



KEEP OUR REPUBLIC

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW





Letter From the Executive Director

Since our formation in 2020, Keep Our Republic has been a nonpartisan civic education organization committed to the vitality of America's democracy by promoting trust in elections, the rule of law, and constitutional checks and balances.

The resilience of our constitutional republic was tested this past year. We anticipated many of these challenges and organized a vigorous response.

Keep Our Republic's greatest asset is our volunteers. With incredibly unique and diverse perspectives, they have helped guide us during this history-making year. We have grown as an organization because of their passionate commitment to defending and increasing trust in democratic institutions.

In response to increasing threats against the judiciary, KOR created the Article III Coalition - a unique group of over 50 former federal district and circuit judges appointed by presidents of both parties. These retired judges have spoken out in the press and to the public to defend the judiciary in ways that judges still on the bench cannot.

Similarly, on Bill of Rights Day, we welcomed 50 former state Supreme Court Chief Justices to Keep Our Republic. This first of its kind Alliance of Former Chief Justices will lend an important voice in state capitals across our country.

Our work to educate citizens on, and stand up for, the importance of an independent judiciary is more important now than ever before in my lifetime.

While building these new initiatives, we continued to lay the groundwork to strengthen public confidence and counter misinformation in anticipation of the 2026 election. Our hyperlocalized work continues in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin. We are fortunate this upcoming year to expand similar innovative trustbuilding efforts into Georgia and North Carolina.

In 2026 and beyond, we anticipate continued concerted efforts to break down trust in the judiciary, in election administration, and other democratic institutions. We will continue to strategically expand our non-partisan civic education efforts and deepen partnerships around our great country.

We are grateful for your continued support. This important work could not happen without you.

Thank you,

Ari Mittleman
Executive Director
Keep Our Republic



2025

By The Numbers

Last year was transformational for Keep Our Republic. Your support enabled us to expand our efforts to defend democratic institutions like never before. We faced an unprecedented threat environment by forming unprecedented bipartisan coalitions that achieved tremendous impact across our country

130+

Former Officials
Volunteering With KOR

50+

Former Federal Judges
Recruited to the
Article III Coalition

50

Former State Chief Justices
Recruited to the Alliance of
Former Chief Justices

10+

Highly Impactful, In-Person
Events Hosted

25+

Total Events
Coordinated

13

In-Depth Podcast
Interviews with
Keepers of our Republic

2

New States Expanded to
(NC & GA)

500+

Small-dollar donors

4

New Foundations
Supporting KOR



Standing Up For Democracy

Over the last year, we are proud to have held highly successful, well-attended events across our country. Our volunteers educated thousands of audience members on the importance of protecting and defending our democratic institutions



We entered into new collaborations with a diverse array of partners across the country, including:



Our media briefings & election administrator trainings educated over 1000 attendees.

Keep Our Republic continues to be the only organization that can convene the highest level of bipartisan attendees to work together to solve election administration challenges.

Our convenings in partnership with Duke, Duquesne, and Dickinson gathered elected and appointed state and county officials - elections directors, judges, legislators, former governors, federal cabinet officials, and other experts.



“I really appreciate the work that Keep Our Republic has done these past few years and [they are] one of the reasons why I think this election went so smoothly.”

-Hon. Al Schmidt, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Speaking Out For Justice

The 2025 launch of Keep Our Republic’s Article III Coalition marks the first time a coalition of former federal judges appointed by Presidents of both parties over the last four decades has come together defend the independence of judicial decision-making. They are a voice for sitting judges.

The Article III Coalition Speaks Out:

A3C Judges Appeared in
25+
National Media Outlets

A3C Judges Spoke to
15+
High Profile Audiences

A3C Judges Issued
2
Impactful Public
Statements

The Article III Coalition kicked off a **national town hall tour**, speaking up for judicial independence and the rule of law in diverse locations such as Harrisburg, PA; Denver, CO; and Savannah, GA.



“Although appointed under different administrations and political parties, Keep Our Republic’s Article III Coalition’s retired federal judges of diverse personal backgrounds are united on the national need for judges to be free to rule based only on the law applied to proven facts and not political pressures.

Hon. Paul R. Michel (ret.)

Former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

“This group is doing incredibly important work. They are able to speak out on issues affecting the judiciary. Who else is better to speak about the judiciary than former federal judges?”

Hon. Shira Scheindlin (ret.)

Former Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York



Reaching the Public

**Last year, KOR had more than 100 unique media mentions.
In total, over 900 outlets have covered KOR’s work!**

KOR expanded its media education work and has become the premier non-partisan resource for local journalists in MI, PA, WI, NC, GA, and last year, VA, to cover elections and rule of law issues.



Beyond offering insight and perspective, reporters covered KOR in action. Our work received profile pieces in [Axios](#), [Politico](#), [The Washington Times](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Law360](#), [The Fulcrum](#), [Barron’s](#), and [numerous local outlets across the country](#), including multiple spots on local conservative radio.

THE WASHINGTON TIMES:

**RETIRED JUDGES PUSH BACK ON TODD BLANCHE’S
'WAR' ON 'ACTIVIST JUDGES' COMMENTS**

VIRGINIA MERCURY:

YES, VIRGINIA, OUR ELECTIONS ARE SECURE

ABC27 WHTM:

**'KEEP OUR REPUBLIC' DISCUSSES IMPROVING ELECTION
ACCESSIBILITY, REDUCING VULNERABILITY IN WORKSHOP**

“I appreciate all the work Keep Our Republic has done in helping to make sure clerks responded to the many inquiries we’ve received in an intelligent, straightforward, consistent manner which was so key in helping to ease the tension and skepticism from our electors.”

Toya Harrell, President, Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association (WMCA)



Expanding Our Digital Content

In 2025, KOR’s digital presence grew and adapted to a changing online landscape. KOR’s Keepers of our Republic Podcast engages the current and former public servants who keep our republic to educate the public on the importance of keeping our democratic institutions.

KOR’s audience moved to new digital platforms and KOR continued to meet people where they are, engaging both new volunteers and the public:

30,000+
Total Views

13
Keepers Of the
Republic Interviewed

500+
Hours Watched



“I say it often, but I won't say it enough—how helpful and important the role is that you are playing at Keep Our Republic in engaging election administrators, in engaging clerks and the public. It is truly appreciated.”

-Lisa Posthumus Lyons, Clerk and Register of Deeds of Kent County, Michigan



Keeping Our Republic in 2026

As we reflect upon another historic year full of important firsts, impactful coalition-building, and momentous launches, we continue to anticipate the challenges that lie ahead for keeping our republic.

Our country's 250th birthday year, 2026, will be another year of uncertainty and pressure on our constitutional republic. The mis-and-disinformation that has featured during previous election cycles only shows signs of increasing. That is why we have expanded our election education efforts and welcomed new colleagues to lead efforts in Georgia and North Carolina. We will increase existing efforts in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

We also anticipate that the threats to the rule of law will only increase. That is why we are focused on expanding the work of our Article III Coalition, deploying members of our Alliance of Former Chief Justices, and working to preserve the independence of the legal profession.

Now more than ever, we need your sustained support to continue to Keep Our Republic.

You may support our work with a fully-tax-deductible contribution here: <https://keepourrepublic.org/donate/>



“I am joining Keep Our Republic’s educational efforts because we are at a moment when the principles of our democracy and the rule of law face stresses unlike any I have seen in my lifetime. It is critically important that everyone understands what is at stake in safeguarding our constitutional system built on the separation of powers, an independent judiciary, and equal justice under law.”

-Hon. Daniel Wathen (ret.), Former Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Court

“I have been honored to assist Keep Our Republic on public events that help everyday Pennsylvanians understand election administration. As Chief Judge of the US Middle District of Pennsylvania in 2020, I witnessed how pervasive election related misinformation can be. Everyday citizens involved with civic education non-profits play an integral role in pushing back against toxic narratives.”

-Hon. John E. Jones III (ret), Former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, President of Dickinson College