



KEEP OUR REPUBLIC

Since 1787 our Constitution has stood firm. Now so must we all.

On this day in 1787, our founders put aside their differences and signed the Constitution. As former federal judges, we each took an oath to support and defend the Constitution.

We come from different corners of America and have been appointed by presidents of both parties, but our commitment to our oath and the Constitution knows neither party nor retirement date.

We are now compelled to speak out, as sitting judges cannot, because the Constitution is under attack. Sitting judges, bound by a code of ethics, can only speak sparingly through their opinions. We are no longer so constrained.

The founders of our nation, having defeated the most powerful monarchy of the day, blazed a new trail in establishing our constitutional republic of three separate and *coequal branches* of government. Our founders recognized that an independent judiciary, free from political pressure, was essential to protecting Americans' newly won liberty. As Alexander Hamilton wrote, "there is no liberty, if the power of judging be not separated from the legislative and executive powers." Put plainly, a judicial branch cowed by the political branches cannot safeguard the rights of all citizens.

Misinformation, disinformation, and fiery rhetoric distort public understanding of the judiciary's critical role in maintaining our democracy. Threats against judges and their families are obvious attempts to intimidate, harass, and pressure judges and sway their opinions, shaking the public's trust and confidence in the courts.

This Constitution Day, we pledge to strengthen America's democracy by mobilizing a better-informed citizenry.

We are speaking out to protect the Constitution and all that it stands for. Its principles should be celebrated as the foundation of our nation. We call upon every American to join us in upholding judicial independence for our own and future generations as our founders envisioned and the Constitution guarantees.

Keep Our Republic's Article III Coalition:

Judge Wayne R. Andersen – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Judge John W. Bissell – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey

Judge Michael Burrage – Formerly of the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Northern & Western Districts of Oklahoma

Judge Robert J. Cindrich – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

Judge David H. Coar – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Judge Andre M. Davis – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland & U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

Judge Bernice B. Donald – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee & U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Judge William F. Downes – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming

Judge Allyson K. Duncan – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

Judge Gary E. Feess – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Jeremy D. Fogel – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

Judge Royal Furgeson, Jr. – Formerly of the U.S. District Courts for the Western District of Texas & Northern District of Texas

Judge Vanessa D. Gilmore – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Judge Irma E. Gonzalez – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Judge Paul W. Grimm – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

Judge Andrew J. Guilford – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Thelton Henderson – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

Judge Robert H. Henry – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Judge Faith S. Hochberg – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey

Judge Richard J. Holwell – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Judge John E. Jones III – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Judge Abdul K. Kallon – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama

Judge George H. King – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Barbara M. Lynn – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

Judge Robert B. Kugler – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey & U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court

Judge Beverly B. Martin – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia & U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Judge John S. Martin – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Judge A. Howard Matz – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Paul R. Michel – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Judge Carlos R. Moreno – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Margaret M. Morrow – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Judge Liam O’Grady – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia & U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court

Judge Kathleen M. O’Malley – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio & U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Judge Layn R. Phillips – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma

Judge Philip M. Pro – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada

Judge Victoria A. Roberts – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Judge Shira A. Scheindlin – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Judge Deanell R. Tacha – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Judge David S. Tatel – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit

Judge John Daniel Tinder – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana & U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Judge Ursula M. Ungaro – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

Judge T. John Ward – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas

Judge Paul J. Watford – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

Judge Diane P. Wood – Formerly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Judge Lee Yeakel – Formerly of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas