Phillips Murrah Directors to team up with Animal Legal Defense Fund at OCU Law symposium



Heather L. Hintz primarily represents banks, commercial entities and municipalities in litigation in state and federal courts with an emphasis o n protecting hardfought rulings throughout the appeals process.

Two Phillips Murrah Directors will participate in the upcoming "Animal Law Symposium: Oklahoma City," supported by Animal Legal Defense Fund and Oklahoma City University School of Law.

"OCU Law is glad to partner with Animal Legal Defense Fund to host this symposium," said <u>Jim Roth</u>, Phillips Murrah Director

and OCU School of Law Dean. "With the launch of our Animal Law Program last fall through the generosity of the Kirkpatrick Foundation, our students have shown incredible interest in this growing area of law.

"The symposium will provide an important opportunity for students to connect with practitioners and learn more about the different aspects of Animal Law."

The symposium will take place at Oklahoma City Law School on March 6 from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Roth will kick off the symposium with welcoming remarks. Heather L. Hintz, Phillips Murrah Director and Shareholder, will participate in the "Farmed Animals and the Law: Challenges and Opportunities for Change" panel set to begin at 1:45 p.m.

"Oklahoma is deeply rooted in agriculture and resource stewardship," Hintz said. "A 2016 study published in the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine states that the general public has a high level of concern for animal welfare in food production, but lacks corresponding knowledge.

"The study further suggests that if provided information, the public may be encouraged to translate its concerns into market decisions that will improve farmed animal welfare. My studies prior to law school focused on how information leads to educated market decisions that can impact social change. I remain interested in that concept. I also agree with the philosopher Anne Conway (1631-1679) that every part of nature is in sympathetic harmony with every other, and if we harm one part, we harm the others, including ourselves. I anticipate the Symposium will better enable participants to make informed decisions that can help improve farmed animal welfare and in turn, the welfare of us all."

The day-long event is set to provide attendees insight from top voices within the animal law community, and the Oklahoma State Bar has approved the symposium for 7 CLE credits.

<u>Learn more about the symposium and Animal Legal Defense Fund</u> at their website here.

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