



## OUTLINE GUIDE TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

- PREAMBLE:** Purposes of the new government “We the People of the United States.....”
- ARTICLE I** Legislative Branch; powers; **Necessary and Proper** or **Elastic Clause** (S 8); powers forbidden to Congress and the states
- ARTICLE II** Executive Branch; powers; **State of the Union**; impeachment
- ARTICLE III** Judicial Branch; powers; original jurisdiction; jury trial; treason
- ARTICLE IV** **Full Faith and Credit; Privileges and Immunities**; interstate relations; federal guarantees
- ARTICLE V** Amendment Procedures; proposal and ratification
- ARTICLE VI** **National Supremacy** (S 2); Loyalty Oaths (S 3)
- ARTICLE VII** Ratification of the Constitution by 9 States (September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1787)

### AMENDMENTS

1. Freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly
2. Right to bear arms
3. Quartering of troops restricted
4. No unreasonable searches and seizures; specific warrant required
5. **RIGHTS IN CRIMINAL CASES.** Right to a grand jury; due process of law; just compensation for seized property; no double jeopardy or self-incrimination
6. **RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL.** Right to speedy, public, jury trial in place where crime was allegedly committed; accused must be informed of charges; right to secure counsel and witnesses, and to question witnesses
7. Right to a jury trial in civil cases
8. No excessive bails or fines; no cruel or unusual punishment
9. Rights can be retained by the people other than those listed
10. States Rights (**Reserved or Residual Powers**)
11. Limitation on the right of a citizen to sue a state other than their own and a citizen or subject of a foreign state to sue one of the states of United States
12. Electoral College procedures
13. No slavery or involuntary servitude except as punishment for criminal conviction
14. **CIVIL RIGHTS.** Limitations on states; **privileges and immunities again**; due process of law; equal protection of the laws
15. Voting rights cannot be denied based on race, color or previous condition of servitude
16. National income tax
17. Direct election of U.S. Senators
18. Prohibition
19. Voting rights cannot be denied based on sex
20. Lame duck presidential term ends on January 20<sup>th</sup>; congressional term ends on January 3<sup>rd</sup>
21. Repeal of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment
22. Limitation of presidential terms to two; limited to one if not elected and served for more than two years of someone else's term
23. District of Columbia given three electoral votes
24. Voting rights cannot be denied based on a poll tax or other type of tax
25. Presidential disability and succession; vice presidential vacancy; emergency transitions
26. Voting rights cannot be denied for those 18-20 years of age
27. No variance in congressional compensation until an election of Representatives has intervened