

A photograph of three white chickens with prominent red combs and wattles, standing on a wooden deck. The chicken in the foreground is in sharp focus, looking towards the right. Two other chickens are visible in the background, one slightly behind and to the left, and another to the right. The background is softly blurred.

2023

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LIC  LEGAL IMPACT
FOR CHICKENS

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Dear LIC supporter,

Thank you for fighting for birds in 2023. Here's some of what you achieved:

You got LIC's second lawsuit ever filed—the groundbreaking case against KFC-supplier Case Farms for trapping, crushing, and killing newborn chicks.

You forced Costco's board to create a chicken-welfare committee, to investigate mistreatment of the company's birds.

You gave the chicks sold at Rural King stores age-appropriate water access. And you removed foie gras from a caterer's menu.

You established a new route for advocates to speak up about cruelty: Through an amicus brief at sentencing for another crime.

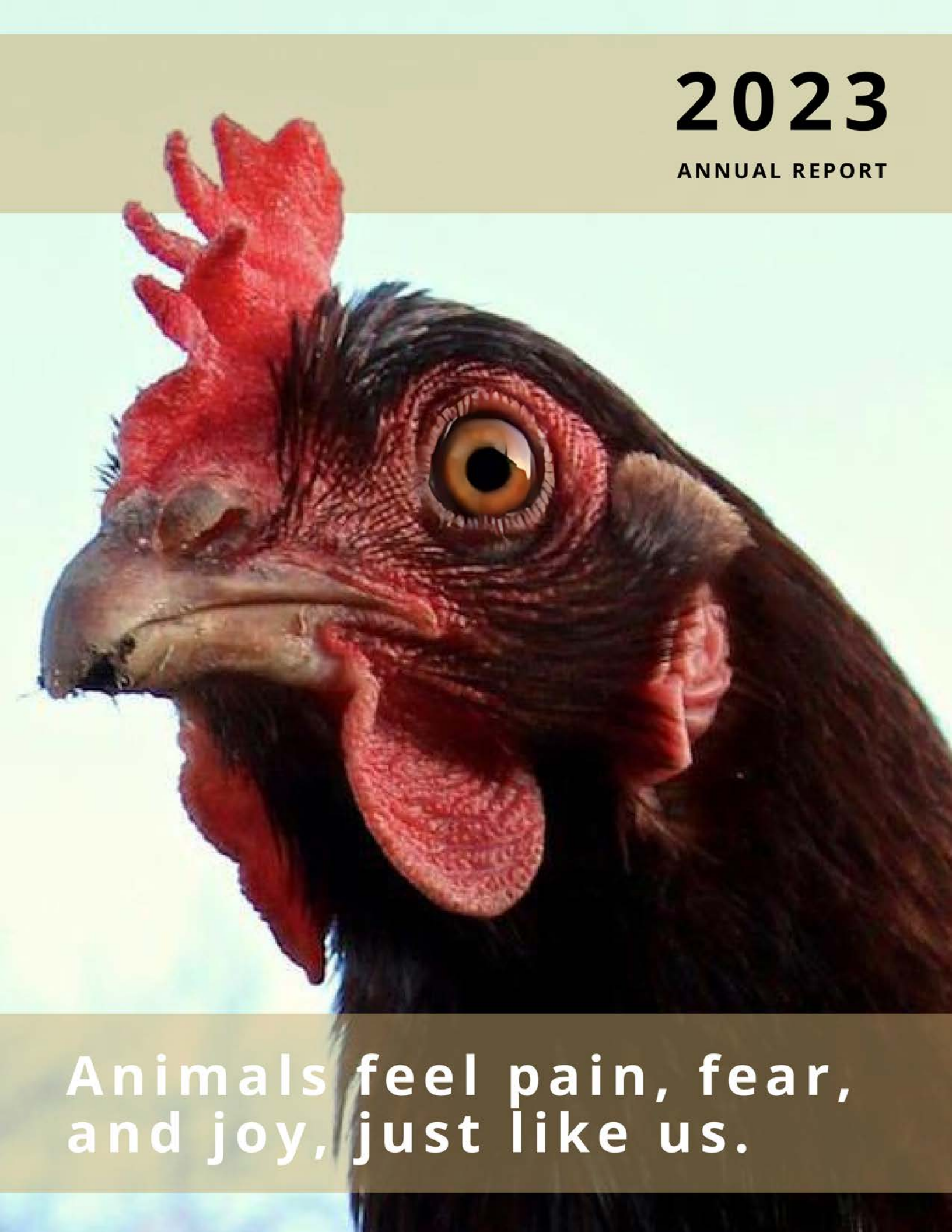
You grew LIC to become three litigators strong. And you earned LIC a coveted Animal Charity Evaluators recommendation. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Alene & LIC



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**Animals feel pain, fear,
and joy, just like us.**

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LIC sues KFC-supplier Case Farms for cruelty.

On May 24, 2023, Legal Impact for Chickens sued KFC-supplier Case Farms for **cruelty to newborn chicks**.

Case Farms sells chicken meat to KFC, Taco Bell, and Boar's Head, among other customers. The company breeds and kills **almost 200 million birds each year**.

LIC's suit comes on the heels of a 2021 investigation by Animal Outlook at a Case Farms hatchery. Case Farms was caught knowingly operating a machine piston which repeatedly **smashes chicks to death** and a dangerous metal conveyor belt which **traps and kills** young birds.



Stock Image Illustration

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With your help, LIC filed the lawsuit—our second case ever—in North Carolina’s Burke County District Court. The case is *Legal Impact for Chickens v. Case Farms*. Local media covered the suit. Animal Outlook later agreed to join us as co-counsel.

Through the suit, Case Farms was forced to begin responding to LIC’s discovery requests. Case Farms admitted ‘that it **does not maintain any records of occurrences where a chick was injured, harmed, maimed or died.**

On October 20, 2023, LIC filed a second amended complaint, detailing ongoing cruelty at a Case Farms slaughterhouse. Among other things, the amendment adds allegations of chickens **boiled alive.**

On December 1, 2023, LIC responded in opposition to Case Farms’s motion to dismiss. We explained that the complaint sufficiently alleges that Case Farms violates “North Carolina’s prohibition against animal cruelty by . . . **trapping, crushing, and running over newly hatched chicks.**”

In December 2023, LIC traveled to Burke County, NC for oral argument on Case Farms’s motion to dismiss. This was LIC’s second oral argument ever. Unfortunately, the judge granted Case Farms’s motion.

But LIC didn’t give up fighting for Case Farms’s birds. As of 2024, with your help—and with the support of an esteemed North Carolina appellate attorney—we’re appealing to the North Carolina Court of Appeals. **Stay tuned.**

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**Cruelty =
liability**

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LIC continues the fight for Costco's birds.

On March 24, 2023, Washington State's King County Superior Court held a **hearing** in LIC's first lawsuit ever, *Smith v. Vachris*, the Costco shareholder derivative suit.

This was LIC's **first oral argument**.

Unfortunately, the court decided to grant the defendants' motion to dismiss.

In so doing, the judge explicitly left open one avenue for our shareholder clients to have their animal-neglect concerns addressed: **sending a formal demand to Costco's board**.



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So, with your help, we did just that: On July 1, 2023, LIC filed a **formal demand** upon Costco's board, on behalf of LIC's two shareholders clients.

The shareholders demand a realistic plan to ensure **all** Costco birds can reach water and food.

In a letter dated August 15, 2023, Costco's board stated that it "**has formed a Board committee to review and investigate the demand's allegations.**"

LIC's shareholder clients have since met with investigators retained by the board committee, to assist with the investigation.

During the pendency of the *Smith v. Vachris* litigation, Costco's board had repeatedly disclosed the existence of this animal-neglect lawsuit in a series of four publicly available SEC annual and quarterly reports.

More recently, Costco's board has similarly disclosed LIC's animal-neglect demand in a public SEC filing. This keeps Costco shareholders apprised of these concerning animal-welfare issues.

Meanwhile, LIC's Costco lawsuit is now being discussed in a **viral TikTok video** by @thelawyerangela. The video currently has over 226,000 likes. In 2023, LIC's Costco case was discussed at additional law schools classes, including at Harvard Law, Cornell Law, UCLA Law, and Brooklyn Law.

Next, we await the results of the board committee's review. **Stay tuned.**



A group of chickens, including several roosters with prominent red combs and wattles, are standing in a lush green field. In the background, there is a line of trees and a hillside under a clear blue sky. The scene is bright and sunny.

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Chickens dream, count,
and empampathize.

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LIC gets water to Rural King's chicks.

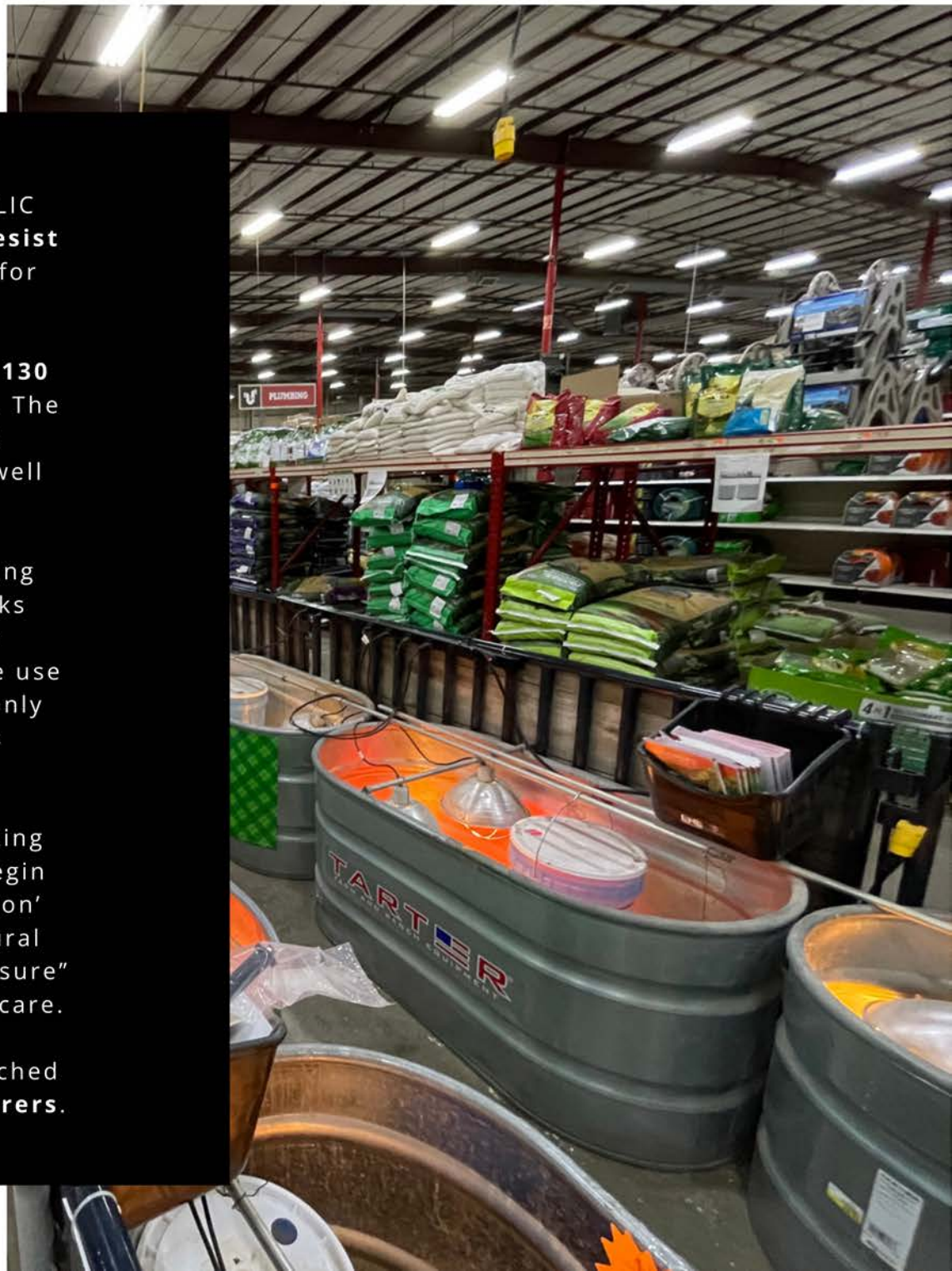
On August 7, 2023, LIC sent a **cease-and-desist** letter to Rural King for mistreating chicks.

Rural King has over **130 stores in 13 states**. The stores sell farm and home supplies—as well as live chicks.

LIC accused Rural King of letting many chicks **suffer and die** from causes including the use of incorrect, adult-only waterers that chicks **can't reach**.

In response, Rural King stated that it will begin "performing 'in person' random audits at Rural King locations to ensure" appropriate animal care.

Rural King also switched to the **correct waterers**.





**Animals have thoughts
and feelings.**

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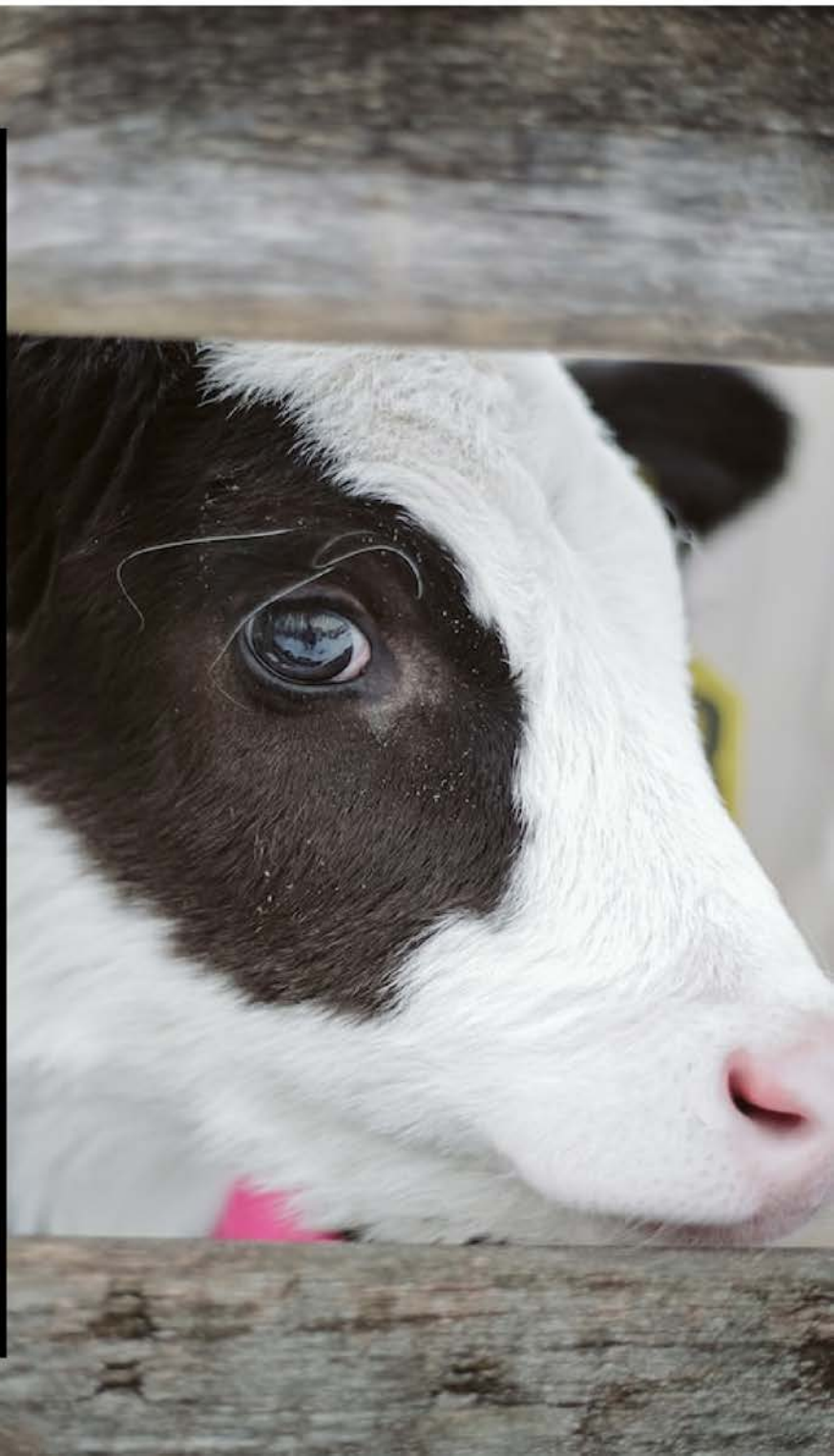
LIC files brief in *Rhode Island Beef and Veal*.

On September 29, 2023, LIC moved for permission to file an amicus brief in the federal criminal case, *USA v. Rhode Island Beef & Veal*.

The Rhode Island Beef and Veal slaughterhouse will plead guilty to pretending to have USDA inspection.

LIC thinks the slaughterhouse's punishment should take into account its **history of animal cruelty**.

On November 1, 2023, the US District Court for the District of Rhode Island **granted** LIC permission to file a brief at sentencing. We **filed our brief** the next day.



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In 2023, your support also got a San Francisco caterer to remove cruel foie gras from its menu.

In addition, you enabled LIC to advise an effective nonprofit about how to make future corporate animal-welfare commitments more easily enforceable.

And you got multiple **existing** animal-friendly court rulings added to places where judges and lawyers can find them.

Thanks to you, LIC also spoke at Harvard Law, Berkeley Law, Cornell Law, McGill Law, UCLA Law, Brooklyn Law (twice), Vermont Law, U of San Francisco Law, Denver Law, Oklahoma City Law, Effective Altruism New York City, and the virtual version of the ALDF student convention; as well as on a Reducetarian Fellowship panel, an NPR-Tampa radio show, and more.

You enabled LIC to hire two new skilled litigators: **Sarah Gold** from WilmerHale and **Kathryn Evans** from Richman Law & Policy. And, thanks to you, we attracted two new talented, committed board members: **Stephanie Ahart** and **Sami Nabulsi**.

In 2023, LIC also completed our first-ever audit, trademarked our name, designed a new logo and new merch, redid our website, set up 401ks, did our first-ever 360-degree survey, and got a new address: **2108 N ST #5239, Sacramento, CA 95816**.

And we took steps toward our next lawsuit—including by commissioning our first-ever undercover investigation.



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New merch!

legalimpactforchickens.org/merch



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Animal Charity Evaluators selects Legal Impact for Chickens as 2023 Recommended Charity!



Legal Impact for Chickens is **so** excited that Animal Charity Evaluators has selected LIC as 2023 Recommended Charity!

We look up to each of the previous ACE-recommended charities as our animal-saving role models. It is a dream come true to appear on ACE's list this year!



2023

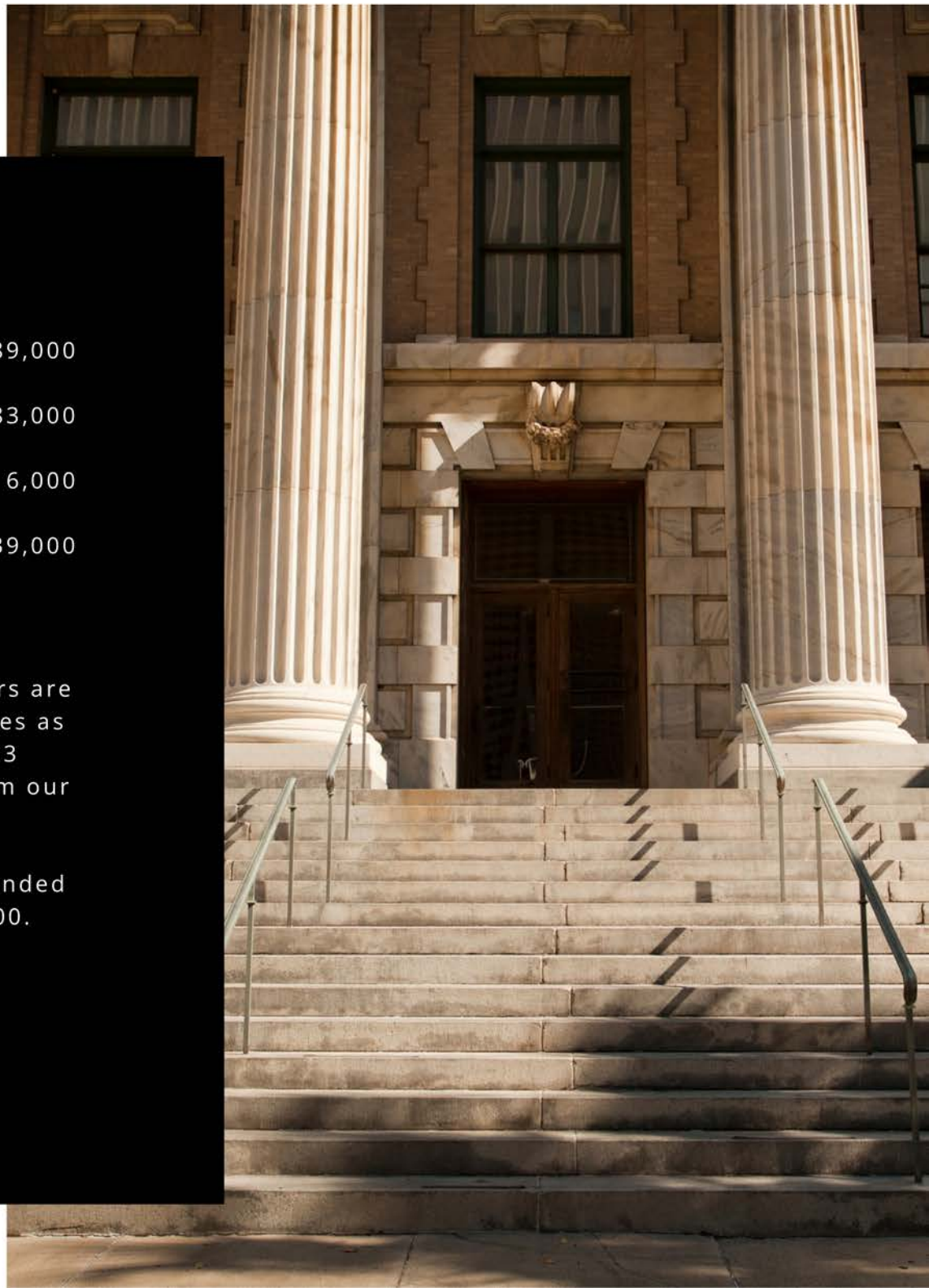
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Financials*

Revenue:	\$ 489,000
Expenditures:	\$ 483,000
Net Change:	\$ 6,000
EOY Assets:	\$ 839,000

* The above numbers are preliminary estimates as we await a final 2023 financial report from our auditor.

All amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1,000.



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Thank you for everything you do for animals!

You're making change possible.

 **LEGAL IMPACT
FOR CHICKENS**

A close-up profile of a white chicken with a red comb and wattle, perched on a wooden branch. The chicken's feathers are white with some light brown speckling on its wings. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with wooden logs.

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**Thank
you.**