

# Mason Liddell

## EDUCATION

### **University of Colorado Law School**, Boulder, CO

Juris Doctor - Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Certificate May 2025

Activities: Colorado Law Animal Legal Defense Fund Founder and President; *Colorado Environmental Law Journal* Vol. 37 Lead Notes Editor; Boss Moot Court Competitor 2023; Legal Writing Tutor.

Honors and Awards: Order of the Coif, ALDF Stacey Gordon Sterling Scholarship Recipient 2024; ALDF Advancement of Animal Law Scholarship Recipient 2023; ALDF Student Chapter of the Year Recipient 2023 & 2024; National Animal Law Competitions Closing Argument Runner-Up 2024.

### **College of William and Mary**, Williamsburg, VA

Bachelor of Arts, *Summa Cum Laude*, Government and Philosophy Dec. 2021

Member of the James Monroe Scholars Program

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **1st Judicial District of Colorado, The Honorable Christopher Zenisek**, Golden, CO

Judicial Clerk Aug. 2025

### **Animal Legal Defense Fund**, Remote

Litigation Program Law Clerk May 2024 – Aug. 2024

- Authored a memo on constitutional causes of action challenging cultivated meat bans.
- Presented a potential litigation strategy for use against slaughterhouses employing child labor.
- Analyzed community-level rights of nature laws for strong procedural rights.

### **Friends of Animals Wildlife Law Program**, Denver, CO

Legal Extern Jan. 2024 – Apr. 2024

- Researched appeals process with the Endangered Species Act and Administrative Procedure Act.
- Wrote a memo on exemptions to the Freedom of Information Act.
- Drafted a comment for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service about a proposed advisory council.

### **2nd Judicial District of Colorado, The Honorable Sarah B. Wallace**, Denver, CO

Judicial Extern Sept. 2023 – Dec. 2023

- Authored the order on an administrative appeal case about permitting oil and gas extraction.
- Summarized briefs and prepared questions ahead of oral arguments.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

### **Animal Counsel**, Boulder, CO

Co-founder and Council Member March 2025-ongoing

### **President of the Colorado Law Animal Legal Defense Fund**, Boulder, CO Oct. 2022 – May 2024

- Successfully advocated for Colorado Law to offer classes on wildlife law and animal welfare.
- Led dozens of students through projects writing public comments and drafting legislation.
- Partnered with animal advocates to create volunteer spots for Colorado Law and Denver Law students, generating over 650 hours of pro bono legal work in 2023.

## PUBLICATIONS

- “Justice in Colorado: Achieving Animal Plaintiffhood Through the State’s Common Law,” *William & Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review*, forthcoming December 2025.
- “Applying the Rights of Nature to the Rights of Animals,” *Colorado Environmental Law Journal*, Volume 37, Issue 2; presented at the 2024 Student Animal Law Conference.
- “Stopping the Slippery Slope: What Happy the Elephant Can Gain from Estrellita the Monkey,” *University of San Francisco Law Review*, Volume 59, Issue 2.
- “Thomson’s Distributive Exemption and Possessed Threats,” *Mudd Journal of Ethics*, 2022, presented at the 2022 Undergraduate Ethics Conference.