



Local Activism for Animals: What Can You Do?

**YOUR WHY  
SKILLSET  
ACTION**

AARON G LEIDER

31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL ANIMAL LAW CONFERENCE



# WHAT IS YOUR “WHY?”

(TRUTHFULLY ASK YOURSELF “WHY”)

## RESOURCE AUDIT:

1. YOUR SKILLSET
2. FINANCIAL CAPABILITY
3. MENTAL STAMINA



## The LIE of Vivisection





CNN | 48 HOURS 4/29/1988



"HE WHO WOULD NOT HESITATE TO VIVISECT  
WOULD HARDLY HESITATE TO LIE ABOUT IT."  
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

# CANCER | AIDS

**FAILED CANCER RESEARCHERS FROM  
RICHARD NIXON'S "*WAR ON CANCER*"  
GRABBING MONEY FOR THE NEW  
"*WAR ON AIDS*"**



WE SPOKE EACH EVENING THROUGH MY CELL DOOR





BILLY



## Trial Timeline

On August 2, 2007 plaintiffs Aaron Leider and the late Robert Culp filed this action pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 536a, against defendant City of Los Angeles, which owns the Los Angeles Zoo, and defendant John Lewis, the Director of the Los Angeles Zoo.

On May 13, 2008 the court, Hon. John Shepard Wiley, Jr., granted defendants' motion for summary judgment. On September 23, 2009 the Court of Appeal reversed. See *Culp v. City of Los Angeles*, 2009 WL 3021762 (September 23, 2009).



On August 25, 2010 plaintiff Leider filed his first amended complaint. Plaintiff alleges that the Elephants of Asia exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo "has been open to the public for many years, despite illegal, i.e., cruel and abusive treatment of City elephants in violation of Penal Code sections 597, 597.1 and 596.5, which specifically prohibits [sic] abuse of elephants." First Amended Complaint, 1, 2, 5. Plaintiff alleges:

"Pursuant to California Penal Code sections 597, 597.1 and 596.5," defendants' "abusive acts violate the law and public policy of this state and lead to the suffering and premature demise of' the elephants in the Los Angeles Zoo, and "also cause waste and damage to the elephants, i.e. City property. As such, defendants['] actions may be enjoined by plaintiffs as City taxpayers pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 526a." First Amended Complaint, 10.

The trees and planters in the exhibit, however, are surrounded by electrical wires that prevent the elephants from getting to them or walking near them.

The photographic evidence confirms this testimony. Dr. Enlsey testified that in fact there are no areas of grass that are not "hotwired" with electrical wires.

Ms. Guarnett confirmed that the hot wiring in the elephant exhibit is all over the exhibit and is used to protect certain areas of the exhibit from the elephants, and to keep or "guide" the elephants away from things like trees, plants, and grasses.

The ramps that lead in and out of the pool are also lined with electric wires. Mr. Andrews testified that from his knowledge and experience elephants can sense or feel an electrical or "hot" wire before they get close to it.



Dr. Poole was far and away the most qualified witness at trial.

Defendants did not present the testimony of anyone with anything near her credentials, knowledge, or experience.

## CONCLUSIONS

She observed Billy's stereotypical behavior, and the abnormally stiff gait with which all three elephants at the Los Angeles Zoo walk.

Dr. Poole testified that the stereotypical behavior exhibited by the elephants in the Los Angeles Zoo is nothing like she has ever seen in wild elephants. In her almost 40 years of observing and studying elephants, she has never seen an elephant bob its head or rock back and forth in place as or as much as Billy, Tina, and Jewel do.

# JUDGE NOT KNOWING A THING BEFORE OUR TRIAL AND HIS CONCLUSION

All is not well at the Elephants of Asia exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo.

Contrary to what the zoo's representatives may have told the Los Angeles City Council in order to get construction of the \$42 million exhibit approved and funded, the elephants are not healthy, happy, and thriving.



BILLY





TODAY | PRESCOTT PRESERVE





# PLANTING TREES





# STRAY CAT ALLIANCE



**Stray Cat Alliance - Building a no** ...  
**kill nation, one stray at a time. is**  
👉 asking for donations.

Sep 1 · 🌐

This is Conan. Conan has refused to stop making this face until he gets a foster. It's really bothering us, and we've t... [See more](#)



# NEW LIFE ANIMAL SANCTUARY



## New Life Animal Sanctuary



Many many thanks to our WONDERFUL friends [Aaron Leider](#) and Michael Lewis for sending all this great stuff from... See more







“The time to make a difference is *NOW!*”

**Thank you!**

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Aaron Leider

