

# COMMITTEE OF SAFETY COMMON LAW HANDBOOK



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COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ORGANIZING HANDBOOK

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3979 Albany Post Road

Hyde Park, NY. 12538

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## INTRODUCTION TO NLA

The purpose of National Liberty Alliance (NLA) is to facilitate Education, Communications, Principles and Organization nationally at the grass roots level in order to enable the People to exercise their unalienable right of oversight and save Our Republic. Only the People can Save America. It requires a grassroots commitment of a twofold plan that will enable the People to actually have government by consent. This would require We the People to take back control of both our Judicial and Political Process. Our Founding Fathers did not leave us without remedy. See <http://nationallibertyalliance.org/nla-plan> which will explain both plans.

NLA is a National Assembly of “We the People” with a presence in every State of the Nation and is working to develop true Grassroots Independence. NLA is providing knowledge and tools for the organizing of the Independent Grass Roots Control of County Jury Administrations, County Committees of Safety and the Committeeman. NLA’s motto is as the People become Principled and Educated – “The People must increase and NLA must decrease.”

NLA came into being because our elected servants were ignoring the Constitution for the United States which was ordained by We the People. In our endeavor to establish a way that We the People might exercise our consent of governance we discovered that We the People had two processes for consent that our founding fathers used to frame our nation. These were passed to their posterity and were:

- (1) Political Process through the “Committeeman of the Committee of Safety” that George Washington called the engines of government, see Washington Farewell address at [www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org](http://www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org) and,
- (2) Judicial Process through unfettered Common Law Grand and Trial Juries whereas, in a stunning 6 to 3 US Supreme Court decision, Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for the majority, confirmed that the American Grand Jury is “*neither part of the judicial, executive nor legislative branches of government, but instead belongs to the people. It is in effect a fourth branch of government “governed” and administered to directly by and on behalf of the American people, and its authority emanates from the Bill of Rights, ... The Court of Appeals’ rule would neither preserve nor enhance the traditional functioning of the grand jury that the “common law” of the Fifth Amendment demands. Motions to quash indictments based upon the sufficiency of the evidence relied upon by the grand jury were unheard of at common law in England.*” See United States -v- Williams at <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/us-supreme-court-cases>.

National Liberty Alliance has already assembled and is educating thousands of People across America in the “Grand and Trial Jury Administration” process. Whereas five People in every county will take their constitutional positions separate from the politically controlled judiciary and prosecutor who are tainting our juries for political favors. This assembly of People that will arise out of and monitored by the County COS is poised in all Fifty States and simply awaiting “CRITICAL MASS” as we continue to assemble. The assembling of the COS’s across America will reign in that critical mass needed. Time is short and our success will require YOUR commitment, support and time.

As We the People endeavor to take control of these two processes in order to control our “out of control servants” and put them back under the chains of the Constitution, we discovered that exactly as President George Washington warned by the help of unconstitutional BAR legislation, “...cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men” (party

*bosses) enabled by the perversion of election law, subverted the power of the people and usurped to themselves the reins of government and destroyed the very engines which have lifted them [the usurpers] to unjust dominion.”*

We also discovered that the BAR Association seized control of our judicial process and jury system by beguiling BAR lawyers and judges. Finally we traced the control of the party bosses and the BAR right back to Washington DC where an oligarchy that governs Washington DC and our judicial and political process, through the passing of the unconstitutional Organic act of 1871 passed by the subverts of the 41<sup>st</sup> Congress. Therefore, until We the People stand up together and take it back our Liberties will continue to erode until we find ourselves under the closed iron fists of these tyrants.

We the People, who have discovered this subversion by enemies foreign and domestic, have a duty to expose the conspiracy and preserve Liberty. Therefore, we come forth today to encourage and advise the People to resurrect “*Committees of Safety*” across the nation to assist and educate county, town and city governments concerning the Constitutional Chain of Command. These servants took an oath to defend the Constitution which is necessary to preserve Liberty in times of a National Disaster or invasion.

Such a disaster in the form of a monetary collapse is looming just around the corner. Time is LIMITED and with over 323 million people in 19,000 cities and towns in 3133 counties, it will not be possible for federal and/or state governments to provide for all the innumerable needs that such a collapse would bring. Only the People, working hand in hand, with their neighbors within their county’s Constitutional Chain of Command, can make such a task both practical and manageable with any degree of compassion and success at the local level. This is just simple common sense.

There is no Constitutional Chain of Command during a national disaster that empowers the federal government. It not only makes no common sense it also removes all power from state and local governments and places the entire nation in jeopardy of a potential coup by tyrants. Therefore, martial law would be required in order to force compliance upon We the People and local governments through the end of a barrel of a gun (Mao). This means that all three branches of government would give up their powers to “military rule.” That would be the END OF AMERICA, unless under “Devolution.”

[www.nationallibertyalliance.org/devolution](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/devolution)

NLA has discovered that the Power of the “Committee of Safety” is the very same method that our founding fathers used to take control of their local governments. These “Committeemen” (COS’s) built the nation we inherited and are losing to tyrants today, if we don’t do something about it now!

NLA is engaged in a national effort within every county to support a true grassroots movement to vote People into the real power that will empower our local governments to take back control of our federal government through the resurrection of the “Committees of Safety.”

Only the People can save America! We the People MUST UNITE with the Independence of grassroots control with an un-controlling “National Presence” and a viable plan using the very implementations that created this Great Nation to take back the Judicial and Political power without the politics. The Time to take a stand has come. Do we still have a Constitution? Are we a Free People? Will we save Liberty for our posterity? The answers depend upon your action or inaction today, because tomorrow will be too late! Now that you understand the danger and the solution, you have a duty to empower yourself as one of We the People at the Grass Roots to take control of your local government and your State and Federal Representatives by simply requiring them to obey the “Supreme Law of the Land.”

## INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY

Committees of Safety, historically speaking, empowered the people at the grass roots to return control of their local government to the People. The Independent grass roots “County” Committee of Safety and the “County Common Law Grand and Trial Juries Administration are part of NLA’s plan to reach an active critical mass of People to take back their government from the grassroots, in order to have “*Government by Consent.*” The Common Law Grand Jury is working in the Federal Courts exposing the enemies of Liberty both foreign and domestic in an effort to collapse their wall of resistance and take back our Judiciary. The Committees of Safety are needed to fill the power vacuum with “the People,” thereby taking back control of our servant government from the grassroots level. Our government is still intact; it’s just shrouded by the veil of corporatism controlled by the enemies of Liberty.

In 1774, the various Committees of Safety called for the First Continental Congress. Delegates to that Congress went from town, to county, to Provincial level Committees, before being selected to go to Philadelphia. In Western Massachusetts, Committees of Safety forced the resignations of rouge judges appointed under the Massachusetts Government Act (1774).

Some Committees, such as the one in Worchester County, threatened to declare independence from British rule unless the Massachusetts government restored its original charter (1774). On April 12, 1775 (just one week before the Battle of Lexington/Concord), John Hancock, President of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress (later, the Massachusetts Provincial Committee of Safety) requested that all counties, towns and districts form Committees of Safety. It is interesting to note that all those who signed the Declaration of Independence were members of Committees of Safety!

Committees of Safety are community governance established in the absence of the ability of the existing governments to provide for the needs of civilized society. They are the civil bodies politic. On the voyage from England to America, the Pilgrims created a civil body politic; the Mayflower Compact. Jamestown also had a civil body politic. When we revisit this pre United States body politic of the People for the era of 1760-1789 and understand the function of a Committee of Safety, we see that a present day constitutional body politic and the COS’s going forward in 2016 needs to be reenacted across the nation to reinstate our founding principles.

It is also interesting to note the important role that Committees of Safety played in the ultimate transformation from English controlled colonies into a Republican form of representative government under self-rule and not the centuries old dictates of hereditary despots. The peasants of colonial America went from slaves of the English king, to king of their own castle within one generation!

Committees of Safety may differ slightly as different areas of the country have different circumstances, constituents, and economic needs. However, all need the basics: Food, water, shelter and security (County Sheriff). This is the urgent need we all have before us. We must form quickly and educate everyone within the counties, to identify the Chain of command that begins at the doorstep of the County Sheriff. See <http://www.powerofthecountysheriff.com>  
Committees of Safety are about survival:

- What if we have a natural or manmade disaster that disabled local government and emergency services?
- What if our local law enforcement were taken over by FEMA or Homeland Security?
- What if Agenda 21 had its way?
- What if the Federal Government were to initiate Martial Law?

If acted upon early enough a COS's would be able to prevent government-created problems and work with the Sheriff's under posse comitatus.

Committees of Safety are about stability:

- Secures representation for the People.
- Unites the People.
- Offers Organization, Communications, Coordination and Education.
- Establishes the Principles of Honor, Justice & Mercy.
- Presentations of Resolutions.
- Corresponds with other Committees.
- Demands local government obedience to the Constitution.
- Assists the Sheriff and posse comitatus in times of trouble.

The people of each county need to form and actively create a civil body politic regarding:

- Communications
- Food and Water storages
- Command Structures
- Law-enforcement protocols (w/Sheriff as Chief Administrator)
- The Committees need to maintain plans, means and manpower to protect the community should the need arise.

Would your community want to wait for and depend upon FEMA management in the event of a flood, hurricane, tornado, or other natural disasters? Would you want an adequate local response to assist Law Enforcement in the event of rampant crimes? Would you want readily available community-based co-operative food production, preservation and storage to meet the needs of your community in the event of food shortages? Would you want a readily available solution in the event of interruptions in water and power supplies? Would you want a well-armed and regulated militia to defend your community in the event the UN or a foreign country invades your communities?

NOW is the Time to institute County Committees of Safety and address issues which government ignores or inadequately or wrongfully addresses. The concept of Committees of Safety is rapidly spreading across the Country as a result of the degradation of social, political and economic conditions. The neighborhood, second to the family, is the most basic level of community life. Alarmingly the institutionalized concept of problem management has reduced neighborly interdependence and self-reliance to the lowest level ever seen in American history.

The false illusion of affluence and the absence of "war" on American soil present's the added challenge of false security and apathy towards the need of preparedness for community safety. It is therefore, nearly impossible for most Americans to visualize what life would be like if we were under attack in our homes, store shelves were empty, most businesses were closed and there was no electricity. Take a moment to visualize this now!

Currently there are 323 million people living in America, and until we return to lawful money our Country could experience the worst economic downturn since 1929 and could develop into a full-blown "depression." Even depression inadequately describes what could lie ahead. There are countless global and domestic indicators strongly suggesting that people should consider preparing to survive a social and/or economic storm of cataclysmic proportions!

In 1929, the banksters withdrew the money supply putting Americans into a Depression that lasted through WWII. It would be 1954 before the stock market would return to 1929 levels. Businesses and jobs went south; unemployment reached a high of 25%. Back then, most Americans grew their own food, and lived and worked near home. There was only one

bread-winner per family; families were much larger, with generations living under the same roof. An ounce of gold sold for \$20.64 worth of Silver. Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Disability did not exist. The people were slender and ate healthy food. Fast food and processed foods didn't exist. No one owned a credit card many had no indoor plumbing, running water, electricity and only a party line phone. Most didn't own a refrigerator, and meals were made from scratch. People were self-reliant! Back then the products we used were made in America.

When the dollar collapses, things will be different for a lot of folks presently on social security, Medicare and government subsidies; Disability, Food Stamps, Medicaid, farm subsidies, public housing and mandatory monthly medications. Those needing 24/7 care will require a safety net to catch them. The able bodied will need to return to work just to survive and eat, growing their own food will be a must. Communication skills will have to be learned, cellphones and the Internet may cease to exist. There will be gas shortages. Products and parts that we use that were made elsewhere won't be available. Many businesses will close. Children may have to drop out of school. It will be a time when we will all need to come together. The time to form a Committee of Safety is now!

If such a cataclysmic event occurs, transportation and distribution of goods and sources of power for lighting, cooking and heat will be unavailable. At that moment, each person's personal preparedness, as well as the community's preparedness will determine the severity of the difficulty endured until normalcy can be restored, and if invaded during such a vulnerable time normalcy may never be restored!

Each person in the community must decide: Will I be paralyzed by fear, remain unprepared and fall prey to adversaries, or, will I begin to prepare now to survive any disruption my neighbors and I are able to foresee.

People living in the cities will flee to the countryside to escape the mayhem of hungry mobs roaming the streets in search of food. Rural towns need to be prepared to receive this over flow with compassion and mercy, in order to house and feed them in their times of desperation. All will need to go back to work in order to survive until a sense of normalcy returns. Barter of goods and services will feed the nation for the time being.

If you want safety, prepare for Safety. Establish committees of safety, develop plans, write and execute resolutions. Create a Committee of Correspondence to communicate solutions and unify. Maintain at least one short-wave Radio in your County to connect to a network of COS's. Everyone should have a shortwave receiver and a radio. Plant gardens and maintain a list of carpenters, pharmacists, dentists, doctors, farmers, mechanics, and firemen etc. in preparation for the need to barter and collectively help each one in the community during emergent times. Do not leave governance to the government. Oversee all that occurs in your community. Take charge. Hold Public servants to serving the community in a manner that proves them to be in good behavior.

Everyone is encouraged to contribute their individual experience to the whole of the community. Elders have experience and wisdom to contribute. VFW, DAV, American Legionnaires have a history and heart to serve. The service of each person in the community combines to assure that Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness continues for their posterity. Retired Veterans have already served and may wish to serve again as able when needed.

Each community needs all able-bodied people to join an existing militia or start one. Demand the fulfillment of the Constitutional obligation of the government to adequately arm and regulate the militia. Should the government fail to do so,



the Committee of Safety must meet the need to prepare now to defend the community and Liberty. Tomorrow may be too late!

Our Constitution is in danger: We must protect our Constitution from all attacks foreign and domestic for those who are to follow! Start/Join a Committee of Safety. The service and experience of each person in the community IS NEEDED NOW!!! The United States of America is now 230 years beyond its Founding Documents. Times and technology have changed, the responsibility of government BY the people has not. *“If ever a time should come when vain and aspiring men shall possess the highest seats in government, our country will be in need of its experienced patriots to prevent its ruin.”* Samuel Adams

Committee of Correspondence: Make an emergency plan now! Assure communication and response; shortwave radio, emergency scanners, mobile Communication. Develop a relationship with your County Sheriff. Invite the Sheriff to your meetings. Make written resolutions. Talk to the Sheriff about securing the Constitution. Talk to the Sheriff about posse comitatus and the role of the Militia. Work out emergency plans with the Sheriff. Require that the Sheriff and deputies take a constitutional course.

Local Government: Attend village, town, city and county meetings in large numbers. Serve them with the Committee of Safety Charter and Resolutions. Require their obedience to the Law of the Land (the Constitution). The Committee of Safety may Petition the Common Law Grand Jury to resolve issues of “bad behavior.” The experience and expertise of each member of any community is the greatest resource of that community. Develop your List of Community Resources and prepare for their use in troubled times.

Preparation:

- Organize a Committee of Safety in your County.
- A committee of Safety can be formed by any of the People in your County.
- Invite local Liberty Group members to join your Committee of Safety.
- Enjoy the FREE Government by Consent Course at [www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org](http://www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org).
- Enjoy the FREE Civics Course at [www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org](http://www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org).
- Exercise the Principles of the Governor of the Universe.
- Develop Committees of Correspondence to communicate with other COS's.
- Develop a close alliance with your Sheriff and invite him to your meetings.
- Make an alliance with your County Common Law Grand Jury Administration.
- Find more Information & Tools at [www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org/COS](http://www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org/COS).

Committees of Safety ARE the Solution to America's problem of out of control governments. They are on the rise all across America. With the NLA already established in every state, and its current campaign to alert and share it's concepts with Liberty Minded Groups that are already well established in almost every county in the nation, it is a forgone conclusion that Committees of Safety will be established in almost every American County. With the COS sub-committees of Correspondence, they WILL unite and prepare America to weather any storm the New World Order can raise.

## **HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND THE STATUTORY COMMITTEEMAN**

Committees of Safety that morphed into the “Statutory Committeeman” sometime after 1789 existed throughout the history of colonial America. Though known by various names; Committees of Protection, Associations, or, as the case in Plymouth Colony, an unnamed civil body politic, and, in Jamestown, simply governing council, they had the characteristic of being a civil government absent a government established by the sovereign.

In the early eighteenth century, Committees of Safety were quite common, especially on the frontiers, where the possibility of Indian attacks were likely. The Committee would appoint watchmen, hog reeves, fence reeves, and, militia officers. These are functions that were taken on by more organized governments, in some towns, though were common through most of the colonies, leading up to the War of Independence.

Committees served, primarily, to fill in gaps that were left by existing colonial and county governments, providing services that were otherwise unavailable. As tensions grew between the colonists and the Crown government in England, the need for Committees increased, especially in western Massachusetts and South Carolina. After the Massachusetts Government Act (May 20, 1774), which revoked the Massachusetts Charter and replaced the locally elected governments with appointments by the King, the farmers in western Massachusetts began forming Committees to assure a continuity of government and to take charge in expelling courts and judges who were not abiding by the original charter, and replacing them with their own courts, though primarily only for criminal matters.

There were sufficient numbers of Committees in most of the colonies to call for the First Continental Congress, in 1774. These Committees were not subject to Royal governance, because, quite simply, to call for such a Congress would have been a contradiction of their authority granted by the various charters. Subsequently, the Second Continental Congress was called by the Committees, which by this time, had evolved to the point where sufficient numbers of participating Committees established a Provincial Committee of Safety.

Committees of Safety continued to operate as functions of local government throughout the War of Independence, until each state adopted a Constitution, or otherwise revised their form of government, absent any Royal control, once the Article of Confederation were instituted in 1781. But it was intended that committees of safety continue in order to have “Government by Consent”

*Cambridge April 29, 1775*

*This may certify that the bearer, Mr. Paul Revere is messenger to the Committee of Safety and that all dispatch and assistance be given him in Instances that the business of the Colony may be facilitated*

***Jos. Warren, Chair.***

Committees of Safety existed prior to 1692 and were called by various names. The Committee which was created, in that year, in New York is significant in that it was created by the militia. The colonists were dissatisfied with the government of the Crown headed by Governor Sir Edmund Andros. Recognizing that the military (militia) authority must always be subordinate to the civil authority, and having serious concern over the abusive authority imposed by Andros, the militia of New York created their own civil authority in the form of the Committee of Safety.

Representation on the Committee was based upon two delegates being selected by the citizenry to represent each community. The delegates gathered and exercised their authority by, eventually, imprisoning Governor Andros for a period of one year.

On and off, many communities, colonies and provinces exercised their right of “self-governance” by establishing Committees as the need arose. The practice became even more common after the French and Indian Wars of 1756-1758. The Crown had imposed a number of new taxes on the colonies. It was felt that since the French and Indian Wars were in defense of the colonies, the burden of the enormous expense should be borne by the colonists. Of course, few colonists agreed.

As the taxes were increased (even though the colonies would never be able to pay the costs and interest), the demand by the colonists for the “rights of Englishmen” were raised. The Parliament had virtually no direct representation from the colonies, although there were some members of the House of Commons who were sympathetic with the colonies.

Each effort by the Crown to raise taxes resulted in the colonies refusing to purchase the goods taxed to raise the revenue. This caused the Crown to impose even more taxes, or replace those that had failed to return the revenue.

Finally, the Coercive Acts of 1774 caused sufficient concern in the colonies to prompt action. Those communities that had formed Committees sent delegates to the colony or province level in order to respond to the call from the Boston Committee for a Continental Congress. In September, 1774, nine colonies responded to the call and met in Philadelphia to join in actions to counter the increasing imposition of arbitrary control by Britain.

Although during the course of colonial history many Committees of Safety were formed and operated under British government, frequently their actions were outside of the authority granted. They frequently co-existed alongside the “authorized” government of the Crown, creating a parallel government which was the direct representation of the people as opposed to the legitimate government of the Crown.

These “parallel” governments formed the nexus that would come together again in June, 1776, comprised of representatives of all thirteen colonies, to form the Second Continental Congress. The outcome of this second congress was the Declaration of Independence.

### **THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY CONCEPT**

“Resolved unanimously, As our opposition to the settled plan of the British administration to enslave America will be strengthened by a union of all ranks of men in this province, we do most earnestly recommend that all former differences about religion or politics, and all private animosities and quarrels of every kind, from henceforth cease and be forever buried in oblivion; and we entreat, we conjure every man by his duty to God, his country, and his posterity, cordially to unite in defense of our common rights and liberties.” - Resolution of the Maryland Deputies, December 12, 1774.

The concept of committees of safety was the forerunner of that principle of government implemented by the states and the federal government. Each committee would delegate its representatives to go to the next higher level, and carry with it the will of the people. Within each group there were chairmen selected to act as conciliator to the delegation. His purpose was not to rule, dictate or control the meetings, with the exception of providing order and purpose. Most often, he may have been denied the right to vote to compensate for what additional power he might have as chairman. In Boston, for example, a rather meek and mild Doctor John Warren was chairman of the Boston Committee of Safety. He provided order at the meetings, and otherwise carried out his duties as the administrator of the will of the people.

Since those times, we have subordinated our individual thought process to one which might be best described as “corporate mentality,” where the chairman is usually chief executive officer (CEO) and wields an unnatural authority. His word is assumed “law,” and until he is replaced, he is the power.

What has to be understood if the concept of Committee of Safety is to become the tool in our efforts to return to constitutional government, is that the authority of the people be recognized above all else. All “enactments” should come from that source, and finally be approved by that source. Any executive committee actions should be for their ministerial

nature, only. The corporate pyramid must be turned over and recognized in its proper light that the people are at the top, just under God. Next the committee of safety, and its various sub-committees, which function as the source defined by interest, to generate “enactments.” Finally the delegates, chairmen, and executive committee whose only purpose is to facilitate the orderly determination of the will of the people, and provide the means to implement that will.

The Committee of Safety concept, in order to operate in a manner which is suggested by history, must operate as committees and the Committee of the Whole. It must never operate as a “star chamber” or an executive authority under the current concept. It must never operate as a corporation, for a corporate interest is not the same as the People. The goal that is sought to be achieved is that the will of the people be carried out by those who have sought to assist in that administration, not by those who seek to control that will.

The Albany NY Committee was established prior to the First Continental Congress. This General Committee was executed in 1775. It was signed by all members of the committee at the time. It might provide us an understanding of the necessity for establishing a committee of like-minded people for the purpose of furthering the discussion of solutions to the problem. The original Albany version:

A General Committee agreed to and subscribed by the members of the several committees of the city and county of Albany. Persuaded that the salvation of the Rights and Liberties of America depends upon God and on the firm union of its inhabitants, in a vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its Safety; and convinced of the necessity of preventing the anarchy and confusion, which attend a dissolution of the powers of government.

“WE the Freemen, Freeholders and inhabitants of the City and County of Albany being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the ministry, to raise a revenue in America; and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in the Massachusetts Bay. Do in the most solemn manner resolve never to become Slaves; and do associate under all the Ties of Religion, Honour, and Love to our Country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the Execution of the several Arbitrary and oppressive Acts of the British Parliament until a Reconciliation between Great Britain and America on Constitutional Principles (which we most ardently desire) can be obtained; And that we will in all things follow the Advice of our General Committee respecting the purpose aforesaid, the preservation of Peace and good Order and the safety of Individuals and private Property.”

DISASTERS – Events such as Katrina, as well as the possibility of man caused disasters, are potential threats to the security, safety, and well-being of our families. If a true Committee existed in your community and there was some sort of event that affected food supply, utilities, water, or otherwise threatened your safety, we have in place, through the Committee, a cooperative with which to share needed resources. Though short lived in Plymouth Colony and Jamestown, this “cooperative” served quite well for survival in a hostile land, for the first few years. It also allowed the sharing of crops in the frontier towns and agricultural communities, in later colonial times, when Indian raids, or weather, destroyed crops, which would leave those affected short of food, had their neighbors (fellow Committee members) not shared with them what food was available.

What if a MEGA SOLAR FLARE EVENT happened? On September 1<sup>st</sup> 1859, the most FEROCIOUS SOLAR STORM in recorded history engulfed our planet. It was “the Carrington Event,” named after British scientist Richard Carrington, who witnessed the flare that started

it. The storm rocked Earth's magnetic field, sparked auroras over Cuba, the Bahamas and Hawaii, set fire to telegraph stations, and wrote itself into history books as the Biggest.

"The Carrington Event was *not* unique," says Hisashi Hayakawa of Japan's Nagoya University, whose recent study of solar storms has uncovered other events of comparable intensity. "While the Carrington Event has long been considered a once-in-a-century catastrophe, historical observations warn us that this may be something that occurs much more frequently."

Modern technology is far more vulnerable to solar storms than 19th-century telegraphs. Think about GPS, the internet, and transcontinental power grids that can carry geomagnetic storm surges from coast to coast in a matter of minutes. A modern-day Carrington Event could cause widespread power outages along with disruptions to navigation, air travel, banking, and all forms of digital communication. Superstorms in February 1872 and May 1921 were *also* comparable to the Carrington Event, with similar magnetic amplitudes and widespread auroras. Two more storms are nipping at Carrington's heels: The Quebec Blackout of March 13, 1989, and an unnamed storm on Sept. 25, 1909 were only a factor of 2 less intense.

On Monday, April 2, 2001, the sun unleashed the BIGGEST SOLAR FLARE EVER RECORDED, as observed by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) satellite. The flare was definitely more powerful than the famous solar flare on March 6, 1989, which was related to the disruption of power grids in Canada. This recent explosion from the active region near the sun's northwest limb hurled a coronal mass ejection into space at a whopping speed of roughly 7.2 million kilometers per hour. Luckily, the flare was not aimed directly towards earth.

What would an Electro-Magnetic Pulse (EMP) caused by a Solar Flare or attack do to the US? Depending on the power of the explosion or solar flare, an EMP could disable, damage, or destroy; TVs, radios and other broadcast equipment, Power grid transformers and substations, telephones (land lines) and smartphones, vehicles and aircraft, computers and all internet connected devices, refrigerators, generators, and satellites potentially within the range of the EMP, essentially all electronics! On Feb 10 2022, SpaceX's newest fleet of (40) satellites tumbled out of orbit after being struck by a solar storm. SpaceX said a geomagnetic storm last Friday made the atmosphere denser, which increased the drag on the Star-link satellites, effectively dooming them.

In 2017 President Trump ordered a solution to protect our electrical grid from EMP Attack or solar flare, EMP Shield™ was the solution and is now protecting our electrical grid. Electric companies were to notify the people of the EMP concerns and solution but as of 2022 have yet to do so. If a major electro-magnetic flare were to strike tomorrow your home, automobile, generator and all your electronics could be totally destroyed. There is a solution to this problem - [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/electro-magnetic-pulse-protection](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/electro-magnetic-pulse-protection).

One of the most important tools utilized by those who have sought to take our freedoms and our country from us is the control of public education. By these means they have been able to remove aspects of our history which would have enabled us to both perceive and deal with the problems of today long before now.

Jefferson, Madison, Franklin, Adams, Washington and the rest of those who gave us the Republic we seek to restore today was well established in their respective communities, and recognized by their efforts to be men of sincerity. Their efforts extended, in most cases, over many years of guidance to their neighbors. The respect that was earned by these efforts, and their willingness to represent the will of the people, propelled them into the delegations which formulated the course that the colonies would pursue.

We have an opportunity to return to Constitutional government, and send Committeemen into the community to encourage the People to take control of our children's education in replace of the destructive progressive education that the federal government forces upon our children today and encourage the People themselves to take courses that will prepare them to take control of their own destiny and our out of control governments. See > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/start-here](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/start-here).

In order to understand the difference between what should be the true elected committeemen that should arise in our Republic within the political parties, and what we now have from the private political associations known as Democrats and Republicans, which have covertly overtaken control of the committeemen process, it is extremely important to review the history and purpose of the committeemen. Everybody knows that our party system is dysfunctional, clearly proven by the deceitful candidates we are left with to choose from as our representatives. Some people think we don't have a choice and we must live with the system as it is, but that simply is not true. The underlying problem is a certain, systematic, identifiable corruption, which our founders addressed by replacing all committeeman every two years throughout the state, thereby flushing out political corruption.

Our goal is simply to reinstate the peoples "consentors" envisioned by our founding fathers, the committeemen are those consentors. The argument between the parties are all about controlling the behavior of the people, when will we tire from such despicable acts, when will we see that we lay wait for our own blood, for our own souls? If we just stop trying to control each other, we would discover the liberty of our fathers.

For the past 70 years, or so, the political process has been hijacked by an elite few who have succeeded in creating a dysfunctional government, hell bent on the annihilation of our Republic, through division, through indulgence, through anger and hatred, in short through "political parties."

To exercise the political process is to control our servant government, whereas the exercising of politics is intended for the controlling of people, and is repugnant to liberty. The enemy of liberty by its politics, has all but destroyed our political process, and expunged the free and independent committeeman. Today, by God's mercy we have the opportunity and a duty to ourselves and our posterity, to restore the process, and resurrect the committeeman, for liberty!

Our Duty, the committeeman is the seat from which the people exercise their power, and who's duty is to: (1) Fill political vacancies with statesmen that know the law of the land, and are minded to observe it. (2) Monitor and report the "hand" counting of the vote in public for both the primary and general elections. (3) Monitor elected individuals to insure they don't overstep their authority. (4) Recall elected servants that violate their oaths. (5) Solve problems with bureaucrats reported by people from our election district. (6) Visit schools to initiate programs educating our children and college students in political science, judicial processes and ethics; alongside the sciences and mathematics. (7) Educate and encourage a sense of duty among our constituents.

Two major parties control the political process, if we are going to reinstate the Republic it is absolutely critical that the People can work together. The state committee should meet without the influence of parties to discuss solutions to our political problems; this will solidify the people's aspiration for better government, and reinforce the fear of recall in the minds of our servant government.

## COMMITTEE OF SAFETY CRITICAL MIND SET

COS Committeeman Critical Mind Set - Don't ask "what are the limits of our power?" Liberty knows no limit, we simply do what is honest and just, the people need "no permission" to act, yes we can make it up as we go and as we see fit, that's the prerogative of a king. We the People ordained and established this constitution "for" the United States, we are the potter and they are the clay. Legislators are authorized under the Constitution, ordained by the people, to write statutes and codes, enforced as law, to control the behavior of bureaucrats, municipalities, government agencies, elected officials, interstate commerce, but not the people, whose rights are unalienable and cannot be legislated. Once republicans and democrats realize our Constitution does not authorize congress to legislate behavior politics will finally out grow its pathetic effectiveness. And, if we follow Thomas Jefferson's advice of "peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations - entangling alliances with none," America's greatest days would lie ahead.

### COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ORGANIZATION (CCOS)

Chairman Co-chairman Treasurer Secretary

*"Everyone has one vote and everyone has a right to be heard"*

*No one has more say than anyone else*

Purpose is to organize the following in their counties in order to prevent government encroachment. The common goal of each county is to teach the People, what they forgotten, "Government by Consent"! This requires an understanding of how a "Natural Law Republic" was established by the providence of nature's God and how it works. This can only be accomplished by a proper education as we organize, and **RESTORE**



### **RREE & INDEPENDENT COMMITTEEMAN: (NON-STATUTORY)**

- ✓ Committeemen interview candidates for election and fill political vacancies with statesmen that know the law of the land, and remind them to observe it.
- ✓ Committeemen decide who gets on the ballot.
- ✓ Committeemen observes and certifies vote counting
- ✓ Committeemen monitor elected individuals to insure they don't overstep their authority.
- ✓ Committeemen monitor the "hand" counting of the vote in public.
- ✓ Committeemen can recall elected individuals who do not honor their oath
- ✓ Committeemen can end the two party system
- ✓ Committeemen can run educational campaigns in their election districts
- ✓ Committeemen monitor elected individuals to insure they don't overstep their authority.

- ✓ Committeemen solve problems with bureaucrats reported by people from their election district.
- ✓ Committeemen visit schools to initiate programs educating our children and college students in political science, judicial processes and ethics; alongside the sciences and mathematics.
- ✓ Committeemen educate and encourage a sense of duty among our constituents.
- ✓ Committeemen can enforce the Republic Review where the states come together to remove unconstitutional legislation.
- ✓ Committeemen can force legislation for term limits.

The Resolve of the COS is to promote an educated citizenry which is required in order to have “Government by Consent,” thereby ending government encroachment upon our Liberties. The common goal of each COS is to teach the People what they have forgotten! This requires an understanding of how a “Natural Law Republic” was established by the providence of nature’s God and how it works. Every members of the COS must be active and properly educated. As Jefferson said, “*If a People expect to be Ignorant and free they expect what never was and never will be.*” Eternal vigilance is required in order to secure Liberty.

There are no problems that a COS cannot solve. And there are many initiatives that your COS must advance within their respective counties. Such as bringing a proper education back into our schools, prevent agenda 21, monitor fair elections, remove tyrants and criminals from office, end political factions, enforce the Law of the Land, etc. But after forming your COS General Committee the first order of business is to form and initiate the following “sub-committees” in order to gain power and take back our unalienable right of “Government by Consent” and once this is accomplished we will be empowered to bind down our government servants with the chains of the Constitution. The COS, in general, is responsible for addressing problems and all sub-committees are to report their findings to the COS General Committee members for discuss and consider the sub-committees proposed solutions. Contact NLA’s Committee of Correspondence District Coordinator who will assist your COS with solving problems, solving legal challenges, and etc. Find your District Coordinator here > <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/site-contact>

**POLITICAL COMMITTEE:** This committee is responsible for receiving, contacting, and communicating with individuals interested in filling political positions and reporting back to the full committee those candidates that are worthy of our support. Whereas, the entire COS will act as the “True non-statutory Committeeman” to get these candidates onto the ballot by walking designating petitions, for more details on this process go to <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks> and download the “County Committee of Safety Committeeman Handbook.” A Natural Law Republic, such as the “United States” cannot survive the continuance of political parties that are “private associations” initiated by BAR Attorneys and designed to be controlled by “party bosses.” As President George Washington in his farewell address put it, “*Parties lead to despotism, serve to organize division, ruin public liberty, kindle animosity of one part against another, put in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of the party elite, undermine the Constitution which could not be directly overthrown, distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration, drive the spirit of revenge, and opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, thus the policy and the will of one country will be subjected to the policy and will of another,*” Washington concluded, “parties are truly your worst enemy.” Committees of Safety can overtake and replace the statutory-committeeman and end the private party associations that have been destroying our Republic since its inception.

**COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE:** This committee is responsible for addressing unconstitutional government activity and correspond with other County Committees of Correspondence in order to share solutions and work on common problems that affect other counties within their state or across our Nation. You can go to <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/national-issues> and read about proposed national issues that we need to address. NLA's Committee of Correspondence will meet once a month to discuss the issues and brainstorm other issues that we will post on said national issue page. The strategy is to for CCOS to discuss the issues and then bring the issues back to their General Committees for action, by contacting our Congressional Representatives to demand that they solve the issues as we addressed them. If our representatives do not respond positively let them know if they are going to continue to disobey us we will recall them or not support their candidacy if the election is close. If enough CCOS force their obedience we will succeed. This is why it is important to initiate CCOS in our neighboring counties to form CCOS and work together on national and state issues. The chairman of the Political Committee is responsible for contacting our representatives on these issues and the General Committee will act in one accord to remove these unfaithful servants if necessary. See Non Statutory Committeeman Handbook for detailed information and instructions and contact NLA's Committee of Correspondence Coordinator who will assist with solving problems, legal challenges, and etc.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** These committees are responsible for visiting schools within their county, elementary to college and require that civics, constitutional studies, real American history, and court access is taught. And that anything being taught in these schools that are destructive to our Natural Law Republic must cease immediately. Remember all schools receive federal funding and they are required to teach civics or lose their funding. Also this is why your educational committee should be busy in their communities campaigning for an education of the People and encourage their participation. These people should go to the school board with your committee to force compliance. If you receive any resistance contact your NLA District Coordinator and we will initiate legal action.

**MILITIA COMMITTEE:** This committee is responsible for restoring the organized and unorganized militia within their respective counties, it is the duty of every COS member to participate. We should look for an existing militia within your county to invite them to join and help the COS in this endeavor. We should look to x-military and law enforcement for assistance in organizing and training. See Militia Handbook for detailed information and instructions and contact NLA's Militia Director who will assist with solving problems, legal challenges, and etc. It is extremely important for county militias to be corresponding with other county militia committees and plan a coordinated yearly state wide event.

**JUDICIAL COMMITTEE:** This committee is responsible for filling Jury Administrative positions whenever there is a vacancy. Each county needs four Jury Administrators and one paralegal secretary. These are paid positions and require special training. NLA will provide that training and certification. These administrators will work together in every county to restore the Law of the Land by resurrecting common law and common law rules in our courts.

This handbook is to be used in conjunction with the cos committeeman handbook found here > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks).

# ORGANIZING A COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND APPROACHING THE SHERIFF

The first order of business is to organize and build the membership (no limitation). The ideal is to eventually have at least two (2) people from each city, town or village in your county. Once the following positions are filled official meetings and resolutions can be initiated and settled. People who may not want to fill these positions, but are willing to hold them, until someone else is willing or more qualified to hold them can hold them temporarily. It is important to note that the people holding these positions have no more authority or power than any other member and each member represents one vote.

General Committee (CCOS) positions to be filed:

- Chairman
- Co-Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasure
- All Subcommittees should have a Chairman and Co-Chairman

COS PLAN OF ACTION – The Following is a framework that every Committee of Safety once formed is developing and acting upon quickly along with the creation of a (sub) Committee of Correspondence necessary for the communications and cooperation between counties and states necessary for the success of our survival physically, morally, spiritually and nationally as a Common Law Republic.

**1<sup>st</sup> ORDER OF BUSINESS** – Begin by choosing groups in your area that you feel may be interested in forming a Committee of Safety (COS). These might include liberty groups, veterans groups, school groups that may be concerned with the current taxes or curriculum, e.g. Common Core, and groups that have a wide base in the community such a firemen etc.

Contact members in these groups and invite them to a presentation at a convenient location and date. You can have the presentation at a library, firehouse, town hall, or other public building. If you expect a larger number of people, public libraries normally have a conference room available and usually have a projector and possibly speakers that you can use with a laptop computer. You can find power point presentation and power point videos presentation available for download here >  
[www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks).

Create a committee of safety by first voting in the following officers (1) Chairman (2) Co-Chairman (3) Secretary (4) Treasurer (5) Chairman and co-chairman for (sub) Committees as they develop. Plan and actively seek out membership with a goal of seeking one (or more) members from each town and city within your county. This may take a while continue the following steps as you build your membership.

**2<sup>nd</sup> THE CHARTER** – Once you fill the following four positions (1) Chairman, (2) Co-Chairman, (3) Secretary, (4) Treasure, and everyone has read this handbook; have your first official meeting. During this meeting adopt “Roberts Rules of Order” and define the COS by developing a charter. Go to [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks) for proposed charter

**3<sup>rd</sup> RESOLUTIONS** – Vote on Resolutions, try to maintain all the proposed resolutions in the “Proposed Resolutions” for nation wide uniformity. You can find a copy of these proposed Resolutions at, <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks>.

**4<sup>th</sup> SEAL** – Seal both the Charter and Resolutions with your County COS Seal discussed below.

After creating your charter and resolutions go to Staples or Office Max and have it bound you will need at least three copies. One to file with the county clerk, one to give to your Sheriff, and one to file with the CCOS Secretary. This document should be updated from time to time and more Documents printed and bound as needed to give to each local government you visit, such as city councils, town boards, village boards, legislators, etc. When visiting your State government muster up all the County COS’s developing in other counties in your State. Remember “*United We Stand Divided We Fall.*”

**5<sup>th</sup> FIRST MEETING WITH SHERIFF** – Make an appointment to meet the Sheriff no more than 5 to 10 minutes. Make sure your Sheriff received the book “Government by Consent go to > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/government-consent-book-o](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/government-consent-book-o) to purchase the book (\$50). Your first meeting with the Sheriff is just to introduce yourself. Confirm that he got a copy of the book and give him a copy of your charter and resolutions, Sheriffs Handbook, Grand Jury Handbook, and Petit Jury Handbook. These handbooks can be purchased at > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/books-john-darash](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/books-john-darash). Then invite him to meet with your group in about 30 days. This will give him time to digest the documents and the books. You can download pdf copies of said handbooks for free but it is more impressive to give him published copies.

**6<sup>th</sup> SECOND MEETING WITH THE SHERIFF** – Prepare to meet the Sheriff, discuss the important points you will want to make to the Sheriff. Choose one or two speakers to make these points. Your Sheriff should have already received a copy of “Government by Consent book, your founding documents and said handbooks. Every CCOS member should have copies of these books. The meeting should proceed as normal. Bible reading or a prayer, pledge, pass the donation can (*or agree on monthly dues*), review last month’s meeting for corrections, committee reports, new business. Then, one or two committeemen should have prepared questions for the Sheriff, after-which the rest of the meeting should be a Q&A by all member with the Sheriff.

**7<sup>th</sup> INVITE THE SHERIFF** – or one of his Deputies to attend your monthly meetings which would allow for the Sheriffs input. Stay on point and keep it friendly on a professional level. Assure the Sheriff that we know that our county has professional emergency services such as town fire departments and rescue teams; town, city and state police departments and most importantly a County Sheriff who is the “Chief Administrator and Law Enforcer” of his county. The Sheriff is responsible for protecting the Peoples’ unalienable rights and their Constitution for the United States of America. The counties and towns have well planned protocols and integrated communications in place to deal with disasters such as storms, power outages, floods, public health emergencies, aviation disasters and chemical and biological emergencies. Therefore, we are not planning to reinvent the wheel or interfere with their professional decisions and protocols. We in fact completely and totally trust and support their expertise and competence.

The one thing that We the People are concerned about that has not yet been addressed by local governments and the Sheriff is the “Constitutional Chain of Command” during a National Disaster such as a Monetary Collapse. This issue cannot wait until a disaster occurs and no viable plan concerning a lawful Constitutional Chain of Command is in effect.

For whatever reason the federal government has plans to un-constitutionally seize control of local governments and establish martial law which will not prevent anarchy, but fuel it. FEMA engaged a national “readiness exercise” under the code name of REX 84 which called for the suspension of the Constitution and turning complete control of all local governments over to FEMA while potentially using UN troops to keep law and order and not We the People. There exists no constitutional authority for the federal government to suspend the constitution, seize control of State and local governments and turn over control to the “military” under martial law. This type of plan is repugnant to our Republic. This is the purpose for the militia We the People addressed in our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment which provides that “*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.*” We the People did not delegate any authority in the Constitution to the federal government concerning a national disaster. This is the Peoples responsibility at the local level.

At the end of the meeting invite the Sheriff to the next COS meeting. Invite the Sheriff and his deputies to take our free Constitutional Course > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org).

**8<sup>th</sup> Local Government** – Have a meeting, to prepare to meet the Town/City Boards. Choose one or two speakers to make these points. Give the Boards a copy of the documents you gave the Sheriff. Invite local elected officials to your meeting but they cannot be “Committeemen” (members) while they hold office. Request that the Sheriff sign your Resolutions before sharing with the local governments. This will make your meeting with the local governments go smoother.

**9<sup>th</sup> Issues** – You now have become seasoned and should start addressing issues raised and agreed upon by your CCOS. You are on your own but remember you have support by other CCOS’s across the State and the Nation. You also have NLA available for advice and education.

NLA is working with a group of Constitutional Sheriffs, educated by NLA, who are organizing Sheriffs across the United States. They have agreed to write a letter to accompany NLA’s book Government by Consent written by one of NLA’s Founders John Darash.” Every County should participate in NLA’s Campaign for Constitutional Sheriffs by buying a book for your Sheriff. We are discouraging People who want to buy and deliver a book to their Sheriff personally. It is much more powerful for your Sheriff to receive a book from another Sheriff who will follow up with him to join other “Constitutional Sheriffs.” It is also important that your Sheriff is introduced to a proper education and have the opportunity to join with other Constitutional Sheriffs who will introduce them to NLA. Therefore when your County COS approaches the Sheriff he will be ready to respond positively. If your Sheriff has already been provided a book then the funds will go to buy a book for a Sheriff in a nearby county.

NLA has a weekly Live Open Forum every Monday at 9-11 PM EST where we discuss issues and educate people. Everyone should take our Free Civics Course, Militia Course and our Government by Consent Course. Learn real American History, how to file a court case, the difference between Law and equity, the Constitution, Natural Law a/k/a Common Law, the true meaning of Liberty, how We the People can reinstate our Natural Law Courts of Justice and much-much more. Every CCOS should encourage all members to join our weekly open forum <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/mondaycall> and take our free courses.

## COMMITTEE OF SAFETY SEAL

2” COMMITTEE OF SAFETY SEAL: It takes a week or so to get a seal the cost is about \$50, someone should take the initiative to order the seal. 1776 is the birth of America, by all Committees of Safety using this year it makes a statement and shows solidarity. Take this page to Staples and order a seal changing only the name of your county. If it is too long you can abbreviate County to Co. Make sure you order a 2” seal. The orientation should be a seal that enters the paper from the left. It takes 7 days to receive the seal.

- ◆ Go to <http://www.staples.com/>
- ◆ Type in search bar “STAMP EMBOSSERS”
- ◆ Next to “CUSTOM EMBOSSERS” click on “GET STARTED”
- ◆ Choose “Embossers” and select 2” and click “DESIGN NOW”
- ◆ PUT ON YOUR CAPS AND DESIGN AS FOLLOWS:

Address Line 2	<u>YOUR COUNTY</u>
Full Name	COMMITTEE OF
Company Name	1776 AD
Address Line 3	<u>YOUR STATE</u>
Address Line 1	SAFETY SEAL

Click next, check “I have read the statement above and approve, click next

- ◆ Choose “Quantity” (*each committee should have only one and held by the Secretary*) then “click next”
- ◆ Choose “Left” then “click next”
- ◆ Click “NEXT” a few times past the advertisements, confirm order and order.



## VIRTUAL OFFICE PHONE SYSTEM

CONNECT ANYWHERE KEEPS YOU IN TOUCH, EVERYWHERE: Mobilize your business phone service with Connect Anywhere, your all-inclusive virtual phone system solution -- no hardware required.

HOW IT WORKS – Since Connect Anywhere uses your existing phones, you don’t have to worry about any additional hardware installation. This is a hosted - PBX solution, which means the service, runs at Connect Me Voice’s carrier-grade facility and therefore doesn’t take up your office space. Hosted PBX allows your extensions and phone numbers to be located anywhere, so geographical limitations no longer apply. Use local or toll-free numbers from any area in the country for the same low price, or have your current number transferred to their system.

YOUR CONNECTION, YOUR CHOICE – When a caller calls your Connect Anywhere local or toll-free number, choose to have them greeted by an auto-attendant or have the caller connected right away, without the need to enter any extensions or dialing options. If you have decided to implement the call-screening feature, the system asks for the caller’s name. Otherwise, your Connect Anywhere virtual phone system simply puts the caller right through after any necessary extensions or dialing options are chosen. The caller listens to your choice of on-hold options, music or custom message, while the system connects the caller to the correct recipient. COSTS – Only **\$14.95** (400 minutes) per month.

THE BENEFITS OF CONNECT ANYWHERE?

- Auto-attendant with 25 extensions:
- After-hours call handling for professional appeal:
- Voicemail-to-email translations:
- Call Recording:

- On-hold options for professional appeal:
- Email notification and web administration:
- Flexible listening, viewing and controlling:
- Advanced call routing and reporting with our optional inbound call center package:
- Call transfer and three-way calling:
- Follow-me flexibility:
- Electronic fax:

#### **FEATURES YOU GET WITH CONNECT ANYWHERE?**

- Toll-free or local number
- Dial-by-name directory
- Voicemail messages translated to text
- View and print call reports
- Web administration panel
- Call screening
- Advanced call center features
- Dedicated toll-free number for faxing
- Play voicemails online or via email
- View faxes online or via email
- Caller ID on all calls
- Auto-attendant with 25 extensions
- Call recording

**To SIGN UP GO TO – PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW TO GIVE NLA CREDIT AS A RESELLER.**  
<https://signup2.connectmevoice.com/default.aspx?planid=322&salesplanid=322>

#### **EXAMPLE LETTERHEAD**

Dutchess County New York Committee of Safety  
 P.O. Box 00; Your Town, Your State, 11122; PH (333) 444-5555 Fax – 666-777-8888

*Impression is everything we suggest using parchment paper for all official letters and resolutions. You should have a mailing address, fax number and phone number. Always sign and seal all official communications and use titles.*

#### **VENUE**

If you do not have a projector, speakers and screen find a library or some other facility where you can present that has all the equipment necessary including the cables to hook up to a laptop. Make sure they show you how everything hooks-up. You will still need a Lap top and maybe an extension cord and Electric strip w/at least 3 outlets. Usually someone in your group has these items. The ideal place for your meeting is in your town hall. If the town refuses your request to use the town hall use a library or some other place. But once you are established and your sheriff is on board and maybe a few other elected individuals are with you then you will demand to use the town hall for meetings. Remember there are many towns in a county but you should target one that is centrally located in your county. Also remember the town hall belongs to the People.

**TOOLS NEEDED** – The following is a list of items you will need for presentations. (test before showing, preferably at the facility)

- Lap top
- Speakers to plug into laptop and outlet
- Digital projector w/cables to hook up to laptop
- Extension cord
- Electric strip w/ at least 3 outlets
- 5' or larger movie screen (you can project onto a white or pastel color wall or sheet)

## YOUR FIRST MEETING (INTRODUCTION) "SEMINAR"

The organizers of the "County Committee of Safety" should meet as often as possible in person, on line, and on the phone to discuss and plan your CCOS first meeting (seminar). During this time you should be drawing as many people as possible into your planning stage. You should list out and eventually invite people from the many liberty minded groups and organizations within your county and even in nearby counties, this will stimulate the growth of CCOS's in your neighboring counties.

Contact your "NLA District Leader" who can give you a list of NLA members within your State (*first names and telephone numbers*) that you can invite to your seminar and work together to develop CCOS's throughout your State, for there is power in numbers! Some People will take the initiative to visit all the counties in your state to stimulate CCOS throughout your State. Remember "United We Stand" because we have been divided too long! Your first meeting is an introduction to the People in your County on how "We the People" can have "Government by Consent" as required "by Law," via our "Founding Documents." Therefore, you might want to call your first meeting a "Seminar," which is a "Course of Instruction."

Seminars can run from 2 to 8 hours and even an entire weekend. We estimate that our introduction seminar should take about 3 hours to introduce to the People how our "Founding Fathers" used the "Committee of Safety," and how it can accomplish Government by Consent, today. After which you should allow for an hour for an open forum on the COS. Create or Print Flyer > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/files/cos/Two%20sided%20Flyer.pdf](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/files/cos/Two%20sided%20Flyer.pdf)

Download the Jurist Handbook > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks) to hand out to everyone at the end of the seminar. This is a powerful 65 page handbook that should be printed on both sides, (that would take 33 pages). It's a lot of printing but it's worth it because it's a real eye-opener that will give the reader a liberated state of mind needed to have "Government by Consent!" Book your venue for a date 20-30 days in advance and start inviting people.

### YOUR SEMINAR SCHEDULE MIGHT BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Start off with a Prayer or a Bible reading (2 min)
- Pledge of Allegiance (1 min)
- Video, The Star Spangled Banner like you never heard it before (12 min)
- Our Founding Fathers and Committees of Safety (31 min)
- Intermission - Play the Edgar County Watchdogs Video (13 min) and We're Not Gonna Take It Anymore Video (3 min)
- Committees of Safety Presentation (35 min)
- Q&A discussion (60 min)
- Invitation to join the Committee of Safety (20 min)
- Set the date for your next meeting, have all the members join your "Committee of Safety Meetup." This is discussed in the County Committee of Safety Handbook.

## VIDEOS & POWER POINT VIDEOS

Download the following “*Videos*” & “*Power Point Videos*” below for your seminar. To download “*right click the MP4*” and “*select save link as.*” Or download the “*Power Point Presentation*” below (*same download process*) and perform the “*Committee of Safety Presentation*” live.

## SEMINAR VIDEOS & POWER POINT VIDEOS

You can download the following videos here > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks) onto a thumb drive to put on your laptop.

- [We're Not Gonna Take It Anymore! 3 min](#)
- [The signers of the Declaration of Independence 9 min](#)
- [Star Spangled Banner Like you never heard it before](#)
- [Republic v Democracy 11min](#)
- [Our Founding Fathers and Committees of Safety 31 min](#)
- [Edgar County Watchdogs 13 min](#)
- [Committee of Safety Presentation 35 min](#)

Every member should have a copy of this CCOS Handbook.

Book your venue for a date 20-30 days in advance and start inviting people. After your Seminar meeting should be monthly, duration two hours and stay on point.

- Have existing members bring guests.
- Invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers.
- Contact your NLA District Coordinator for a list of NLA Members in your state contact. Find you're NLA Coordinator here > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/site-contact](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/site-contact)
- Invite Volunteer fire department.
- Invite Volunteer Ambulance.
- Invite Volunteer Rescue.
- Invite Home Schoolers.
- Invite Meetup groups.
- Invite Liberty groups.
- Invite Gun Clubs.
- Invite Veterans Club.
- Post invitation on bulletin boards in stores, colleges, Craig's list, etc.
- Once you are ready invite your Sheriff and then elected individuals from your political subdivisions.
- Encourage People in surrounding counties to organize their counties by inviting them to your meeting.

## MEETING PROTOCOL

- Have a sign in sheet [name, town, phone, email]
- Everyone should bring a guest
- Prayer - (1-5 min) Strong suggestion - read a chapter in one of the gospels, edification is best.
- Pledge allegiance - (1 min)
- Have everyone introduce themselves - (5 min)

- Pass the Donation can (while people are introducing themselves)
- Old Business Committee Reports on activity the past month - (10 min)
- New Business - (10 min)
- Topic - play a power point video - (20-40 min) [First meeting “*COS Presentation*”] To find and download videos go here > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks).
- Discussion on the video subject matter - (30 min or more)
- Close meeting - the following info should be announced and on a flyer to handout at the end
- Thank people for coming
- Announce the date of the next meeting
- Send People to [www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org](http://www.NationalLibertyAlliance.org) to take Constitution Courses
- Invite People to our National Monday night open forum [click on weekly call]

## TOPICS FOR DISCUSSIONS

**Subject Matter:** [topics and discussions] stay on point. NLA will supply many power point videos go to [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/organizing-your-county](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/organizing-your-county) and [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks).

Follow the following protocol so that you can start organizing Committeemen and Jury Administrators, see below.

- Committeeman
- Jury Administration
- Militia (reserve)
- Common Law
- Equity
- Grand Jury
- Petit Jury
- Republic review
- Founding Documents
- American Heritage
- More ...

**WARNING:** Be alert that your COS is not hijacked by radicals with an agenda or ego trip bringing in division. For instance the Anna Von Ritz’s movement, who want to rewrite our Constitution and create a new government structure, or the man on the land movement, claiming that we need to declare our standing and file it in the county record, give up our citizenship, driver’s license, etc. The word citizen is used 11 times in the Constitution. The word citizen does not tie us to civil law.

**NOTE:** Every County Committee of Safety is “Free and Independent” we need to be uniform in our COS creation and duties, just like the original 13 Colonies, but every grassroots’ COS has their own unique problems and concerns. But as long as we are uniform from one county to another it will be easier to join forces with other counties to defeat a common threat when deemed necessary by each County COS. NLA is a National Organization whose only purpose is to assist the Grassroots to develop a necessary CCOS in order to preserve and defend our Republic. NLA’s policy is a “Hands off policy” in order to encourage a “Free and Independent” grassroots CCOS. Any interference from a National or State Organization threatens their independence. NLA will always be available to facilitate an education, organization assistance,

assist in finding answers and solutions when requested, share these answers and solutions with other CCOS through your “Committee of Correspondence Chairman,” provide communications between the counties, provide educational information, and certify “Jury Administrators. NLA will never interfere with COS’s business.

After the first meeting, when new members join, send them to NLA to watch previously played instructional/educational videos so that they can catch up.

Have a sign-in sheet and collect name, town, county, phone and email for future contact. Invite everyone to join your “Meetup.com” website. Divvy-out the work load to members.

- Follow up by phone within a week with all the people that attended the presentation.
- Find others who will join your campaign to start a COS in every county in your state.
- Invite everyone to join NLA and take our free 6-8 hour Constitutional Course and our 120 hour Civics Course.
- Invite everyone to our weekly Monday evening Teleconference call at 9PM EST
- Let People know that our Goal is to create 3133 Committees of Safety in 3133 counties to save America and that it will not take years to build a network of COS’s across the nation because we have many thousands of members across the nation with the infrastructure necessary to accomplish this goal by fall of 2016. We have already begun and are active creating COS’s in all 50 States.
- This plan is perfect for Liberty groups because they already have a membership, knowledge of the problems and drive.

Before approaching your Sheriff the following must be accomplished first.

- 1) County Committee of Safety has been organized and has had their first meeting, being introduced to the need for a COS. At this meeting a copy of a proposed COS Charter, COS Resolution, and a copy of this handbook should be handed out to your members for them to review and be prepared to address at your second meeting.
- 2) Fill the positions Chairman, Co-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee of Correspondence Chair. (even if some of the positions are held temporally)
- 3) At the Second meeting, members should debate and adopt a COS Charter and COS Resolutions. Take note you can add to or change anything within these two documents at any time.
- 4) Sheriff to Sheriff contact and your Sheriff received a book “Government by Consent.”
- 5) Acquire a Seal
- 6) Adopt a Letter head
- 7) Secure a PO Box
- 8) Secure a follow me phone and fax number

## **TRUE CONSENT OF GOVERNMENT**

COS AGENDA the salvation of our Republic depends on the People forming “County Committees of Safety.” Encourage members to learn about the Free and Independent Committeemen. Download the COS Committeeman Handbook here > [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks). Learn about Jury Administrators, and how to form a Militia. These positions require that you take NLA’s Civics and Government by Consent Course. These courses will prepare and qualify you for these positions.

COS COMMITTEEMAN - will require about 25 hours of your time a year, around election time, in the evening and weekends to interview candidates and walking designating petitions to get them on the ballot. Committeemen are the People who choose “who are on the primary

ballot for election.” They also witness the counting of the votes and have the power to recall. Nomination and election is quite simple.

Because the Committeeman chooses who gets on the ballot for elective office it is necessary that the Committeemen know the Constitution therefore we created courses at <https://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/courses>.

It is through the “Designating Petition Process” that We the People “Consent” to our government, therefore everyone on the CCOS participates as “Committeemen.” If the “Committeemen” are doing their duty on behalf of all the People supporting only candidates that “know” the Constitution and commit to supporting and obeying it. Committeemen have the authority to “recall” any elected individual who do not honor their oath. It is through this local political process that We the People “Consent,” for if they do not obey, we can remove them from office, via recall! The question now is, why aren’t we doing this? The answer is, that the oligarchy have removed the “Committeeman” narrative out of the political dialog and have seized total control of We the Peoples’ political process, thereby dictating the choices for us to choose the criminal on the right or the criminal on the left.

In 1796 George Washington, in his farewell address, warned us that “*through the course of time cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men would subvert the power of the people and seize for themselves the reins of government (Committeeman) through private Associations.*” He went on to tell us that once they seized the reins of power a/k/a the committeeman, the parties that would arise would;

- (1) *destroy the very engines (the political process) which have lifted them to unjust dominion,*
- (2) *destroy the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities,*
- (3) *open the door to foreign influence and corruption, thus the policy and the will of one country will be subjected to the policy and will of another,*
- (4) *serve to organize division,*
- (5) *ruin public liberty,*
- (6) *stifle, control and repress,*
- (7) *foment occasional riots & insurrection,*
- (8) *kindle animosity of one part against another,*
- (9) *put in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of the party elite,*
- (10) *agitate the community with ill founded jealousies & false alarms,*
- (11) *undermine the Constitution which could not be directly overthrown,*
- (12) *distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration,*
- (13) *drive the spirit of revenge,*
- (14) *leads to despotism.”* Washington concluded, “*...parties are truly your worst enemy.*”

## **THE GATE KEEPER CLAUSE**

In 1911 Section 21 of the New York election law, which had helped protect our Republic from the ruination George Washington forewarned us about, was cleverly removed which stated, “*... No organization or association of citizens for the election of city [town] officers shall be deemed a political party...*” Section 21 New York election law  
The political process is an “Unalienable right” of We the People, political organizations or associations are the epitome of “Mob Rule.”

The aforesaid clause stood to deter the creation of private political associations, which is what the parties are in fact today. After the eradication of the gate keeper clause was

accomplished, the legislators inserted election law Article 2 thereby crafting the “sub-committee” that provided the replacement entity a/k/a town committeeman, which statutorized the committeeman title that placed them under party bosses.

This Un-Constitutional Legislation empowered “progressive” operatives to facilitate the destruction of the “political process” a/k/a the “engine of freedom,” and seize control of the “committeemen” a/k/a the “reins of power.” So it was, about one hundred (100) years ago, “progressive” operatives in power at the various Board of Election (BOE) offices, working with operatives from both political parties or private associations, together expunged the CCOS “Committeeman;” and, implemented the façade we have today, otherwise known as the Democrat and Republican parties. These progressives did indeed subvert the sovereign power of We the People, an unalienable right, and usurped to themselves the fundamental reins of government, the committeemen. They then destroyed the very engine, (political process) which had “lifted them” to their “unjust dominion” ruling over the people. To this day these “progressive” continue to dominate both political parties.

Progressive legislators in collusion with collaborators at selected Boards of Election and power players in both political parties, it can be deduced, secretly orchestrated the creation of what in fact are private political party associations. This was indeed a direct but covert assault upon our Republic, and set the stage for the total perversion of the public office designed to be the closest to the will of the people. The assault placed the entire direction and controls of our country into the hands of a small cabal with a deliberate intent on destroying the framework of our Constitutional Republic. This legislation accomplished the expunging of the Committee of Safety and replaced it with the de facto committeeman process.

## **WE MUST BE FREE AND INDEPENDENT COMMITTEEMEN**

We the People, through the County Committees of Safety need to take back the control from the statutory-committeeman. Our Constitutions and natural law *requires* that the people choose their representatives, and no legislative power no matter how it is disguised to seem lawful, has any authority to legislate away, especially to private associations, the people’s authority. “None”! Just like each man or woman’s vote, it belongs to the people, not the government. Equally important, We the People alone are the ones responsible, and moreover have the duty, to oversee the counting of the vote. Certainly the responsibility to count the vote does not lie with some private corporation or machines that can be covertly rigged. So, the beginning of our plan is education and the execution of our plan is enforcement of the law.

Identifying the contradiction the idea of a democrat party and a republican party with different agendas that assert as their main goal a government “by the people” is an oxymoron to the form of government our founders intended. Our founders realized that a Republican Form of Government under Common Law would be the solution to man’s dilemma in his search for a government “*deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.*” So they ordained and established a Republic founded under the mind of God and not the mind of men, and included a elective process for representation. At some point for We the People to completely return to our true roots the Republican and Democrat parties must be eliminated and as Thomas Jefferson said, “*We are all Republicans we are all Federalist.*”

## JURY ADMINISTRATORS

We are building Common Law Jury Administrations in all 3,133 United States Counties in order to bring our courts back under the “Law of the Land.” We will need four (4) Administrators and one (1) paralegal Administrator per county with a total of about 15,500 positions to be filled Nationwide. Salaries depend upon experience and range from \$45,000 to \$85,000 per year with comprehensive benefits.

In order to qualify for these positions you will need to take the following NLA’s courses, we suggest in the following order:

- 1) Foundation Study
- 2) Free Constitution 101 Course (introduction)
- 3) Government by Consent Course
- 4) Free Civics Course
- 5) Free Militia of the Several States Course found under our “Courses Tab” above.  
Positions will be filled by the first four People to complete the required courses or most advanced in the courses at the time of hiring
- 6) Join our Weekly Conference calls to keep up to date

## JURY ADMINISTRATOR PLAN

*“An enlightened citizenry is indispensable for the proper functioning of a republic. Self-government is not possible unless the citizens are educated sufficiently to enable them to exercise oversight. It is therefore imperative that the nation see to it that a suitable education be provided for all its citizens.”* Thomas Jefferson

Declaration - We the People of the United States of America by the Mercy and Grace of God having blessed the people with the unalienable right of self-rule by empaneling Jury’s, secured by the 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Amendments of the Bill of Rights for the United States of America, and in order to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity by the securing of Natural Law do ordain and reestablish Common Law Grand Jury’s principled upon Justice, Honor and Grace for a perpetual administration of trust on behalf of the people; and the Constitution Article III Section 2 and Article VI clause 2.

Organization – NLA has assisted the People in all fifty states to established a leadership and unify every county in the state by re-constituting the Common Law Grand Jury’s. This was accomplished by press releases in each county inviting the People of each county to come together to agreed and declared a return to Common Law Juries. We are still helping to establish leadership, membership and administrators in every county.

## DATE EACH STATE CONSTITUTED ALL COUNTIES AND UNIFIED

New York 2-27-14	Florida 3-15-14	Connecticut 3-15-14	Rhode Island 3-15-14	New Jersey 3-22-14
New Hampshire 3-29-14	Arizona 3-31-14	Massachusetts 4-1-14	Maryland 4-5-14	Maine 4-12-14
Washington 5-18-14	Pennsylvania 5-28-14	Minnesota 5-30-14	West Virginia 6-5-14	Colorado 6-14-14
Alabama 6-14-14	Illinois 6-21-14	Kansas 6-21-14	Oregon 6-23-14	Michigan 6-26-14
Vermont 6-28-14	South Dakota 6-30-14	Tennessee 7-1-14	Montana 7-5-14	Arkansas 7-10-14
Utah 7-10-14	Ohio 7-12-14	Indiana 7-12-14	Mississippi 7-12-14	California 7-12-14
Nebraska 7-12-14	Nevada 7-12-14	North Carolina 7-18-14	Oklahoma 7-19-14	Virginia 7-19-14
Hawaii 7-19-14	Texas 7-25-14	Kentucky 7-25-14	Louisiana 7-28-14	Idaho 7-28-14
Wisconsin 7-29-14	Wyoming 7-29-14	New Mexico 7-29-14	Alaska 7-29-14	South Carolina 7-30-14

**Communication** – NLA sponsors weekly national conference calls to provide updates, open forums, instructions and encourages each County to establish Committees of Safety to establish Jury Administrations in every County.

**Education** – NLA offers a free course covering American History; 28 Great Ideas that Changed the World; US Constitution; Common Law; Trial by Jury; How America lost her way; Individualism v Collectivism and our Founding Fathers convictions concerning religious Principles, Political Precepts, Economic Fundamentals, and long-range Social Goals.

**Training** – NLA provides on the job training for the administration of the Jurys, composed of four Administrators and one Paralegal Secretary. We are now training people to fill these full time professional positions for each county. All positions are on the Job training and NLA's free courses are required for these position. We are seeking to fill approximately 18,000 positions in approximately 3100 counties. Salary ranges from \$45,000 to \$85,000 calculated by experience.

**Four Administrators** – We have established from the Magna Carta paragraph 61 that there must be a minimum of four (4) administrators per county, more may be required for the more densely populated counties and one skilled paralegal secretary per county.

**One Paralegal Secretary** – Responsible for writing all legal papers, secretarial responsibilities, contact People for jury duty, and also acts as a fifth “Jury Administrator” when needed.

**Principles and Maxims** – Administrators will not establish rules, nor will there be any chairmen but will be ruled by a Vow to God to adhere to three principles and two maximums. Anyone who acts outside of the principles is in dishonor and must correct themselves or resign. It is the duty of the other Administrators to remove anyone who breaks their oath and refuses correction, it would be a wrongdoing to continue with a person who breaks their oath. If the majority decides to remove an Administrators the Administrator can appeal to a CCOS to make the final decision.

**Maxim** an established principle or proposition, a principle of law universally admitted, as being a correct statement of the law, or as agreeable to natural reason. Coke defines a maxim to be “conclusion of reason, granted without proof.

**Administrator's Vow** – *“I vow to insure that all public servants uphold the US Constitution and Bill of Prohibitions (Rights); and to carry out all of my deliberating under Natural Law; principled under Justice, Honor, and Mercy; And to strictly adhere to the following two legal maxims: (1) Every right when with-held must have a remedy, and every injury it's proper redress, and (2) In the absence of a victim there can be no crime “corpus delecti”; the State cannot be the victim.”* Subversion or embezzlement within by a government agent or sub-contractor of course is a crime against the People and is punishable by codes, statutes and regulations that an untainted jury might agree or nullify.

**JUSTICE** and Virtue are synonymous (Phil:4:8, Blacks law and Bouvier's law) Virtue comes from the knowledge of God (2 Pet:1:3, Mk:5:19, Lk:6:19,46) Through virtue we develop temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity (2 Pet 1:5-7)

## **ADMINISTRATORS DUTIES**

- 1) The Administrators are the investigative body of the Grand Jury and write prescriptions for public servants and agencies when they violate the People or the Law.
- 2) Administrators receive complaints from the People and endeavor to solve them.

- 3) If both parties agree Administrators can arbitrate
- 4) Administrators can call and empanel grand and trial juries
- 5) Administrators provide orientation for jurors
- 6) When asked, Administrators advise jurist
- 7) Administrators assist in the writing of True Bills to be signed by the foreman and sealed by an Administrator once the jury completes their deliberation.

## **MILITIA**

*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 II*

The militia arose from the posse comitatus and when properly formed is in fact the people themselves and includes all men capable of bearing arms. The posse comitatus was generally understood to constitute the law enforcement of the “County.” When order was threatened, the “sheriff,” would raise the “hue and cry,” and all citizens who heard it were bound to render assistance in apprehending a criminal or maintaining law and order. As per 10 U.S. Code §246, the Militia’s composition and classes consist of all able-bodied males at least 17 years of age who are, or who have made a declaration of intention to become, citizens of the United States and of female citizens of the United States constitute the unorganized militia, which consists of the members of the militia who are not members of the National Guard or the Naval Militia.

We are educating Americans on lawfully and peacefully organizing militias in all 3,133 U.S. Counties as per 10 United States Code §246 under the auspices of the Sheriff. Every able-bodied person should join. Each County militia will organize under uniform established rules, regulations, and resolutions. Each County Militia will be free and independent under the County Sheriff. We will have regular national meetings to assist the members of every county to organize, educate and properly form lawfully. All militia members are encouraged to enroll in our (1) “Government by Consent Course.”(2) FREE “Militia of the Several States Course” and (3) “Civics Course.” You can enroll in these courses under the “Courses Tab.” Existing militias are encouraged to join and assist in this national effort.

The Founding generation mistrusted standing armies. Many Americans believed, on the basis of English history and their colonial experience, that central governments are prone to use armies to oppress the people. One way to reduce that danger would be to permit the government to raise armies (consisting of full-time paid troops) only when needed to fight foreign adversaries. For other purposes, such as responding to sudden invasions or similar emergencies, the government might be restricted to using a militia, consisting of ordinary civilians who supply their own weapons and receive a bit of part-time, unpaid military training.

Thus, the choice was between a variety of militias controlled by the individual states, which would likely be too weak and divided to protect the nation, and a unified militia under federal control, which almost by definition could not be expected to prevent federal tyranny. This conundrum could not be solved, and the Convention did not purport to solve it. Instead, the Convention presumed that a militia would exist, but it gave Congress almost unfettered authority to regulate that militia, just as it gave the new federal government almost unfettered authority over the army and navy.

This massive shift of power from the states to the federal government generated one of the chief objections to the proposed Constitution. Anti-Federalists argued that federal control over the militia would take away from the states their principal means of defense against

federal oppression and usurpation, and that European history demonstrated how serious the danger was. James Madison, for one, responded that such fears of federal oppression were overblown, in part because the new federal government was structured differently from European governments. But he also pointed out a decisive difference between America and Europe: the American people were armed and would therefore be almost impossible to subdue through military force, even if one assumed that the federal government would try to use an army to do so. In *The Federalist* No. 46, he wrote: “Besides the advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation, the existence of subordinate governments, to which the people are attached and by which the militia officers are appointed, forms a barrier against the enterprises of ambition, more insurmountable than any which a simple government of any form can admit of. Notwithstanding the military establishments in the several kingdoms of Europe, which are carried as far as the public resources will bear, the governments are afraid to trust the people with arms. And it is not certain that with this aid alone they would not be able to shake off their yokes.”

Implicit in the debate between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists were two *shared* assumptions: first, that the proposed new constitution gave the federal government almost total legal authority over the army and the militia; and second, that the federal government should not have any authority at all to disarm the People. The disagreement between Federalists and Anti-Federalists was only over the narrower question of how effective an armed population could be in protecting liberty.

The Second Amendment left that disagreement unresolved, and it therefore did not satisfy the Anti-Federalist desire to preserve the military superiority of the states over the federal government. But that inadequacy also prevented the Second Amendment from generating any opposition. Attempting to satisfy the Anti-Federalists’ desire would have been hugely controversial, and it would have entailed amending the original Constitution. Nobody suggested that the Second Amendment could have any such effect, but neither did anyone suggest that the federal government needed or rightfully possessed the power to disarm American citizens.

As a political gesture to the Anti-Federalists, a gesture highlighted by the Second Amendment’s prefatory reference to the value of a well-regulated militia, express recognition of the right to arms was something of a concession. But the provision was easily accepted because *everyone* agreed that the federal government should not have the power to infringe the right of the people to keep and bear arms, any more than it should have the power to abridge the freedom of speech or prohibit the free exercise of religion.

A great deal has changed since the Second Amendment was adopted. The traditional militia fairly quickly fell into desuetude, and the state-based militia organizations were eventually incorporated into the federal military structure. For its part, the federal military establishment has become enormously powerful in comparison with eighteenth-century armies, and Americans have largely lost their fear that the federal government will use its power to oppress them politically. And whereas eighteenth-century people routinely kept at home the very same weapons that they would need if called to war, and so today the militia needs to be equipped with weapons equal to today’s modern soldiers.

## **WE CANNOT HAVE SECURITY WITHOUT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT**

The Congress shall have Power To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United

States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.... - Article I Section 8 Clause 16

The militia, long a staple of republican thought, loomed large in the deliberations of the Framers, many of whom were troubled by the prospect of a standing army in times of peace. For the Founders, a militia, composed of a “people numerous and armed,” was the ultimate guardian of liberty. It was a means to enable People not only to protect themselves against their fellows but also, particularly for the Anti-Federalists, to protect themselves from an oppressive government. “*The militia is our ultimate safety,*” said Patrick Henry during the Virginia ratifying convention. “*We can have no security without it. The great object is that every man be armed.... Everyone who is able may have a gun.*” Both the Pennsylvania and Vermont constitutions asserted that “*the people have a right to bear arms for the defense of themselves and the state....*”

The Anti-Federalists feared that Congress would permit the militia to atrophy, leaving the states defenseless against the central government. In the Virginia ratifying convention, George Mason, while advocating a stronger central control over the militia, nevertheless argued that there was a danger that Congress could render the militia useless “by disarming them. Under various pretenses, Congress may neglect to provide for arming and disciplining the militia; and the state governments cannot do it, for Congress has an exclusive right to arm them.” The desire to prevent enfeebling state militias, which provided a check to a standing army, prompted the ratifying conventions to call for an amendment guaranteeing the right of citizens to bear arms. The First Congress responded, but the Second Amendment did not remove national control over armed forces or the state militias.

Federalists recognized that without a militia, there would be no United States military establishment. They believed, however, that they could minimize the weaknesses of the militia by creating a select militia corps in each state and establishing federal control over officer-ship and training. The ultimate Federalist goal was to turn the militia into a national reserve of uniform, interchangeable units. In 1792, Congress passed the Uniform Militia Act, which remained the basic militia law of the United States until the twentieth century. This act established an “obligated” militia, based on universal military service. All able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five were required to enroll. But the act fell far short of Federalist goals. It did not create select state corps and, most importantly, did not impose penalties on the states or individuals for noncompliance. For the most part, the states ignored the provisions of the act. The abysmal performance of the militia during the War of 1812 ensured the demise of the obligated reserve as established by the Founding generation.

## **POSSE COMITATUS**

The Congress shall have Power To ...provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions - Article I, Section 8, Clause 15  
For the Founders, the militia arose from the *posse comitatus*, constituting the people as a whole and embodying the Anglo-American idea that the People are the best enforcer of the law. “*A militia when properly formed,*” wrote Richard Henry Lee in his letters from the Federal Farmer, “*are in fact the people themselves...and include all men capable of bearing arms.*” From its origins in Britain, the *posse comitatus* (meaning to be able to be an attendant) was generally understood to constitute the constabulary of the “shire.” When order was threatened, the “shire-reeve,” or sheriff, would raise the “*hue and cry,*” and all citizens who heard it were bound to render assistance in apprehending a criminal or maintaining

order. The Framers transferred the power of calling out the militia from local authorities to the Congress.

The Anti-Federalists were not pleased. They wanted the militia to remain under state control as a check on the national government. Many feared that an institution intended for local defense could be dispatched far from home.

In the “Calling Forth Act of 1792,” Congress exercised its powers under the Militia Clause and delegated to the President the authority to call out the militia and issue it orders when invasion appeared imminent or to suppress insurrections. While the act gave the President a relatively free hand in case of invasion, it constrained his authority in the case of insurrections by requiring that a federal judge certify that the civil authority and the *posse comitatus* were powerless to meet the emergency. The President had also to order the insurgents to disband before he could mobilize the militia. This was the procedure that President George Washington followed during the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794.

In 1795, Congress refined the language authorizing the President to federalize the militia: [W]henever the United States shall be invaded, or be in imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe, it shall be lawful for the president to call forth such number of the militia of the state, or states most convenient to the place of danger, or scene of action, as he may judge necessary to repel such invasion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officer or officers of the militia, as he shall think proper.

But even such clear language was insufficient to prevent a challenge to presidential authority during the War of 1812. At the outset of the conflict, President James Madison ordered the governors of Connecticut and Massachusetts to provide militia detachments for the defense of the maritime frontiers of the United States. These governors, however, were Federalists who opposed the war. They claimed that they, not the President, had the authority to determine whether an emergency existed. Governor Caleb Strong of Massachusetts requested an opinion of his state’s Supreme Judicial Court, which concluded that this right was “*vested in the commanders-in-chief of the militia of the several states.*” Op. of Justices 8 Mass. 548 (1812)

The issue was finally resolved by the Supreme Court in 1827 in *Martin v. Mott*. Although the case explicitly concerned the validity of a court-martial of a militiaman, the decision rendered by Justice Joseph Story validated the claim that the President had the exclusive right to judge whether there was an emergency sufficient for calling forth the militia. State governors, however, retain concurrent authority to call out their respective militias to handle civil and military emergencies. - *Houston v. Moore* (1820).

## ORGANIZED AND UNORGANIZED MILITIA

The COS must encourage and support the organizing of a County Militia. **10 U.S. Code § 246: Militia: composition and classes:** (a) *The militia of the United States consists of all able-bodied males at least 17 years of age and, except as provided in section 313 of title 32, under 45 years of age who are, or who have made a declaration of intention to become, citizens of the United States and of female citizens of the United States who are members of the National Guard.* (b) *The classes of the militia are— (1) the organized militia, which consists of the National Guard and the Naval Militia; and (2) the unorganized militia, which consists of the members of the militia who are not members of the National Guard or the Naval Militia.*

The obligated militia was succeeded by the “uniformed” militia, local volunteer units generally equipped and supported by their own members. In addition, the states continued to

provide volunteer citizen-soldiers when the regular U.S. Army had to be expanded, as was the case during the Mexican War and the Civil War. After the Civil War, the uniformed militia reemerged as the National Guard, but, unhappy with their largely domestic constabulary role, guardsmen lobbied for the mission of a national reserve. In the Militia Act of 1903 (the Dick Act), amended and expanded in 1908, Congress divided the eligible male population into an “organized militia” (the National Guard of the several states) and a “reserve,” or “unorganized,” militia.

In response to an opinion by the Attorney General that the Militia Clause and the Dick Act prohibited the employment of guardsmen outside of United States borders, Congress included in the National Security Act of 1916 (amended in 1920 and 1933) provisions that explicitly “federalized” the National Guard. This act, as amended, has continued to govern federal-state military relations. By giving the United States Army extensive control of National Guard officers and units, and by making state forces available for duty overseas, the National Security Act of 1916 essentially stripped the states of all of their militia powers. It effectively repealed the power of the states to appoint officers by limiting such appointments to those who “shall have successfully passed such tests as to...physical, moral and professional fitness as the President shall prescribe.” The law stated that the army of the United States now included both the regular army and “the National Guard while in the service of the United States.” In *Cox v. Wood* (1918), the Supreme Court validated the action of Congress, holding that the plenary power to raise armies was “not qualified or restricted by the provisions of the Militia Clause.”

The World War I draft completely preempted state sovereignty regarding the militia by drafting individual guardsmen directly into the United States Army. In *The Selective Draft Law Cases* (1918), the Court held that the states held sway over the militia only “to the extent that such actual control was not taken away by the exercise by Congress of its power to raise armies.”

The transition of the National Guard into a national reserve reached its completion during the Cold War. Despite the existence of a large regular army, Guard units were included in most war plans. But with federal funding, which covered about ninety-five percent of the costs, came federal control. While governors continued to call up the Guard to quell domestic disturbances and to aid in disaster relief, they discovered that their control was trumped by federal demands. For instance, in protest against United States actions in Central America during the 1980s, several governors attempted to prevent units from their states from deploying to Honduras and El Salvador for training. In response, Congress passed a law “prohibiting a governor from withholding consent to a unit of the National Guard’s being ordered to active duty outside the United States on the ground that the governor objects to the location, purpose, type, or schedule of that duty.” In such cases as *Perpich v. Department of Defense* (1990), the Court supported Congress’s position.

With the end of the Cold War, the National Guard’s role as a national reserve was called into question. As a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, some observers believed that the Guard could return to a domestic constabulary role. On the other hand, extensive military commitments abroad have required the Guard to remain an active element in the United States armed forces.

*The President shall be Commander in Chief...of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States....* Article II, Section 2, Clause 1

The Framers of the Constitution crafted a complex network of provisions dealing with the militia. They believed that there should be a national army, but that resources and politics dictated that the militia would provide the bulk of the forces needed to defend the country. Although they were sensitive to the fear of a standing army and the political concerns of the

states, there was one principle on which they agreed: when the states' militias were needed to defend the country, the President, and not the governors, would be in charge. The phrasing of the President's power changed over the months in Philadelphia, but the exclusivity of the President's power was never questioned. The most significant change came from Roger Sherman, who moved the addition "*and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the US.*" This assured that the President could not take the militia away from the states except when properly called forth by Congress under Article I Sec 8 Clause 15.

In 1792, Congress passed the Uniform Militia Act, also known as the "calling forth" act, permitting the President to call out the militia to put down insurrections or rebellions. This power was initially limited to those events that could not be handled by judicial proceedings or by marshals in the exercise of their duties. The act also required a district judge to certify that circumstances were beyond the control of lawful authority and required the President to alert the insurrectionists to end their activities before the militia could be called out. In the meantime, the government launched three major campaigns against the Indians in the Ohio Territory in 1790, 1791, and 1794. In each case, federal forces were supplemented by large numbers of militia volunteers. But it was the Whiskey Rebellion in the summer of 1794 that impelled George Washington to issue the first formal call for the militia to put down the threatened insurrection. Washington took personal command of the force of 12,950 militiamen from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, and Maryland. No President since Washington has taken personal control of the militia when called into the active service of the federal government.

In 1795, Congress passed another militia act, aimed at giving the President the power to call out the state forces in the event of insurrection. This law did away with the certification requirements (but retained the requirement of alerting the insurrectionists to disperse) of the 1792 law and granted the President the authority to call forth the militia when the nation was invaded, in imminent danger of invasion, or when faced with "combinations" against the nation. The key provision of that law was "That whenever it may be necessary, in the judgment of the President, to use the military force hereby directed to be called forth...." During the War of 1812, when President James Madison called up the militias, the New England states, opposed to the war and threatening secession, objected to the President's powers. In response to a request by the governor of Massachusetts, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts issued an advisory opinion declaring that the governors or commanders in chief of the several states had the exclusive right to determine whether exigent circumstances existed for the militia to be called out. This decision effectively recognized a veto power of the governor over the use of their respective states' militias. It also stood the Constitution's enumerated powers on its head. Article I, Section 8, Clause 15, and Article II, Section 2, Clause 1, of the Constitution specifically granted to the Congress and the President, respectively, the power to call out and command the militia when needed in active service to the United States.

In response to the argument for state control of the militia, Secretary of State James Monroe argued that when the militia is called into the actual service of the United States, all state authority over that militia ends. The militia assumes a position within the regular standing army and is paid by the federal government. Its members become, effectively, United States soldiers. They are subject to the same control as regular army personnel, including command by regular army officers.

In 1827 the U.S. Supreme Court supported the Monroe position. In *Martin v. Mott*, Justice Joseph Story stated, "We are all of opinion, that the authority to decide whether the exigency has arisen, belongs exclusively to the President, and that his decision is conclusive upon all other persons." To cement further the right of the President to determine when to call forth

the militia, Justice Roger B. Taney declared in *Luther v. Borden* (1849) that not only is a decision by a President to call out the militia in response to an exigency not subject to state executive approval, but the decision is not subject to judicial review either.

Gubernatorial resistance to the President's call for the militia reemerged during the Civil War. On April 15, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 militia for three-month terms. The governors of Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, and North Carolina (the last three states eventually seceded) refused, although volunteer units from all those states ultimately fought for the Union. As the war progressed, the bulk of the army came from requisitions from the states and the draft. The militias, relatively small and often not well trained, were marginal.

After the Civil War, the militia fell into desuetude (except for a brief and unsuccessful attempt to constitute a militia, based mostly on the freedmen in the reconstructed South) until it began a slow transition into the National Guard. The National Defense Act of 1916 made the National Guard a component of the regular army. During World War I, President Woodrow Wilson drafted members of the National Guard into the regular army.

In 1957, resisting a federal court order, Governor Orville Faubus ordered portions of the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the entrance of black students into Little Rock High School. In the first use of the Guard to maintain internal order since the Civil War, President Dwight Eisenhower placed the entire Arkansas National Guard under presidential control and ordered the Guard to obey the President and not the governor. The Arkansas National Guard complied.

In the 1980s, governors again resisted a presidential call for the militia (National Guard). Some of them objected to the deployment of their states' National Guard troops to Central America. Led by Minnesota governor Rudy Perpich, these governors withheld their consent to federally ordered National Guard active duty training, as was their prerogative under then current federal law. In response, Congress enacted the Montgomery Amendment, which prohibited governors from withholding consent for National Guard active duty service outside the United States. Perpich filed suit against the Department of Defense, arguing that the Montgomery Amendment was unconstitutional because it infringed on the militia training authority granted to the states under Article I, Section 8, Clause 16. Perpich also sought to enjoin the use of Minnesota National Guard troops in any training outside the United States that did not have the governor's consent. Ultimately, the Supreme Court upheld the supremacy of presidential control over the operations of the militia when called into actual service of the United States. Like James Monroe and Justice Joseph Story, the Court held that a state governor could not veto the use of a state militia when called upon by the nation in accordance with Congress's constitutional power and the President's constitutional authority. Recent Presidents have made more use of the National Guard as a reserve, calling units up for long periods of duty abroad, in actions in the two Gulf Wars, Bosnia, and Afghanistan.



**M4 Carbine**

The first version of the M4 carbine with a four-position collapsible stock; The M4 is the carbine version of the M16, with a collapsible stock and shorter length (usually a 14-inch barrel), but still chambered for the 5.56. It's an evolution of the Colt Automatic Rifle-15 Military Weapons System, better known as the CAR-15, which was made by Colt in the late 1960s and early 1970s and was used by some units in Vietnam. Afterward, it was issued as the Colt Commando for applications that required more mobility and compactness, but better range and a harder-hitting round than the pistol-caliber MP5 submachine gun or the aging M3 "Grease Gun."

The M4 carbine was developed from a variety of shortened M16A1-style carbines. The XM4 (Colt Model 727) started its military trials in the mid-1980s with a 14.5-inch barrel. It was officially adopted in 1994 as a replacement for the M3 submachine gun as well as for the Beretta M9 pistol and the M16A2 for some troops.

It has since seen extensive use in the Afghanistan and Iraq theaters, where it's compact size and versatility has proven advantageous in the often confined, building-to-building fighting U.S. troops most often engage in. The smaller M4 is also easier for vehicle-mounted troops to handle. Currently, the Marine Corps and U.S. Army are both in the process of phasing out the M16 and bringing in the M4 as their standard service weapon. The M4 has three-round-burst and semi-auto firing modes, while the M4A1 carbine has a fully automatic firing mode instead of the burst. Both have a full Picatinny top rail for mounting optics and accessories.

## **FOUNDING FATHERS AND POLITICAL PARTIES**

***Politics*** was supposed to be rational and collaborative, not competitive!

Our founding fathers did not anticipate or desire the existence of political parties, viewing them as "factions" dangerous to the public interest. Founders' republican ideology called for subordination of narrow interests to the general welfare of the community. Under republican ideology, politics was supposed to be rational and collaborative, not competitive.

Our Founding Fathers were generally uneasy about political parties. For the most part, they believed that parties had the potential to tear the new nation apart. To these men, political parties meant factionalism, which they believed, could be fatal to the development of the United States as a unified country. It is no surprise, then, that political parties are entirely omitted from the US Constitution.

John Adams in letter to Johnathan Jackson, 1780 said, "*There is nothing which I dread so much as a division of the republic into two great parties, each arranged under its leader, and concerting measures in opposition to each other. This, in my humble apprehension, is to be dreaded as the greatest political evil under our Constitution.*"

Thomas Jefferson in a letter to Francis Hopkinson, 1789 said, "*I never submitted the whole system of my opinions to the creed of any party of men whatever in religion, in philosophy, in politics, or in anything else where I was capable of thinking for myself. Such an addiction is the last degradation of a free and moral agent. If I could not go to heaven but with a political party, I would decline to go.*"

Thomas Paine, the Opposers of the Bank, 1787 said, "*Party knows no impulse but spirit no prize but victory. It is blind to truth, and hardened against conviction. It seeks to justify error by perseverance, and denies to its own mind the operation of its own judgment. A man under the tyranny of party spirit is the greatest slave upon the earth, for none but himself can deprive him of the freedom of thought.*"

The generally hostile attitude toward political parties among the Founding Fathers was articulated most forcefully by James Madison in Federalist 10. There, he argued that one of

the most important functions of a “*well-constructed Union*” was to break and control the “*violence of faction.*” Madison clearly understood the enormous dangers that could attach to the founding of political parties in America. And it is because of attitudes like Madison’s, widely shared as they were among many of the delegates to the Philadelphia Convention, that political parties were excluded from the US Constitution.

### **FEDERALIST NO. 10 – MADISON**

*The Union as a Safeguard against Domestic Faction and Insurrection*

From the New York Packet; Friday, November 23, 1787.

To the People of the State of New York: Among the numerous advantages promised by a well-constructed Union, none deserves to be more accurately developed than its tendency to break and control the violence of faction. The friend of popular governments never finds himself so much alarmed for their character and fate, as when he contemplates their propensity to this dangerous vice. He will not fail, therefore, to set a due value on any plan which, without violating the principles to which he is attached, provides a proper cure for it. The instability, injustice, and confusion introduced into the public councils, have, in truth, been the mortal diseases under which popular governments have everywhere perished; as they continue to be the favorite and fruitful topics from which the adversaries to liberty derive their most specious declamations. The valuable improvements made by the American constitutions on the popular models, both ancient and modern, cannot certainly be too much admired; but it would be an unwarrantable partiality, to contend that they have as effectually obviated the danger on this side, as was wished and expected. Complaints are everywhere heard from our most considerate and virtuous citizens, equally the friends of public and private faith, and of public and personal liberty, that our governments are too unstable, that the public good is disregarded in the conflicts of rival parties, and that measures are too often decided, not according to the rules of justice and the rights of the minor party, but by the superior force of an interested and overbearing majority. However anxiously we may wish that these complaints had no foundation, the evidence, of known facts will not permit us to deny that they are in some degree true. It will be found, indeed, on a candid review of our situation, that some of the distresses under which we labor have been erroneously charged on the operation of our governments; but it will be found, at the same time, that other causes will not alone account for many of our heaviest misfortunes; and, particularly, for that prevailing and increasing distrust of public engagements, and alarm for private rights, which are echoed from one end of the continent to the other. These must be chiefly, if not wholly, effects of the unsteadiness and injustice with which a factious spirit has tainted our public administrations. By a faction, I understand a number of citizens, whether amounting to a majority or a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated by some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse to the rights of other citizens, or to the permanent and aggregate interests of the community.

There are two methods of curing the mischiefs of faction: the one, by removing its causes; the other, by controlling its effects. There are again two methods of removing the causes of faction: the one, by destroying the liberty which is essential to its existence; the other, by giving to every citizen the same opinions, the same passions, and the same interests. It could never be more truly said than of the first remedy, that it was worse than the disease. Liberty is to faction what air is to fire, an aliment without which it instantly expires. But it could not be less folly to abolish liberty, which is essential to political life, because it nourishes

faction, than it would be to wish the annihilation of air, which is essential to animal life, because it imparts to fire its destructive agency.

The second expedient is as impracticable as the first would be unwise. As long as the reason of man continues fallible, and he is at liberty to exercise it, different opinions will be formed. As long as the connection subsists between his reason and his self-love, his opinions and his passions will have a reciprocal influence on each other; and the former will be objects to which the latter will attach themselves. The diversity in the faculties of men, from which the rights of property originate, is not less an insuperable obstacle to a uniformity of interests. The protection of these faculties is the first object of government. From the protection of different and unequal faculties of acquiring property, the possession of different degrees and kinds of property immediately results; and from the influence of these on the sentiments and views of the respective proprietors, ensues a division of the society into different interests and parties.

The latent causes of faction are thus sown in the nature of man; and we see them everywhere brought into different degrees of activity, according to the different circumstances of civil society. A zeal for different opinions concerning religion, concerning government, and many other points, as well of speculation as of practice; an attachment to different leaders ambitiously contending for pre-eminence and power; or to persons of other descriptions whose fortunes have been interesting to the human passions, have, in turn, divided mankind into parties, inflamed them with mutual animosity, and rendered them much more disposed to vex and oppress each other than to co-operate for their common good. So strong is this propensity of mankind to fall into mutual animosities, that where no substantial occasion presents itself, the most frivolous and fanciful distinctions have been sufficient to kindle their unfriendly passions and excite their most violent conflicts. But the most common and durable source of factions has been the various and unequal distribution of property. Those who hold and those who are without property have ever formed distinct interests in society. Those who are creditors, and those who are debtors, fall under a like discrimination. A landed interest, a manufacturing interest, a mercantile interest, a moneyed interest, with many lesser interests, grow up of necessity in civilized nations, and divide them into different classes, actuated by different sentiments and views. The regulation of these various and interfering interests forms the principal task of modern legislation, and involves the spirit of party and faction in the necessary and ordinary operations of the government.

No man is allowed to be a judge in his own cause, because his interest would certainly bias his judgment, and, not improbably, corrupt his integrity. With equal, nay with greater reason, a body of men are unfit to be both judges and parties at the same time; yet what are many of the most important acts of legislation, but so many judicial determinations, not indeed concerning the rights of single persons, but concerning the rights of large bodies of citizens? And what are the different classes of legislators but advocates and parties to the causes which they determine? Is a law proposed concerning private debts? It is a question to which the creditors are parties on one side and the debtors on the other. Justice ought to hold the balance between them. Yet the parties are, and must be, themselves the judges; and the most numerous party, or, in other words, the most powerful faction must be expected to prevail. Shall domestic manufactures be encouraged, and in what degree, by restrictions on foreign manufactures? Are questions which would be differently decided by the landed and the manufacturing classes, and probably by neither with a sole regard to justice and the public good. The apportionment of taxes on the various descriptions of property is an act which seems to require the most exact impartiality; yet there is, perhaps, no legislative act in which greater opportunity and temptation are given to a predominant party to trample on the rules

of justice. Every shilling with which they overburden the inferior number, is a shilling saved to their own pockets.

It is in vain to say that enlightened statesmen will be able to adjust these clashing interests, and render them all subservient to the public good. Enlightened statesmen will not always be at the helm. Nor, in many cases, can such an adjustment be made at all without taking into view indirect and remote considerations, which will rarely prevail over the immediate interest which one party may find in disregarding the rights of another or the good of the whole.

The inference to which we are brought is that the causes of faction cannot be removed, and that relief is only to be sought in the means of controlling its effects. If a faction consists of less than a majority, relief is supplied by the republican principle, which enables the majority to defeat its sinister views by regular vote. It may clog the administration, it may convulse the society; but it will be unable to execute and mask its violence under the forms of the Constitution. When a majority is included in a faction, the form of popular government, on the other hand, enables it to sacrifice to its ruling passion or interest both the public good and the rights of other citizens. To secure the public good and private rights against the danger of such a faction, and at the same time to preserve the spirit and the form of popular government, is then the great object to which our inquiries are directed. Let me add that it is the great desideratum by which this form of government can be rescued from the opprobrium under which it has so long labored, and be recommended to the esteem and adoption of mankind.

By what means is this object attainable? Evidently by one of two only. Either the existence of the same passion or interest in a majority at the same time must be prevented, or the majority, having such coexistent passion or interest, must be rendered, by their number and local situation, unable to concert and carry into effect schemes of oppression. If the impulse and the opportunity be suffered to coincide, we well know that neither moral nor religious motives can be relied on as an adequate control. They are not found to be such on the injustice and violence of individuals, and lose their efficacy in proportion to the number combined together, that is, in proportion as their efficacy becomes needful.

From this view of the subject it may be concluded that a pure democracy, by which I mean a society consisting of a small number of citizens, who assemble and administer the government in person, can admit of no cure for the mischiefs of faction. A common passion or interest will, in almost every case, be felt by a majority of the whole; a communication and concert result from the form of government itself; and there is nothing to check the inducements to sacrifice the weaker party or an obnoxious individual. Hence it is that such democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths. Theoretic politicians, who have patronized this species of government, have erroneously supposed that by reducing mankind to a perfect equality in their political rights, they would, at the same time, be perfectly equalized and assimilated in their possessions, their opinions, and their passions.

A republic, by which I mean a government in which the scheme of representation takes place, opens a different prospect, and promises the cure for which we are seeking. Let us examine the points in which it varies from pure democracy, and we shall comprehend both the nature of the cure and the efficacy which it must derive from the Union.

The two great points of difference between a democracy and a republic are: first, the delegation of the government, in the latter, to a small number of citizens elected by the rest; secondly, the greater number of citizens, and greater sphere of country, over which the latter may be extended.

The effect of the first difference is, on the one hand, to refine and enlarge the public views, by passing them through the medium of a chosen body of citizens, whose wisdom may best discern the true interest of their country, and whose patriotism and love of justice will be least likely to sacrifice it to temporary or partial considerations. Under such a regulation, it may well happen that the public voice, pronounced by the representatives of the people, will be more consonant to the public good than if pronounced by the people themselves, convened for the purpose. On the other hand, the effect may be inverted. Men of factious tempers, of local prejudices, or of sinister designs, may, by intrigue, by corruption, or by other means, first obtain the suffrages, and then betray the interests, of the people. The question resulting is, whether small or extensive republics are more favorable to the election of proper guardians of the public weal; and it is clearly decided in favor of the latter by two obvious considerations:

In the first place, it is to be remarked that, however small the republic may be, the representatives must be raised to a certain number, in order to guard against the cabals of a few; and that, however large it may be, they must be limited to a certain number, in order to guard against the confusion of a multitude. Hence, the number of representatives in the two cases not being in proportion to that of the two constituents, and being proportionally greater in the small republic, it follows that, if the proportion of fit characters be not less in the large than in the small republic, the former will present a greater option, and consequently a greater probability of a fit choice.

In the next place, as each representative will be chosen by a greater number of citizens in the large than in the small republic, it will be more difficult for unworthy candidates to practice with success the vicious arts by which elections are too often carried; and the suffrages of the people being more free, will be more likely to centre in men who possess the most attractive merit and the most diffusive and established characters.

It must be confessed that in this, as in most other cases, there is a mean, on both sides of which inconveniences will be found to lie. By enlarging too much the number of electors, you render the representatives too little acquainted with all their local circumstances and lesser interests; as by reducing it too much, you render him unduly attached to these and too little fit to comprehend and pursue great and national objects. The federal Constitution forms a happy combination in this respect; the great and aggregate interests being referred to the national, the local and particular to the State legislatures.

The other point of difference is, the greater number of citizens and extent of territory which may be brought within the compass of republican than of democratic government; and it is this circumstance principally which renders factious combinations less to be dreaded in the former than in the latter. The smaller the society, the fewer probably will be the distinct parties and interests composing it; the fewer the distinct parties and interests, the more frequently will a majority be found of the same party; and the smaller the number of individuals composing a majority, and the smaller the compass within which they are placed, the more easily will they concert and execute their plans of oppression. Extend the sphere, and you take in a greater variety of parties and interests; you make it less probable that a majority of the whole will have a common motive to invade the rights of other citizens; or if such a common motive exists, it will be more difficult for all who feel it to discover their own strength, and to act in unison with each other. Besides other impediments, it may be remarked that, where there is a consciousness of unjust or dishonorable purposes, communication is always checked by distrust in proportion to the number whose concurrence is necessary.

Hence, it clearly appears that the same advantage which a republic has over a democracy, in controlling the effects of faction, is enjoyed by a large over a small republic,—is enjoyed by

the Union over the States composing it. Does the advantage consist in the substitution of representatives whose enlightened views and virtuous sentiments render them superior to local prejudices and schemes of injustice? It will not be denied that the representation of the Union will be most likely to possess these requisite endowments. Does it consist in the greater security afforded by a greater variety of parties, against the event of any one party being able to outnumber and oppress the rest? In an equal degree does the increased variety of parties comprised within the Union, increase this security. Does it, in fine, consist in the greater obstacles opposed to the concert and accomplishment of the secret wishes of an unjust and interested majority? Here, again, the extent of the Union gives it the most palpable advantage. The influence of factious leaders may kindle a flame within their particular States, but will be unable to spread a general conflagration through the other States. A religious sect may degenerate into a political faction in a part of the Confederacy; but the variety of sects dispersed over the entire face of it must secure the national councils against any danger from that source. A rage for paper money, for an abolition of debts, for an equal division of property, or for any other improper or wicked project, will be less apt to pervade the whole body of the Union than a particular member of it; in the same proportion as such a malady is more likely to taint a particular county or district, than an entire State.

In the extent and proper structure of the Union, therefore, we behold a republican remedy for the diseases most incident to republican government. And according to the degree of pleasure and pride we feel in being republicans, ought to be our zeal in cherishing the spirit and supporting the character of Federalists. - Publius

### **WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS**

To the people of the United States, Friends and Fellow-Citizens: The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

I beg you at the same time to do me the justice to be assured that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relation which binds a dutiful citizen to his country—and that, in withdrawing the tender of service which silence in my situation might imply, I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest, no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness, but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both.

The acceptance of, and continuance hitherto in, the office to which your suffrages have twice called me have been a uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty and to a deference for what appeared to be your desire. I constantly hoped that it would have been much earlier in my power, consistently with motives which I was not at liberty to disregard, to return to that retirement from which I had been reluctantly drawn. The strength of my inclination to do this, previous to the last election, had even led to the preparation of an address to declare it to you; but mature reflection on the then perplexed and critical posture of our affairs with foreign nations, and the unanimous advice of persons entitled to my confidence, impelled me to abandon the idea.

I rejoice that the state of your concerns, external as well as internal, no longer renders the pursuit of inclination incompatible with the sentiment of duty or propriety and am

persuaded, whatever partiality may be retained for my services, that in the present circumstances of our country you will not disapprove my determination to retire.

The impressions with which I first undertook the arduous trust were explained on the proper occasion. In the discharge of this trust, I will only say that I have, with good intentions, contributed towards the organization and administration of the government the best exertions of which a very fallible judgment was capable. Not unconscious in the outset of the inferiority of my qualifications, experience in my own eyes, perhaps still more in the eyes of others, has strengthened the motives to diffidence of myself, and every day the increasing weight of years admonishes me more and more that the shade of retirement is as necessary to me as it will be welcome. Satisfied that if any circumstances have given peculiar value to my services, they were temporary, I have the consolation to believe that, while choice and prudence invite me to quit the political scene, patriotism does not forbid it.

In looking forward to the moment which is intended to terminate the career of my public life, my feelings do not permit me to suspend the deep acknowledgment of that debt of gratitude which I owe to my beloved country for the many honors it has conferred upon me, still more for the steadfast confidence with which it has supported me and for the opportunities I have thence enjoyed of manifesting my inviolable attachment by services faithful and persevering, though in usefulness unequal to my zeal. If benefits have resulted to our country from these services, let it always be remembered to your praise and as an instructive example in our annals that, under circumstances in which the passions agitated in every direction were liable to mislead, amidst appearances sometimes dubious, vicissitudes of fortune often discouraging, in situations in which not unfrequently want of success has countenanced the spirit of criticism, the constancy of your support was the essential prop of the efforts and a guarantee of the plans by which they were effected. Profoundly penetrated with this idea, I shall carry it with me to my grave as a strong incitement to unceasing vows that Heaven may continue to you the choicest tokens of its beneficence; that your union and brotherly affection may be perpetual; that the free constitution, which is the work of your hands, may be sacredly maintained; that its administration in every department may be stamped with wisdom and virtue; that, in fine, the happiness of the people of these states, under the auspices of liberty, may be made complete by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of this blessing as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and adoption of every nation which is yet a stranger to it.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop. But a solicitude for your welfare, which cannot end but with my life, and the apprehension of danger natural to that solicitude, urge me on an occasion like the present to offer to your solemn contemplation, and to recommend to your frequent review, some sentiments which are the result of much reflection, of no inconsiderable observation, and which appear to me all important to the permanency of your felicity as a people. These will be offered to you with the more freedom as you can only see in them the disinterested warnings of a parting friend, who can possibly have no personal motive to bias his counsel. Nor can I forget, as an encouragement to it, your indulgent reception of my sentiments on a former and not dissimilar occasion.

Interwoven as is the love of liberty with every ligament of your hearts, no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment. The unity of government which constitutes you one people is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad, of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But as it is easy to foresee that, from different causes and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth; as this is the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of internal and external

enemies will be most constantly and actively (though often covertly and insidiously) directed, it is of infinite moment that you should properly estimate the immense value of your national Union to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the palladium of your political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; dis-countenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can in any event be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts.

For this you have every inducement of sympathy and interest. Citizens by birth or choice of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils and joint efforts of common dangers, sufferings, and successes.

But these considerations, however powerfully they address themselves to your sensibility, are greatly outweighed by those which apply more immediately to your interest. Here every portion of our country finds the most commanding motives for carefully guarding and preserving the Union of the whole.

The North, in an unrestrained intercourse with the South, protected by the equal laws of a common government, finds in the productions of the latter great additional resources of maritime and commercial enterprise and precious materials of manufacturing industry. The South in the same inter-course, benefitting by the agency of the North, sees its agriculture grow and its commerce expand. Turning partly into its own channels the seamen of the North, it finds its particular navigation invigorated; and while it contributes, in different ways, to nourish and increase the general mass of the national navigation, it looks forward to the protection of a maritime strength to which itself is unequally adapted. The East, in a like intercourse with the West, already finds, and in the progressive improvement of interior communications by land and water will more and more find a valuable vent for the commodities which it brings from abroad or manufactures at home. The West derives from the East supplies requisite to its growth and comfort and what is perhaps of still greater consequence, it must of necessity owe the secure enjoyment of indispensable outlets for its own productions to the weight, influence, and the future maritime strength of the Atlantic side of the Union, directed by an indissoluble community of interest as one nation. Any other tenure by which the West can hold this essential advantage, whether derived from its own separate strength or from an apostate and unnatural connection with any foreign power, must be intrinsically precarious.

While then every part of our country thus feels an immediate and particular interest in union, all the parts combined cannot fail to find in the united mass of means and efforts greater strength, greater resource, proportionally greater security from external danger, a less frequent interruption of their peace by foreign nations; and, what is of in-estimable value! they must derive from union an exemption from those broils and wars between themselves which so frequently afflict neighboring countries not tied together by the same government, which their own rival-ships alone would be sufficient to produce, but which opposite foreign alliances, attachments, and intrigues would stimulate and embitter. Hence likewise they will avoid the necessity of those overgrown military establishments, which under any form of

government are inauspicious to liberty, and which are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty.

In this sense it is, that your Union ought to be considered as a main prop of your liberty, and that the love of the one ought to endear to you the preservation of the other. These considerations speak a persuasive language to every reflecting and virtuous mind and exhibit the continuance of the Union as a primary object of patriotic desire. Is there a doubt whether a common government can embrace so large a sphere? Let experience solve it. To listen to mere speculation in such a case were criminal. We are authorized to hope that a proper organization of the whole, with the auxiliary agency of governments for the respective subdivisions, will afford a happy issue to the experiment. It is well worth a fair and full experiment. With such powerful and obvious motives to union affecting all parts of our country, while experience shall not have demonstrated its impracticability, there will always be reason to distrust the patriotism of those who in any quarter may endeavor to weaken its bands.

In contemplating the causes which may disturb our Union, it occurs as matter of serious concern that any ground should have been furnished for characterizing parties by geographical discriminations northern and southern Atlantic and western; whence designing men may endeavor to excite a belief that there is a real difference of local interests and views. One of the expedients of party to acquire influence within particular districts is to misrepresent the opinions and aims of other districts. You cannot shield yourselves too much against the jealousies and heart burnings which spring from these misrepresentations. They tend to render alien to each other those who ought to be bound together by fraternal affection. The inhabitants of our western country have lately had a useful lesson on this head. They have seen in the negotiation by the executive and in the unanimous ratification by the Senate of the treaty with Spain, and in the universal satisfaction at that event throughout the United States, a decisive proof how unfounded were the suspicions propagated among them of a policy in the general government and in the Atlantic states unfriendly to their interests in regard to the Mississippi. They have been witnesses to the formation of two treaties, that with Great Britain and that with Spain, which secure to them everything they could desire, in respect to our foreign relations, towards confirming their prosperity. Will it not be their wisdom to rely for the preservation of these advantages on the Union by which they were procured? Will they not henceforth be deaf to those advisers, if such there are, who would sever them from their brethren and connect them with aliens?

To the efficacy and permanency of your Union, a government for the whole is indispensable. No alliances, however strict, between the parts can be an adequate substitute. They must inevitably experience the infractions and interruptions which all alliances in all times have experienced. Sensible of this momentous truth, you have improved upon your first essay by the adoption of a Constitution of government better calculated than your former for an intimate Union and for the efficacious management of your common concerns.

This government, the offspring of our own choice uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty.

The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government. But the Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea

of the power and the right of the people to establish government pre-supposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government.

All obstructions to the execution of the laws, all combinations and associations under whatever plausible character with the real design to direct, control, counteract, or awe the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive of this fundamental principle and of fatal tendency. They serve to organize faction; to give it an artificial and extraordinary force; to put in the place of the delegated will of the nation the will of a party, often a small but artful and enterprising minority of the community; and, according to the alternate triumphs of different parties, to make the public administration the mirror of the ill concerted and incongruous projects of faction, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans digested by common councils and modified by mutual interests.

However combinations or associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely, in the course of time and things, to become potent engines by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards the very engines which have lifted them to unjust dominion.

Towards the preservation of your government and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite not only that you steadily discountenance irregular oppositions to its acknowledged authority but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretexts. One method of assault may be to effect in the forms of the Constitution alterations which will impair the energy of the system and thus to undermine what cannot be directly overthrown.

In all the changes to which you may be invited, remember that time and habit are at least as necessary to fix the true character of governments as of other human institutions, that experience is the surest standard by which to test the real tendency of the existing constitution of a country, that facility in changes upon the credit of mere hypotheses and opinion exposes to perpetual change from the endless variety of hypotheses and opinion; and re-member, especially, that for the efficient management of your common interests in a country so extensive as ours, a government of as much vigor as is consistent with the perfect security of liberty is indispensable; liberty itself will find in such a government, with powers properly distributed and adjusted, its surest guardian. It is indeed little else than a name, where the government is too feeble to withstand the enterprises of faction, to confine each member of the society within the limits pre-scribed by the laws, and to maintain all in the secure and tranquil enjoyment of the rights of person and property.

I have already intimated to you the danger of parties in the state, with particular reference to the founding of them on geographical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view and warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party, generally. This spirit, unfortunately, is inseparable from our nature, having its root in the strongest passions of the human mind. It exists under different shapes in all governments, more or less stifled, controlled, or repressed; but in those of the popular form it is seen in its greatest rankness and is truly their worst enemy.

The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge natural to party dissension, which in different ages and countries has perpetrated the most horrid enormities, is itself a frightful despotism. But this leads at length to a more formal and permanent despotism. The disorders and miseries which result gradually incline the minds of men to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual; and sooner or later the chief of some prevailing faction, more able or more fortunate than his competitors, turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation on the ruins of public liberty.

Without looking forward to an extremity of this kind (which nevertheless ought not to be entirely out of sight) the common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of party are sufficient to make it the interest and the duty of a wise people to discourage and restrain it.

It serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration. It agitates the community with ill-founded jealousies and false alarms, kindles the animosity of one part against another, foment occasionally riot and insurrection. It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which find a facilitated access to the government itself through the channels of party passions. Thus the policy and the will of one country are subjected to the policy and will of another.

There is an opinion that parties in free countries are useful checks upon the administration of the government and serve to keep alive the spirit of liberty. This within certain limits is probably true and in governments of a monarchical cast patriotism may look with indulgence, if not with favor, upon the spirit of party. But in those of the popular character, in governments purely elective, it is a spirit not to be encouraged. From their natural tendency, it is certain there will always be enough of that spirit for every salutary purpose. And there being constant danger of excess, the effort ought to be by force of public opinion to mitigate and assuage it. A fire not to be quenched, it demands a uniform vigilance to prevent its bursting into a flame, lest instead of warming it should consume.

It is important, likewise, that the habits of thinking in a free country should inspire caution in those entrusted with its administration to confine them-selves within their respective constitutional spheres, avoiding in the exercise of the powers of one department to encroach upon another. The spirit of encroachment tends to consolidate the powers of all the departments in one and thus to create, what-ever the form of government, a real despotism. A just estimate of that love of power and proneness to abuse it which predominates in the human heart is sufficient to satisfy us of the truth of this position.

The necessity of reciprocal checks in the exercise of political power, by dividing and distributing it into different depositories and constituting each the guardian of the public weal against invasions by the others, has been evinced by experiments ancient and modern, some of them in our country and under our own eyes. To preserve them must be as necessary as to institute them. If in the opinion of the people the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers be in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; for though this, in one in-stance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed. The precedent must always greatly overbalance in permanent evil any partial or transient benefit which the use can at any time yield.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the sup-position that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.

It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule indeed extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who that

is a sincere friend to it can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?

Promote then, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible, avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace, but remembering also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it; avoiding likewise the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning occasions of expense, but by vigorous exertions in time of peace to discharge the debts which unavoidable wars may have occasioned, not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear. The execution of these maxims belongs to your representatives, but it is necessary that public opinion should cooperate. To facilitate to them the performance of their duty, it is essential that you should practically bear in mind that towards the payment of debts there must be revenue; that to have revenue there must be taxes; that no taxes can be devised which are not more or less inconvenient and unpleasant; that the intrinsic embarrassment inseparable from the selection of the proper objects (which is always a choice of difficulties) ought to be a decisive motive for a candid construction of the conduct of the government in making it, and for a spirit of acquiescence in the measures for obtaining revenue which the public exigencies may at any time dictate.

Observe good faith and justice towards all nations; cultivate peace and harmony with all; religion and morality enjoin this conduct, and can it be that good policy does not equally enjoin it? It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and, at no distant period, a great nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence. Who can doubt that in the course of time and things the fruits of such a plan would richly repay any temporary advantages which might be lost by a steady adherence to it? Can it be, that Providence has not connected the permanent felicity of a nation with its virtue? The experiment, at least, is recommended by every sentiment which ennobles human nature. Alas! is it rendered impossible by its vices?

In the execution of such a plan nothing is more essential than that permanent, inveterate antipathies against particular nations and passionate attachments for others should be excluded and that in place of them just and amicable feelings towards all should be cultivated. The nation which indulges towards another an habitual hatred, or an habitual fondness, is in some degree a slave. It is a slave to its animosity or to its affection, either of which is sufficient to lead it astray from its duty and its interest. Antipathy in one nation against another disposes each more readily to offer insult and injury, to lay hold of slight causes of umbrage, and to be haughty and intractable when accidental or trifling occasions of dispute occur. Hence frequent collisions, obstinate, envenomed, and bloody contests. The nation, prompted by ill will and resentment, sometimes impels to war the government, contrary to the best calculations of policy. The government sometimes participates in the national propensity and adopts through passion what reason would reject; at other times, it makes the animosity of the nation subservient to projects of hostility instigated by pride, ambition and other sinister and pernicious motives. The peace often, sometimes perhaps the liberty, of nations has been the victim.

So likewise, a passionate attachment of one nation for another produces a variety of evils. Sympathy for the favorite nation, facilitating the illusion of an imaginary common interest in cases where no real common interest exists and infusing into one the enmities of the other, betrays the former into a participation in the quarrels and wars of the latter, without adequate inducement or justification. It leads also to concessions to the favorite nation of privileges

denied to others, which is apt doubly to injure the nation making the concessions, by unnecessarily parting with what ought to have been retained and by exciting jealousy, ill will, and a disposition to retaliate in the parties from whom equal privileges are withheld. And it gives to ambitious, corrupted, or deluded citizens (who de-vote themselves to the favorite nation) facility to betray or sacrifice the interests of their own country without odium, sometimes even with popularity, gilding with the appearances of a virtuous sense of obligation, a commendable deference for public opinion, or a laudable zeal for public good, the base or foolish compliances of ambition, corruption, or infatuation.

As avenues to foreign influence in innumerable ways, such attachments are particularly alarming to the truly enlightened and independent patriot. How many opportunities do they afford to tamper with domestic factions, to practice the arts of seduction, to mislead public opinion, to influence or awe the public councils! Such an attachment of a small or weak towards a great and powerful nation dooms the former to be the satellite of the latter.

Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence (I conjure you to believe me, fellow citizens) the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake, since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of re-publican government. But that jealousy to be useful must be impartial; else it becomes the instrument of the very influence to be avoided, instead of a defense against it. Excessive partiality for one foreign nation and excessive dislike of another cause those whom they actuate to see danger only on one side, and serve to veil and even second the arts of influence on the other. Real patriots, who may resist the intrigues of the favorite, are liable to become suspected and odious, while its tools and dupes usurp the applause and confidence of the people to surrender their interests.

The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is, in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible. So far as we have already formed engagements, let them be fulfilled with perfect good faith. Here let us stop.

Europe has a set of primary interests, which to us have none or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence therefore it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves, by artificial ties, in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people under an efficient government, the period is not far off when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the im-possibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war, as our interest guided by justice shall counsel.

Why forgo the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rival-ship, interest, humor, or caprice?

It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it, for let me not be understood as capable of patronizing in-fidelity to existing engagements (I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy) I repeat it therefore, let those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But in my opinion it is unnecessary and would be unwise to extend them.

Taking care always to keep ourselves, by suitable establishments, on a respectably defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies. Harmony, liberal intercourse with all nations, are recommended by policy, humanity, and interest.

But even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand: neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences; consulting the natural course of things; diffusing and diversifying by gentle means the streams of commerce but forcing nothing; establishing with powers so disposed in order to give to trade a stable course, to define the rights of our merchants, and to enable the government to support them conventional rules of intercourse, the best that present circumstances and mutual opinion will permit, but temporary, and liable to be from time to time abandoned or varied, as experience and circumstances shall dictate; constantly keeping in view, that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another that it must pay with a portion of its independence for whatever it may accept under that character that by such acceptance it may place it-self in the condition of having given equivalents for nominal favors and yet of being reproached with ingratitude for not giving more. There can be no greater error than to expect or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation. It is an illusion which experience must cure, which a just pride ought to discard.

In offering to you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will make the strong and lasting impression I could wish that they will control the usual current of the passions or prevent our nation from running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations. But if I may even flatter myself that they may be productive of some partial benefit, some occasional good, that they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigue, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism this hope will be a full recompense for the solicitude for your welfare by which they have been dictated.

How far in the discharge of my official duties I have been guided by the principles which have been delineated, the public records and other evidences of my conduct must witness to you and to the world. To myself, the assurance of my own conscience is that I have at least believed myself to be guided by them.

In relation to the still subsisting war in Europe, my proclamation of the 22d of April 1793 is the index to my plan. Sanctioned by your approving voice and by that of your representatives in both houses of Congress, the spirit of that measure has continually governed me, uninfluenced by any attempts to deter or divert me from it.

After deliberate examination with the aid of the best lights I could obtain, I was well satisfied that our country, under all the circumstances of the case, had a right to take and was bound in duty and interest to take a neutral position. Having taken it, I determined, as far as should depend upon me, to maintain it with moderation, perseverance, and firmness.

The considerations which respect the right to hold this conduct it is not necessary on this occasion to detail. I will only observe that, according to my understanding of the matter, that right, so far from being denied by any of the belligerent powers, has been virtually admitted by all.

The duty of holding a neutral conduct may be inferred, without anything more, from the obligation which justice and humanity impose on every nation, in cases in which it is free to act, to maintain inviolate the relations of peace and amity towards other nations.

The inducements of interest for observing that conduct will best be referred to your own reflections and experience. With me, a predominant motive has been to endeavor to gain time to our country to settle and mature its yet recent institutions and to progress without interruption to that degree of strength and consistency which is necessary to give it, humanly speaking, the command of its own fortunes.

Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration I am unconscious of intentional error, I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors. Whatever they may be, I fervently beseech the Almighty to avert or mitigate the evils to which they may tend. I shall also carry with me the hope that my country will never cease to view them with indulgence and that, after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as myself must soon be to the mansions of rest.

Relying on its kindness in this as in other things, and actuated by that fervent love towards it which is so natural to a man who views in it the native soil of himself and his progenitors for several generations, I anticipate with pleasing expectation that re-treat, in which I promise myself to realize without alloy the sweet enjoyment of partaking in the midst of my fellow citizens the benign influence of good laws under a free government the ever favorite object of my heart, and the happy reward, as I trust, of our mutual cares, labors and dangers.

**GEO. WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES, 19TH SEPTEMBER 1796**

## **REPUBLIC REVIEW**

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### **REPUBLIC REVIEW ARGUMENT IN BULLET FORMAT**

- a) In accordance with Article Seven of the Constitution, the Constitution is a compact/contract written “for” and “by” the States
- b) The legal definition of “ratification” is: “the action of signing or giving formal consent to a treaty, compact/contract, or agreement, making it officially valid”
- c) For the compact/contract to be given force it required a threshold of “Stakeholders” buy-in (“State” buy-in)

In accordance with Article Seven and Article Five the States are THE principal Stakeholders of this compact/contract. Consequently, ONLY the States possess SOVEREIGNTY over the compact/contract; thus:

- Only the States could ratify the Constitution
- Only the States possess the authority to ratify amendments
- Conversely, the Constitution does not grant the authority to the Supreme Court, the President, or
- Congress to ratify the Constitution or an Amendment to the Constitution; therefore they are not PRINCIPAL Parties to this compact/contract.

In accordance with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments, the States are the SOVEREIGNS who possess Supremacy over all things not delegated to the general (i.e. Federal) government within the Compact/contract

- The general government supremacy is limited to ONLY those objects/powers delegated by the States within the Compact/contract to the general government, ratified amendments to the Constitution and constitutionally ratified Treaties (See Article Six Section Two)
- Accordingly, the States delegated specific, defined and limited **ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND POWERS (RRPs)** within the compact/contract (i.e. Constitution) to the general government and the general government was constrained per the compact/contract from doing anything that was not specifically delegated to it within

the compact/contract (*See Article Six Section Two, and the Ninth and Tenth Amendments*)

The only way the general government can Constitutionally obtain a new RRP is by requesting that the States delegate the desired RRP to them (the general government) via an Amendment to the Constitution in accordance with the Constitutional amendment process. The “General Welfare and Defense,” “Commerce,” “Necessary and Proper,” and “Supremacy” clauses are not ambiguous portals for the general government to assume new RRP’s. These clauses only apply to the RRP’s enumerated in the Constitution and Amendments to the Constitution that have been ratified and Treaties constitutionally ratified by two thirds of the Senate (*See Article Six, The Ratification Debates, Madison’s Veto of the 1817 Bonus Bill, and Federalist Papers*)

Politicians, Jurists, Lawyers, Officers, officials, professors, and persons claiming profound understanding of the Constitution within and outside of the general government since 1791 have used lies, deceit, and collusion to convince the States to allow the general government the ability to assume unconstitutional RRP’s without following the codified process within the Constitution (*See The Ratification Debates and Madison’s Veto of the 1817 Bonus Bill, and the Federalist Papers*)

- Therefore, all RRP’s being exercised that cannot be found within the Constitution and the ratified Amendments are blatant violations of the Constitution and usurpations of States’ RRP’s and sovereignty (*See Ratification Debates, Madison’s Veto of the Bonus Bill, and the Federalist Papers*)
- For almost two centuries the general government and public servants at all levels have failed to comply with the Constitution as ratified and now our Republic is in grave peril due to these usurpations.

## **THE IRREFUTABLE ARGUMENT FOR REPUBLIC REVIEW**

### **Republic Review Argument in Bullet Format**

- 1) In accordance with Article Seven of the Constitution, the Constitution is a compact/contract written “for” and “by” the States
  - The legal definition of “ratification” is: “the action of signing or giving formal consent to a treaty, compact/contract, or agreement, making it officially valid”
  - For the compact/contract to be given force it required a threshold of “Stakeholders” buy-in (“State” buy-in)
- 2) In accordance with Article Seven and Article Five the States are THE principal Stakeholders of this compact/contract. Consequently, ONLY the States possess SOVEREIGNTY over the compact/contract; thus:
  - Only the States could ratify the Constitution
  - Only the States possess the authority to ratify amendments
  - Conversely, the Constitution does not grant the authority to the Supreme Court, the President, or Congress to ratify the Constitution or an Amendment to the Constitution; therefore they are not PRINCIPAL Parties to this compact/contract.
- 3) In accordance with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments, the States are the SOVEREIGNS who possess Supremacy over all things not delegated to the general (i.e. Federal) government within the Compact/contract.
  - The general government supremacy is limited to ONLY those objects/powers delegated by the States within the Compact/contract to the general government, ratified

amendments to the Constitution and constitutionally ratified Treaties (*See Article Six Section Two*).

- Accordingly, the States delegated specific, defined and limited **ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND POWERS (RRPs)** within the compact/contract (i.e. Constitution) to the general government and the general government was constrained per the compact/contract from doing anything that was not specifically delegated to it within the compact/contract (*See Article Six Section Two, and the Ninth and Tenth Amendments*)
- 4) The only way the general government can constitutionally obtain a new RRP is by requesting that the States delegate the desired RRP to them (the general government) via an Amendment to the Constitution in accordance with the Constitutional amendment process. The “General Welfare and Defense,” “Commerce,” “Necessary and Proper,” and “Supremacy” clauses are not ambiguous portals for the general government to assume new RRP. These clauses only apply to the RRP enumerated in the Constitution and Amendments to the Constitution that have been ratified and Treaties constitutionally ratified by two thirds of the Senate (*See Article Six, The Ratification Debates, Madison’s Veto of the 1817 Bonus Bill, and Federalist Papers*)
  - 5) Politicians, Jurists, Lawyers, Officers, officials, professors, and persons claiming profound understanding of the Constitution within and outside of the general government since 1791 have used lies, deceit, and collusion to convince the States to allow the general government the ability to assume unconstitutional RRP without following the codified process within the Constitution (*See the Ratification Debates and Madison’s Veto of the 1817 Bonus Bill, and the Federalist Papers*)
    - Therefore, all RRP being exercised that cannot be found within the Constitution and the ratified Amendments are blatant violations of the Constitution and usurpations of States’ RRP and sovereignty. (*See Ratification Debates, Madison’s Veto of the Bonus Bill, and the Federalist Papers*)
    - For almost two centuries the general government and public servants at all levels have failed to comply with the Constitution as ratified and now our Republic is in grave peril due to these usurpations.
  - 6) This audit is what Madison and Jefferson attempted to accomplish in 1798 with the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions. (*see the article Nullification of Interposition by G. R. Mobley*)
    - Jefferson audited the Constitution in his letter to the Kentucky State Legislators in 1798 (*See Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and 1799*).
    - Madison called for the State to fulfill their duty to protect their State and citizen from despotic government calling on the other States “that the necessary and proper measures will be taken by each, for co-operating with this state, in maintaining the Authorities, Rights, and Liberties, referred to the States respectively, or to the people.” (*See Virginia Resolution of 1798 and James Madison, Report on the Virginia Resolutions 1800*)
  - 7) Republic Review is what Madison and Jefferson attempted with Virginia and Kentucky when these States called upon their fellow Stakeholders to join them in rebuking the general government for violating their Constitution (*See Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and 1799 and see the article Nullification of Interposition by G. R. Mobley*)
    - Their fellow States failed to fulfill their obligation of oversight over their compact/contract which is why Madison and Jefferson were not successful in

conducting Republic Review and why Jefferson lamented in the Kentucky Resolution of 1799 and Madison lamented in Madison's 1800 Notes on the Virginia Resolutions.

- The first and obvious action was nullification of these ACT's but if that is what they were seeking then they would not have recommended the others actions in these Resolutions or lamented when the other States failed to respond in kind.
- 8) In harmony with Madison and Jefferson's actions the audit only requires one State to initiate and call for Republic Review (*See Republic Review Process Model*)

## **INTRODUCTION TO ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**

### **WHAT IS PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE?**

It is a set of rules for conduct at meetings, that allows everyone to be heard and to make decisions without confusion.

### **WHY IS PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE IMPORTANT?**

Because it's a time tested method of conducting business at meetings and public gatherings. It can be adapted to fit the needs of any organization. Today, Robert's Rules of Order newly revised is the basic handbook of operation for most clubs, organizations and other groups. So it's important that everyone know these basic rules!

Organizations using parliamentary procedure usually follow a fixed order of business.

Below is a typical example:

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call of members present.
3. Reading of minutes of last meeting.
4. Officers reports.
5. Committee reports.
6. Special orders --- Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Announcements.
10. Adjournment.

The method used by members to express themselves is in the form of moving motions. A motion is a proposal that the entire membership take action or a stand on an issue. Individual members can:

1. Call to order.
2. Second motions.
3. Debate motions.
4. Vote on motions.

### **THERE ARE FOUR BASIC TYPES OF MOTIONS:**

1. **Main Motions:** The purpose of a main motion is to introduce items to the membership for their consideration. They cannot be made when any other motion is on the floor, and yield to privileged, subsidiary, and incidental motions.
2. **Subsidiary Motions:** Their purpose is to change or affect how a main motion is handled, and is voted on before a main motion.
3. **Privileged Motions:** Their purpose is to bring up items that are urgent about special or important matters unrelated to pending business.
4. **Incidental Motions:** Their purpose is to provide a means of questioning procedure concerning other motions and must be considered before the other motion.

## HOW ARE MOTIONS PRESENTED?

1. Obtaining the floor
  - a. Wait until the last speaker has finished.
  - b. Rise and address the Chairman by saying, “Mr. Chairman, or Mr. President.”
  - c. Wait until the Chairman recognizes you.
2. Make Your Motion
  - a. Speak in a clear and concise manner.
  - b. Always state a motion affirmatively. Say, “I move that we ...” rather than, “I move that we do not ....”
  - c. Avoid personalities and stay on your subject.
3. Wait for Someone to Second Your Motion
4. Another member will second your motion or the Chairman will call for a second.
5. If there is no second to your motion it is lost.
6. The Chairman States Your Motion
  - a. The Chairman will say, “it has been moved and seconded that we ...” Thus placing your motion before the membership for consideration and action.
  - b. The membership then either debates your motion, or may move directly to a vote.
  - c. Once your motion is presented to the membership by the chairman it becomes “assembly property,” and cannot be changed by you without the consent of the members.
7. Expanding on Your Motion
  - a. The time for you to speak in favor of your motion is at this point in time, rather than at the time you present it.
  - b. The mover is always allowed to speak first.
  - c. All comments and debate must be directed to the chairman.
  - d. Keep to the time limit for speaking that has been established.
  - e. The mover may speak again only after other speakers are finished, unless called upon by the Chairman.
8. Putting the Question to the Membership
  - a. The Chairman asks, “Are you ready to vote on the question?”
  - b. If there is no more discussion, a vote is taken.
  - c. On a motion to move the previous question may be adapted.

## VOTING ON A MOTION:

The method of vote on any motion depends on the situation and the by-laws of policy of your organization. There are five methods used to vote by most organizations, they are:

1. By Voice -- The Chairman asks those in favor to say, “aye,” those opposed to say “no.” Any member may move for a exact count.
2. By Roll Call -- Each member answers “yes” or “no” as his name is called. This method is used when a record of each person’s vote is required.
3. By General Consent -- When a motion is not likely to be opposed, the Chairman says, “if there is no objection ...” The membership shows agreement by their silence, however if one member says, “I object,” the item must be put to a vote.
4. By Division -- This is a slight verification of a voice vote. It does not require a count unless the chairman so desires. Members raise their hands or stand.
5. By Ballot -- Members write their vote on a slip of paper, this method is used when secrecy is desired.

There are two other motions that are commonly used that relate to voting.

1. Motion to Table -- This motion is often used in the attempt to “kill” a motion. The option is always present, however, to “take from the table,” for reconsideration by the membership.
2. Motion to Postpone Indefinitely -- This is often used as a means of parliamentary strategy and allows opponents of motion to test their strength without an actual vote being taken. Also, debate is once again open on the main motion.

Parliamentary Procedure is the best way to get things done at your meetings. But, it will only work if you use it properly.

1. Allow motions that are in order.
2. Have members obtain the floor properly.
3. Speak clearly and concisely.
4. Obey the rules of debate.

Most importantly, *BE COURTEOUS*.

### **ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER MOTIONS CHART** Based on *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)*

<b>Part 1, Main Motions.</b> These motions are listed in order of precedence. A motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion. § indicates the section from Robert’s Rules.							
§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§21	Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§20	Take break	I move to recess for ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§19	Register complaint	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
§18	Make follow agenda	I call for the orders of the day	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17	Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§16	Close debate	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15	Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
§14	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13	Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12	Modify wording	I move to	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

	of motion	amend the motion by ...					
§11	Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§10	Bring business before assembly (a main motion)	I move that [or "to"] ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

**Part 2, Incidental Motions.** No order of precedence. These motions arise incidentally and are decided immediately.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§23	Enforce rules	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24	Submit matter to assembly	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§25	Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26	Avoid main motion altogether	I object to the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§27	Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§29	Demand a rising vote	I move for a rising vote	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Parliamentary law question	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Request for information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

**Part 3, Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly.**

No order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else is pending.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§34	Take matter from table	I move to take from the table ...	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§35	Cancel previous action	I move to rescind ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 or Majority with notice
§37	Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider ...	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority

## **SIMPLIFIED ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER**

### **MAIN IDEAS:**

- Everyone has the right to speak once if they wish, before anyone may speak a second time.
- Everyone has the right to know what is going on at all times.
- Only urgent matters may interrupt a speaker.
- The [members] discuss only one thing at a time.

### **HOW TO DO THINGS:**

1. You want to bring up a new idea before the group. After recognition by the [president], present your motion. A second is required for the motion to go to the floor for debate, or consideration.
2. You want a motion just introduced by another person to be killed. Without recognition from the [president] simply state “I object to consideration.” This must be done before any debate. This motion requires no second, is not debatable and requires a 2/3 vote.
3. You want to change some of the wording in a motion under debate. After recognition by the [president], move to amend by
  - i. adding words,
  - ii. striking words or
  - iii. striking and inserting words.
4. You like the idea of a motion under debate, but you need to reword it beyond simple word changes. Move to substitute your motion for the original motion. If it is seconded, debate will continue on both motions and eventually the body will vote on which motion they prefer.
5. You want more study and/or investigation given to the idea under debate. Move to refer to a committee. Try to be specific as to the charge to the committee.
6. You want more time personally to study the proposal under debate. Move to postpone to a definite time or date.
7. You are tired of the current debate. Move to limit debate to a set period of time or to a set number of speakers. Requires a 2/3 vote.
8. You have heard enough debate. Move to close the debate. Requires a 2/3 vote. Or move to previous question. This cuts off debate and brings the assembly to a vote on the pending question only. Requires a 2/3 vote.
9. You want to postpone a motion until some later time. Move to table the motion. The motion may be taken from the table after 1 item of business has been conducted. If the motion is not taken from the table by the end of the next meeting, it is dead. To kill a motion at the time it is tabled requires a 2/3 vote. A majority is required to table a motion without killing it.
10. You want to take a short break. Move to recess for a set period of time.
11. You want to end the meeting. Move to adjourn.
12. You are unsure that the [president] has announced the results of a vote correctly. Without being recognized, call for a “division of the house.” At this point a standing vote will be taken.
13. You are confused about a procedure being used and want clarification. Without recognition, call for “Point of Information” or “Point of Parliamentary Inquiry.” The [president] will ask you to state your question and will attempt to clarify the situation.
14. You have changed your mind about something that was voted on earlier in the meeting for which you were on the winning side. Move to reconsider. If the majority agrees, the motion comes back on the floor as though the vote had not occurred.

15. You want to change an action voted on at an earlier meeting. Move to rescind. If previous written notice is given, a simple majority is required. If no notice is given, as 2/3 vote is required.

You may INTERRUPT a speaker for these reasons only:

- to get information about business - point of information
- to get information about rules - parliamentary inquiry
- if you can't hear, safety reasons, comfort, etc. - question of privilege
- if you see a breach of the rules - point of order
- if you disagree with the [president]'s ruling – appeal You may influence WHAT the [members] discuss:
- if you would like to discuss something – motion
- if you would like to change a motion under discussion - amend

• You may influence HOW and WHEN the [members] discuss a motion:

- if you want to limit debate on something - limit debate
- if you want a committee to evaluate the topic and report back – commit
- if you want to discuss the topic at another time - postpone or lay it on the table
- if you think people are ready to vote - previous question

### PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE MOTIONS CHART

Adjourn	S			M
Recess	S	A		M
Table	S			M
Close Debate	S		2/3	R
Limit Debate	S	A	2/3	R
Postpone To Later Time	S	D	A	M R
Refer To Committee	S	D	A	M R
Amend Amendment	S	D		M R
Postpone Indefinitely	S	D	A	M R
Main Motion	S	D	A	M R

S = Must Be Seconded

D = Debatable

A = Amendable

M = Requires A Simple Majority Vote

2/3 = Requires A 2/3 Vote

R = May Be Reconsidered Or Rescinded

## HOW TO RUN A MEETING

### OPENING THE MEETING

- The meeting begins after the Chairperson declares the meeting opened.
- Taking of attendance – the Attendance Sheet need only be filled in once after which your name will be added to an attendance sheet
- Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Request for Donation [jar on table]
- Subject of focus -

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Chairperson moves that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted or adopted. The Chairperson tables the minutes of the previous meeting making them open as a topic of discussion.

- The Chairperson will ask the members to adopt the minutes.
- If the members do not agree that the draft minutes are accurate, changes may be suggested.
- The Chairperson should ask the meeting to vote on those corrections. If there are only a few minor corrections, the Chairperson may ask the members to accept the minutes with the corrections. The vote to adopt the minutes can then go ahead on that basis.
- Once the Minutes have been adopted the Chairperson should initial every page of the minutes and hand them to the meeting secretary for filing. It is not appropriate at this time, to indulge in debates on decisions which were made at the previous meeting. Anyone who wishes to change a motion should wait until the same subject arises in the general business of the current meeting or raise it in the part called “Any Other Business.”
- The most important advice about the minutes of a previous meeting is to make sure you read them.

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Often the issues for Business arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting are listed in the agenda. Any reports, pieces of information or other matters of substance that were requested at the previous meeting are debated and a vote is taken on the appropriate action to take.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letters that have been sent to the meeting are tabled and debated, if the meeting wishes to do so. Any letters, facsimiles and the like, which have been received by the committee are discussed here. The Chairperson should summarise correspondence which cover similar issues, or express similar opinions and discuss them as a single issue. The Chairperson presents a piece of correspondence to the meeting by putting a motion that the meeting “receive the correspondence.” This is an acknowledgment by the meeting that the correspondence has been formally received and that it may now be discussed and acted upon.

### **REPORTS:**

- Reports written for the meeting are tabled and debated, if the meeting wishes to do so.
- Reports and submissions that have been written for the meeting or include information relevant to the work of the meeting are tabled and discussed.
- A motion is required to be put that a report be received. This means that the report exists, as far as the meeting is concerned, and a discussion or debate may now take place on the contents, interpretation and recommendations of the report. Motions are able to be put for or against the recommendations of the report or ask the author to consider further issues or reconsider issues on the basis of particular information.
- A member of a meeting can even put forward a motion to change the wording of a report or submission.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Items so listed in the agenda are debated. The debate usually begins with the Chairperson calling on someone to move a motion.

- General business items are announced singly by the Chairperson and a discussion or debate follows each one.
- Motions that suggest methods of resolving issues are put forward and to a vote.

- Once the motions receive a simple majority, or a majority as defined in the standing orders, they become resolutions.
- Sometimes amendments to a motion are put forward. Only after the amendments are debated and voted upon can the revised substantive motion be brought to the vote.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

When all items on the agenda have been debated, the Chairperson may call for items not listed in General Business.

- It is at this point in time, that the members are able to raise issues they feel are important.
- These include any items which were not listed on the agenda.
- No extremely important or complex issues should be raised unannounced during this part of the meeting.
- If an urgent matter must be dealt with by the meeting, the Chairperson should be informed before the meeting begins. A revised agenda can then be drawn up in the time that remains before the meeting is due to begin. If the Chairperson feels that any of the issues brought up for discussion are too complex or troublesome, he may call for another meeting to discuss the issue or alternatively, put it on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

#### **SUBJECT OF FOCUS - SCHEDULED GUEST SPEAKER OR TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION QUESTION AND ANSWER**

#### **CLOSE OF MEETING:**

Once all the issues have been put forward and discussed, the Chairperson advises members of the date and time of the next meeting. The meeting is now officially closed.

## **MEETING MINUTES HOW TO**

#### **WHY MEETING MINUTES MATTER**

Don't give up, meeting minutes are important. They capture the essential information of a meeting – decisions and assigned actions. They keep attendees on track by reminding them of their role in a project and clearly define what happened in a group session. How many times have your colleagues been confused or in disagreement about what happened in a meeting? With minutes to refer to, everyone is clear.

What most people don't know is that meeting minutes shouldn't be an exact recording of everything that happened during a session. Minutes are meant to record basic information such as the actions assigned and decisions made. Then, they can be saved and used for reference or background material for future meetings relating to the same topic.

The following instructions will help you take useful and concise meeting minutes.

#### **BEFORE THE MEETING:**

If you are recording the minutes, make sure you aren't a major participant in the meeting. You can't perform both tasks well. Create a template for recording your meeting minutes and make sure you leave some blank space to record your notes. Include the following information:

- ▶ Date and time of the meeting
- ▶ The purpose of the meeting

- ▶The meeting lead or chair's name
- ▶Assigned action items
- ▶Decisions made

Before the meeting, gather as much information from the host as you can. Ask for a list of attendees, as well as some information on the purpose of the meeting. This way you won't need to scramble to understand what's going on while you're recording notes.

Decide how you want to record your notes. If you aren't comfortable relying on your pen and notepad, try using a tape recorder or, if you're a fast typist, take a laptop to the meeting.

### **DURING THE MEETING**

As people enter the room, check off their names on your attendee list. Ask the meeting lead to introduce you to meeting attendees you aren't familiar with. This will be helpful later when you are recording assigned tasks or decisions.

Don't try to record notes verbatim – it's not necessary. Minutes are meant to give an outline of what happened in the meeting, not a record of who said what. Focus on understanding what's being discussed and on recording what's been assigned or decided on. Record action items and decisions in your template as they happen – don't wait until after the meeting to pull them out of your notes or you could make a mistake. If you don't understand exactly what decision has been made or what action has been assigned, ask the meeting lead to clarify.

### **AFTER THE MEETING:**

Review the notes and add additional comments, or clarify what you didn't understand right after the meeting. Do this while the information is fresh in everyone's mind. Type your notes out in the template you created before the meeting – this will make the notes easier for everyone to read and use.

When you're writing out your notes, use some of the following tips from the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP).

- ▶Number the pages as you go so you aren't confused later. Remember, though, that the minute-taker is responsible for providing good flow. Don't force yourself to write the minutes in the actual chronological order of the discussion - it may not work.
- ▶Focus on action items, not discussion. The purpose of minutes is to define decisions made and to record what actions are to be taken, by whom and when.
- ▶Be objective. Write in the same tense throughout and avoid using people's names except for motions or seconds. This is a business document, not about who said what.
- ▶Avoid inflammatory or personal observations. The fewer adjectives or adverbs you use, the better. Dull writing is the key to appropriate minutes.
- ▶If you need to refer to other documents, attach them in an appendix or indicate where they may be found. Don't rewrite their intent or try to summarize them.

When you finish typing the minutes, ask the meeting lead to review the document for errors. Send the final copy of the minutes to attendees right away. Keep a copy of the notes (and the template) for yourself in case someone wants to review them later.

Recording meeting minutes ensures that the decisions and actions resulting from a meeting aren't lost or forgotten. By taking the time to record proper meeting notes you'll make sure the time and effort that goes into a meeting isn't wasted.

### **BEFORE THE MEETING**

Choose your tool: Decide how you will take notes, i.e. pen and paper, laptop computer, or tape recorder.

- Make sure your tool of choice is in working order and have a backup just in case.
- Use the meeting agenda to formulate an outline.

### **DURING THE MEETING**

- Pass around an attendance sheet.
- Get a list of committee members and make sure you know who is who.
- Note the time the meeting begins.
- Don't try to write down every single comment -- just the main ideas.
- Write down motions, who made them, and the results of votes, if any; no need to write down who seconded a motion.
- Make note of any motions to be voted on at future meetings.
- Note the ending time of the meeting.

### **AFTER THE MEETING**

- Type up the minutes as soon as possible after the meeting, while everything is still fresh in your mind.
- Include the name of organization, name of committee, type of meeting (daily, weekly, monthly, annual, or special), and purpose of meeting.
- Include the time the meeting began and ended.
- Proofread the minutes before submitting them.

## **PUTTING OUR PRIORITIES INTO PERSPECTIVE**

*Unconstitutional actions by those who are running our government*

### **CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS**

- The systematic subversion of our Republic while calling us a Democracy
- Assassinations
- Open borders
- 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment
- Habeas corpus
- War powers act
- Patriot act
- Martial law
- Refuses the peoples right for redress of grievances
- 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment crisis

### **ECONOMIC CRISIS**

- Destroyed our manufacturing base
- Spent us into bankruptcy
- Taxed us beyond our means
- The fed

### **HEALTH CRISIS**

- Neurodegenerative systemic degenerative diseases [laboratory diseases] such as Alzheimer's – Bi-polar – Crohns – Colitis – Chronic fatigue syndrome – Diabetes – Dystonia – Fibromyalgia – Huntington's – Lupus – Lyme disease – Multiple sclerosis – Parkinson's – Schizophrenia ... to name a few:
- FDA

- Deadly drugs [pharmaceutical companies] – deadly food – deadly household products -

#### **ENVIRONMENT CRISIS**

- chemtrails
- deep oil drilling
- fractured drilling

#### **EDUCATIONAL CRISIS**

- Removed from our schools the teaching of - God –our Constitution –the committeeman process –common law studies – ethics – our Republic – morals –
- Rewritten history

#### **WORLD CRISIS**

- Military Industrial Complex
- Wars
- Nation building
- Oil crisis
- Dollar crisis

#### **MEDIA CRISIS**

- Licensing [permission] media
- Allowing only media's that are controlled by one of six elitist owned corporations
- News black outs

**THE CAUSE** - progressive movement

**THE SOLUTION** – end the fed, become a committeeman, team watch & prepare for the inevitable collapse.

**TO SURVIVE** – We need to become educated in all the issues above including food storage, self-defense fortifying our immune system, homeopathy, communications, etc.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?** To be active and effective member of meeting, you must:

- Be well prepared
- Make sure you have read the agenda
- Be aware of the topics that will be discussed
- Be involved
- Be a good listener

**THERE ARE FOUR STEPS TO GOOD LISTENING.**

- Hearing - receiving the sound
- Attending - focusing on what you are hearing
- Understanding - interpreting and evaluating what you listen to
- Remembering - storing the information

## **COS STRUCTURE & AGENDA**

### **FIRST FORMAL MEETING**

#### **PUTTING OUR PRIORITIES INTO PERSPECTIVE**

- What can you do?
- Opening the meeting

**NEED VOLUNTEERS**

**CHAIRMEN** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECRETARY - Keep minutes & report** \_\_\_\_\_

**TREASURER – Donations** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUB- COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Committee of Correspondence \_\_\_\_\_

Militia Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Political Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Judiciary Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Education Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Republic Review Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Other Committees \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

1. Education
2. Founding Fathers
3. Founding documents
4. Judiciary
5. Political Process
6. How can we grow group involvement & group
7. County involvement
8. Community outreach
9. Survival meetings
10. Special guests
11. Tools educate/inform [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/organizing-your-county](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/organizing-your-county)
12. More as we grow

NLA’S WEEKLY DISCUSSION AND EDUCATION [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/mondaycall](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/mondaycall)

FREE COURSES [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/courses](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/courses)

BOOKS BY JOHN DARASH [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/books-john-darash](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/books-john-darash)

FREE PDF HANDBOOKS [www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks](http://www.nationallibertyalliance.org/handbooks)

*“Only the People can Save Our Republic”  
Learn how to have Government by Consent!*