



## **2017 ANIMAL LAW & ENFORCEMENT SYMPOSIUM**

*Our mission at Animal Law Source is to unite all animal welfare professionals through education. To have successful prosecutions in animal cases, all professionals must be educated on the laws and procedures, especially the laws within their state.*

### **AGENDA**

**State Bar of Georgia, 104 Marietta Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303**  
**Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm**

**8:00 AM – 8:30 AM**

**Onsite Registration (Space Permitting)**

**8:30 AM - 9:30 AM**

**Auditorium (all)**

**Welcome and Announcements, Introduction to Animal Law Source,** Claudine Wilkins and Jessica Rock, Attorneys, Founders of Animal Law Source and [animallawsource.org](http://animallawsource.org)

- Website introduction - resource for Georgia professionals and the public related to Animal Law & Enforcement
- Navigating through site, cases, case law, tool kits, webinars and more
- Cost of Care Law
- [Animalsheltersource.org](http://Animalsheltersource.org)

**Animal Law Overview,** Claudine Wilkins and Jessica Rock, Attorneys

- Types of animal cases and the courts that hear those cases
- Ordinances, misdemeanors, felonies, & regulations
- Difference between Animal Laws located under Title 4 and Title 16
- The role of a Regulatory Agency - Department of Agriculture, Companion Animal Division

**KEYNOTE – Coordinating a Community Response to Animal Abuse: How All Professions Need to Work Together to be Successful**, Mike Arms, President and CEO of the Helen Woodward Animal Center

### **9:30 AM – 10:30 AM**

#### **Auditorium (ALL)**

**From Call to Conviction, Best Practices for Cases Involving an Animal**, Presented by a panel which includes a Prosecutor, Law Enforcement, Animal Control, Department of Agriculture Inspector, Veterinarian and other experts

- Roles of Prosecutors, Police, Animal Control, Veterinarians, Shelter and Rescues in Animal Cases
- Animal cruelty investigation and prosecution – determining appropriate charges
- Catching, Impound, Forensics, and Determining Cruelty
- Duties including reporting abuse, capturing, controlling animals, evidence collecting, sharing evidence with GA DOA, keeping and disposing of animals
- Basics of legal procedures including cruelty prosecutions
- Coordinated response to animal cases – Prosecutors, ACOs, LEOs, Vets, Shelters
- Other agencies that may be or need to be involved
- Public relations, dealing with media
- Impound considerations, disposal actions, relinquishment & euthanasia considerations
- Preparing for court, investigations, report writing, knowing your report, names, places, timeline, your resume
- Veterinarian exam reports and necropsies
- Establishing venue
- Courtroom demeanor – addressing the court
- Direct and cross examination
- Experts in the case, Vets & Vet Techs, Dog Trainers, Dog Bite Experts
- Surviving defense tactics
- Closing arguments
- Recommending a sentence
- Fines, jail time and restitution
- Probation and special conditions
- Recidivism
- Cost of Care Law

### **10:30 AM to 10:40 AM – Break**

### **10:40 AM to 11:35 PM (Breakout sessions)**

#### **Auditorium**

**Gangs In Georgia, Part I – Identifying the problem, Prevention, Investigating, Prosecuting, Sentencing, and Connection with Animal Abuse**, Atlanta Police Department Gang Unit

## Room A

**Identifying & Reporting Animal Cruelty, Addressing Trial Issues in Animal Cases, Gloria Dorsey, DVM, MPH Vice President of Community Education & Advocacy, Claudine Wilkins and Jessica Rock, Attorneys, Founders of Animal Law Source and animallawsource.org**

## Room 5

**The Future of Sheltering and Rescue: The Dos and Donts We've Learned From the Past and How to Conduct Yourself on Social Media, Mike Arms, President and CEO of the Helen Woodward Animal Center**

### 11:40 AM to 12:35 PM (Breakout sessions)

#### Auditorium

**Gangs Part II, Method of Operation: The Use of Animals for Security, Financial Gain, Image and Initiation, Atlanta Police Department Gang Unit (11:40 to 12:15)**

**Large Animal Cases, Everyone's Role in a Case, Impound, Euthanasia in the field, Other Agencies to Contact, Rebecca Gimenez, PhD, BS Animal Physiology, President of Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue, Author, Technical Large Animal Rescue (12:15 to 12:35)**

## Room A

**Legal Issues at Vet Clinics, Don Riddick, JD, Managing Member, Benning Animal Hospital, LLC**

## Room 5

**Reporting Diseases, Legal and Regulatory Requirements for Georgia, Lessons for Shelters Today from Veterinary Medicine during the American Civil, Mary-Elizabeth Ellard, MS, DVM, Graduate Certificate Shelter Medicine**

### 12:35 PM to 1:35 PM

#### Lunch in the Auditorium (all) – Networking

**KEYNOTE - Victoria Stilwell, VSPDT, APDT, IAABC Certified, Celebrity Dog Trainer and Behavior Expert, Bestselling Author and Founder of Positively, Inc.**

### 1:35 PM to 2:30 PM (Breakout sessions)

#### Auditorium

**The Connection Between Child Sex Crimes and Sex Crimes Involving Animals, Investigating, Forensics and Prosecuting, Everyone's Role in a Case, Chris Schindler, Deputy Manager of Animal Fighting Investigations at The Humane Society of the United States**

## Room A

**Veterinary Forensics, Part I**, Dr. Doris M. Miller DVM, PhD, DACVP, Professor, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, contributing author to Veterinary Forensics

- Prosecutors, judges, police, animal control, shelter staff and vets – what you need to know
- Importance of prosecutors understanding the necropsy before drafting charges in animal cruelty cases
- Animal cruelty investigations
- Expert testimony
- **Legislation Update**, Claudine Wilkins and Jessica Rock, Attorneys and Founders of Animal Law Source

## Room 5

**Plenary Session with Mike Arms**, President and CEO of the Helen Woodward Animal Center

## 2:35 PM to 3:25 PM (Breakout sessions)

### Auditorium

**Legislation Update and Creating an Animal Task Force in Your County/City**, Claudine Wilkins and Jessica Rock, Attorneys and Founders of Animal Law Source

- Engaging all organizations/entities within your county to establish a task force
- Structure and operations of a task force
- Public relations and community benefits
- Cost benefits
- Cost of Care Law

## Room A

**Veterinary Forensics Part II**, Dr. Doris M. Miller DVM, PhD, DACVP, Professor, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, contributing author to Veterinary Forensics

- Prosecutors, judges, police, animal control, shelter staff and vets – what you need to know
- Importance of prosecutors understanding the necropsy before drafting charges in animal cruelty cases
- Animal cruelty investigations
- Expert testimony

## Room 5

**Dangerous Dog Issues, How to Turn Around an Aggressive Dog, Q & A**, Victoria Stilwell, VSPDT, APDT, IAABC Certified, Celebrity Dog Trainer and Behavior Expert, Bestselling Author and Founder of Positively, Inc.

## 3:25 PM to 3:35 PM – Break

**3:35 PM to 4:30 (ALL)**

**Auditorium**

**Mock Trial of an Animal Cruelty Case**, A Judge, Sherwin Figueroa, Assistant District Attorney, Fulton County, Steve Hammond, Cobb County Police, Edward Furr, Attorney

- Experience a simulated case based on a real Georgia Animal Cruelty Case from the perspective of a Judge, Prosecutor, Investigator, and a Defense Attorney
- Very important session for everyone because it will allow you to see the inner-workings of an animal case in court