

Do Animals Have Legal Standing?

Animals do not have legal standing.

Why?

Naruto v. Slater: under the Copyright act, animals were NOT included, only "persons"; they cannot initiate lawsuits

Tilikum v. Seaworld: under the 13th Amendment, animals kept at sea world are NOT considered slaves; 13th Amendment only applies to humans

Justice v. Vercher: animals are property; welfare laws impose duties to humans NOT give animals rights



- **Article III Standing** for humans

- Injury in fact
- Causation
- Redressability

Conflicts - How can it be confirmed that an animal had an injury? Is there a way to prove that the defendant was the cause of the plaintiff's harm if one is an animal? Will the animal be better off if the court rules in favor of them?

Citations:

Naruto v. Slater ("Monkey Selfie Case")
Tilikum ex rel. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Inc. v. Sea World Parks & Entertainment, Inc., 842 F. Supp. 2d 1259 (S.D. Cal. 2012)
Justice, by and through Mosiman v. Vercher, 318 Or. App. 48 (Or. Ct. App. 2022)