

Author: Paul Waldau, DPhil, JD

# 1. Additional Sources on Law and Veterinary Ethics Issues

## 1.1 Electronic Sources

1. **Veterinary resources** of many kinds can be found at <http://netvet.wustl.edu/vcp.htm>.

There are many, many other resources available via the internet on veterinary issues that have important ethical dimensions. Contrast, for example, the AVMA's site (<http://www.avma.org/>), which is *always* worth checking, with what is available at the following sites:

- <http://www.altvetmed.org/> (Alternative, and Holistic Veterinary Medicine).
- <http://www.aahanet.org/> (American Animal Hospital Association).
- <http://www.abvp.com/> (American Board of Veterinary Practitioners).
- <http://www.avmla.org/> (American Veterinary Medical Law Association).
- <http://avar.org/> (Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights).
- <http://www.intute.ac.uk/> (English Veterinary Schools).
- <http://www.fda.gov/cvm/default.html> (FDA - Center for Veterinary Medicine Home Page).
- <http://www.naturalholistic.com/default.htm> (by a veterinarian).
- <http://www.stopabusivevetseverywhere.com/> (SAVE: Stop Abusive Vets Everywhere).
- <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/> (US Government Veterinary Services).
- <http://www.vin.com/> (Veterinary Information Network (VIN) - For Veterinarians, By Veterinarians).

2. **Helpful sites for specific “animal law” issues include:**

- The website of the American Veterinary Medical Law Association, at <http://www.avmla.org/>.
- <http://www.animallaw.com> has a link to many different “animal law” websites.
- Also check to see if the website of the American Veterinary Medical Association's Taskforce on the Legal Status of Animals, which is described at <http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/aug04/040815m.asp>, has been activated.

Additional sites, many of which are run by very aggressive advocacy

organizations at one extreme or another of a very polarized debate, include the following:

- A **source of current developments is HUMANElines**, a joint project of The Humane Society of the United States and The Fund for Animals. You can subscribe to weekly updates at <http://www.hsus.org> or <http://www.fund.org>.
  - **Animal Legal & Historical Web Center** at <http://www.animallaw.info> has much information. It is run by David Favre of Detroit School of Law, which is affiliated with Michigan State University. David Favre was for a long time on the board of the Animal Legal Defense Fund.
  - **Animal Legal Defense Fund**— <http://www.aldf.org>—regularly updates its site.
  - **International Institute for Animal Law**— <http://www.animallawintl.org/index.htm>.
  - **Rutgers Animal Rights Law Clinic**—<http://www.animal-law.org>—this project was reported as having shut down in May of 1999, but the website is still available as of August 2006.
  - **AnimalRights.net** —<http://www.animalrights.net>— which carries the subtitle “Debunking the animal rights movement,” has fascinating material.
  - **National Association for Biomedical Research**— <http://www.nabr.org/AnimalLaw>.
  - **The Animal Law Litigation Project**, which is joint venture of George Washington University Law School and The Humane Society of the United States, is described in the “Clinical Programs” section the law school’s website, <http://www.law.gwu.edu/Academics>.
3. **US Federal law** generally and much more about federal legal issues are at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.
  4. **State laws** and other legal documents are available at websites for the individual states. For example, the laws of Massachusetts can be found at <http://www.state.ma.us>.
  5. A full **glossary of legal terms** can be found at <http://www.nolo.com/dictionary/wordindex.cfm>.
  6. **State laws, federal laws, and general law materials for other countries** are at The Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), <http://www.glin.gov/>.

GLIN maintains and provides a database of laws, regulations, and other complementary legal sources. The documents included in the database are contributed by the governments of the member nations from the original official texts which are deposited, by agreement of the

members, in a server initially at the Library of Congress of the United States of America. The basic elements of this database are: (1) full texts of the documents in the official language of the country of origin; (2) summaries or abstracts in English; and (3) thesauri in English and in as many official languages as are represented in the database. The summaries or abstracts are linked electronically to the corresponding full texts.

7. **General constitutional materials**, including state constitutions and other nations' constitutions, are at <http://www.constitution.org/liberlib.htm>.