

December 15

□ *Bill of Rights Day in America* □

Designated by presidential order in 1940 as a day of celebration and renewal of our commitment to the civil rights and liberties guaranteed in the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights and ratified on this day 215 years ago.

**W**e celebrate the vigilance of our citizens in more than 400 U.S. cities and 8 state legislatures who have passed resolutions reaffirming the guarantees contained in the Bill of Rights. Know your rights and defend them from erosion by certain Executive Orders and post-9/11 legislation.

*The Bill of Rights*

**Amendment I** [Religion, Speech, Press, Assembly, Petition]

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

**Amendment II** [Right to Bear Arms]

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

**Amendment III** [Quartering of Troops]

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

**Amendment IV** [Search and Seizure]

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

**Amendment V** [Grand Jury, Double Jeopardy, Self-Incrimination, Due Process]

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

**Amendment VI** [Criminal Prosecutions—Jury Trial, Right to Confront and to Counsel]

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

**Amendment VII** [Common Law Suits—Jury Trial]

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

**Amendment VIII** [Excess Bail or Fines, Cruel and Unusual Punishment]

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted.

**Amendment IX** [Rights Reserved to States]

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

**Amendment X**

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

*La Lista de los Derechos*

**1** El Congreso de los Estados Unidos tiene prohibido establecer leyes para la creación de una iglesia oficial; limitar el libre ejercicio de cualquier religión; limitar el libre ejercicio de la palabra o de la prensa; limitar el derecho de reunión con fines pacíficos; limitar el derecho de peticonar al gobierno para acorregir injusticias.

**2** Voluntarios entrenados adecuadamente (Milicia) son necesarios para el mantenimiento de la Libertad en cada Estado, y el derecho de la gente de tener armas no sera infringido.

**3** Durante la paz, los soldados no seran alojados en ninguna casa privada sin consentimiento del propietario; Durante la guerra, de acuerdo con lo que prescribe la ley.

**4** Se garantiza el derecho de la gente a estar seguras en su persona, en la inviolabilidad del domicilio, papeles privados y efectos personales contra intrusiones del gobierno. No se permitira a los jueces autorizar la entrada a domicilios privados que no esten fundadas en causa probable y juramentadas describiendo por escrito; el lugar, las personas afectadas y que bienes seran impugnados.

**5** Excepto en situaciones militares en caso de guerra, o en el caso de la Milicia en situaciones de peligro publico; Nadie puede ser llamado a responder contra una acusacion criminal sino ha sido juzgado previamente por un Jurado especial. Nadie puede ser juzgado dos veces por el mismo delito. Nadie puede ser obligado a declarar contra si mismo. Nadie puede ser privado de su vida, libertad, o propiedad sin el correspondiente proceso legal....

**6** En todos los procesos judiciales en lo criminal, el acusado tiene el derecho de un proceso rapido y en publico, por un jurado imparcial. El juicio sera en el Estado y distrito previamente definido por ley, donde el crimen ha sido cometido. El acusado sera informado de la naturaleza y causa de la acusacion, Tiene ademas el derecho de confrontar a los testigos de la acusacion, presentar sus propios testigos defensores, y la asistencia de un abogado para su defensa.

**7** En los juicios comunes (no criminales) donde el valor de la disputa es por mas de veinte dolares, el derecho de juicio por jurado sera preservado....

**8** No se podra exigir demasiada fianza, ni aplicar multas onerosas, ni infligir castigos no usuales y crueles.

**9** La enumeracion de ciertos derechos en la Constitucion no debera ser interpretado para negar otros derechos retenidos por la gente.

**10** Los poderes no explicitamente delegados al Gobierno Federal de los Estados Unidos en la Constitucion, ni los poderes prohibidos por ella a los Estados, estan reservados para los Estados o la gente.

*“They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.” —Benjamin Franklin*

Oxford Bill of Rights Defense Committee 513-523-6555 ~ Learn more at [www.borde.org](http://www.borde.org)  
Butler County Community Alliance 513-785-3041