

## Client Success Story



### Background

Lifeline Oro Valley Animal Rescue (LOVAR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit no-kill animal rescue / shelter that is entirely volunteer driven. The organization strives to support animals that need it the most, as evidenced by the fact that 90% of those brought to the rescue have special needs, are bonded pairs, have recently had litters, have behavioral concerns, or are feral, in their older years, injured, or sick. Volunteers help with care, adoption, and fostering of the animals.

### Challenges

Although LOVAR is non breed-specific, some of its work led to a large scale rescue initiative involving a native breed of dog called the Carolina Dog. The Carolina Dog (also referred to as the American Dingo) is a unique dog breed with traits that can make them somewhat difficult for many families to see as fitting into their homes and routines if not properly socialized. A dog breeder in Northern California had in excess of 50 on her property, which led to concerns of mistreatment. LOVAR led a rescue effort liberating the Carolina Dogs that were in that situation and at risk of being impounded and destroyed. They live out their lives in new homes as sanctuary animals for those that cannot be adequately rehabilitated and adopted out.

The rescue effort was a significant undertaking, as have been many local and remote rescue cases that LOVAR has worked on. But not everyone appreciated the effort. Two even sued LOVAR for breach of contract over a Facebook post. LOVAR was represented by a different firm at the time and was referred to Mestaz Law. Matt Hersh and Daniel Mestaz gladly took the case.



### Our Solution

Matt and Dan won the lawsuit by putting the facts to work. The case turned on LOVAR's state of mind when it wrote the Facebook post—something that can only be proven with extensive circumstantial evidence. And there was no shortage of circumstantial evidence in this case. Gigabytes of electronic documents; hundreds if not thousands of emails, two years' worth of handwritten journals; and the case files from two other lawsuits to boot. The money at stake was small—but the documentation was massive.

And that is where The Chron came in. Mestaz Law uses proprietary technology to pinpoint, for immediate visual display, all of the times, dates, emails, conversations, and other needle-in-a-haystack evidence that tells a client's story with efficiency, clarity, and visual impact. The technology was critical here. Mestaz Law used The Chron to organize the massive amount of evidence, efficiently assemble the key documents and testimony, and present it seamlessly at trial. Winning this case meant telling the story in a clear and concise way. The Chron enabled Matt and Dan to do just that.

### Outcome

LOVAR won the breach of contract case in arbitration. The other party demanded a full trial in court, so Mestaz Law and LOVAR had to present the case again from the beginning. LOVAR won the new trial also—and got a full award for attorney fees and costs as well.

“ Matt and Dan genuinely cared about our case. It might not have been the biggest case, but it mattered greatly to us—and their time and attention made us feel that they felt it was important too. They epitomize doing business with compassion. We didn't just feel like another client. We truly felt like they partnered with us. They were extremely responsive and impressive, which was so refreshing after becoming disillusioned with what we witnessed and having to defend ourselves against nonsense

