

PEOPLE
PRINCIPLES
OPPORTUNITY
A STRONGER
TOMORROW



CELEBRATE CONSTITUTION DAY

SEPTEMBER 17

Honoring Our Past. Empowering Our Future.

ABOUT THE U.S. CONSTITUTION



The U.S. Constitution was signed on September 17, 1787, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



It establishes the framework for our government and outlines the rights and freedoms of all Americans.



The Constitution is the foundation of our democracy, ensuring the principles of liberty, justice, and equality.



It continues to guide and protect our nation today, over 230 years later.

"A more perfect Union"

PREAMBLE TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Your Voice Matters!

REGISTER TO VOTE IN PENNSYLVANIA

- ✓ Make your voice heard.
- ✓ Help shape your community.
- ✓ Be part of the democratic process.



*Scan the QR code
to register to vote
in Pennsylvania!*

REGISTER TODAY!

*Informed Citizens
Build Stronger Communities.*

GJCTC

GREATER JOHNSTOWN
CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER
REAL SKILLS. REAL CAREERS. REAL FUTURES.
CAREER IN A YEAR™

LEARN ★ PARTICIPATE ★ MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Knowledge Today A Stronger Tomorrow

LEARN
PARTICIPATE
RESPECT
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE



The Preamble *The Purpose of Our Government*

*"We the People
of the United States,
in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defense,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty
to ourselves and our Posterity,
do ordain and establish this Constitution
for the United States of America."*

— The Preamble

The Preamble is the opening statement of the U.S. Constitution. It explains why the Constitution was written and the goals of our government. In simple terms, it tells us that the people of the United States want to:

- ★ **Form a more perfect Union** – create a stronger, more united country
- ★ **Establish Justice** – treat everyone fairly under the law
- ★ **Ensure domestic Tranquility** – maintain peace within our nation
- ★ **Provide for the common defense** – keep our country safe
- ★ **Promote the general Welfare** – work for the well-being of all citizens
- ★ **Secure the Blessings of Liberty** – protect our freedoms for ourselves and future generations

“

An educated citizenry is a vital prerequisite for our survival as a free people.”

— THOMAS JEFFERSON



*Be Informed.
Be Engaged.
Be the Difference.*

The Bill of Rights *Our Fundamental Freedoms*

The first ten amendments to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. They were added in 1791 to protect the individual rights and freedoms of Americans. Here are some key rights:



Freedom of Speech

You can express your thoughts and opinions.



Freedom of Religion

You can practice your religion (or no religion).



Freedom of the Press

You can share and receive information.



Right to Assemble

You can peacefully gather with others.



Right to a Fair Trial

You are protected by due process under the law.

YOUR VOTE.
YOUR COMMUNITY.
YOUR FUTURE.



The Three Branches of Government *A System of Checks and Balances*

The Constitution creates a government with three separate branches. Each branch has different powers to ensure no one branch becomes too powerful.



Legislative Branch *Makes the Laws*

- Congress (Senate and House of Representatives)
- Creates federal laws
- Approves the federal budget



Executive Branch *Enforces the Laws*

- The President
- Carries out and enforces federal laws
- Commander in Chief of the military



Judicial Branch *Interprets the Laws*

- Supreme Court and federal courts
- Reviews laws to ensure they are constitutional
- Protects individual rights