http://www.advocates-for-animals.com)

**A-Law UK Centre for Animal Law (UK)**

[www.alaw.org.uk](http://www.alaw.org.uk)

**Animal Law Coalition (US)**

[www.animallawcoalition.com](http://www.animallawcoalition.com)

**Animal Law Europe (EU)**

[www.animallaweurope.com](http://www.animallaweurope.com)

**Animal Law Reform South Africa (South Africa)**

[www.animallawreform.org](http://www.animallawreform.org)

**Animal Legal Defense Fund (US)**

[www.aldf.org](http://www.aldf.org)

**Center for Animal Law Studies (US)**

[www.law.lclark.edu/centers/animal\\_law\\_studies](http://www.law.lclark.edu/centers/animal_law_studies)

**Global Animal Law GAL Association (Global)**

[www.globalanimallaw.org](http://www.globalanimallaw.org)

**Hong Kong Animal Law and Protection Organisation (Hong Kong)**

[www.hkalpo.com](http://www.hkalpo.com)

**Institute of Animal Law of Asia (Asia)**

[www.ialasia.org](http://www.ialasia.org)

**New Zealand Animal Law Association (New Zealand)**

[www.nzala.org/w](http://www.nzala.org/w)

## Animal law student societies

**University of Tasmania, Student Environment and Animal Law Society (UTAS SEALS)**

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

**University of New South Wales, Animal and Environmental Law Society (UNSW AELSoc)**

[Facebook](#)

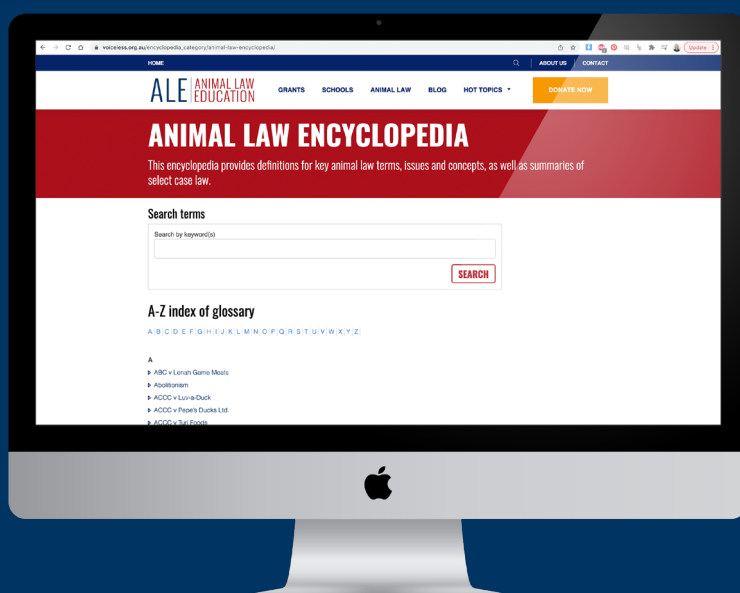
[LinkedIn](#)



# Voiceless Animal Law Education Resources

Access a range of Animal Law Education (ALE) resources on the Voiceless website

- Animal Law Careers and Volunteering Guide
- Animal Law Encyclopedia
- Animal Law Services Guide
- Animal Law Student Society Guide
- Presentations by animal lawyers and academics
- Studying Animal Law Guide
- Submissions Writing Guide
- Voiceless reports and educational resources on animal protection issues
- Voiceless Animal Law Lecture Series videos
- Voiceless Animal Law Talk podcast episodes
- Voiceless Animal Law Toolkit



[voiceless.org.au/animal-law/](https://voiceless.org.au/animal-law/)

# ALE | ANIMAL LAW EDUCATION