

Bill of Rights

1. There shall be no law saying that we must believe in a particular religion, nor one saying that we may not believe in a religion of our choice. We have the right to say what we believe and members of the press have the right to print what they believe. People have the right to meet in groups as long as they are peaceable. If we think something is wrong, we have the right to ask the government to do something about it.
2. We have the right to own weapons for emergency military service.
3. We have the right to privacy in our homes. The government cannot force us to have soldiers or other government officials living or staying in our homes.
4. We have the right for ourselves, our homes, and our belongings to be safe from being searched or taken away unreasonably. This ordinarily is not allowed, unless there is a warrant (or permit). A warrant will not be allowed unless a good reason is given and sworn to, along with a description of the place that is to be searched and the things being looked for.
5. In our federal courts, a person may not be tried for a crime unless a grand jury independent of the police has decided there is some evidence that a crime has been committed, and that the person probably was involved in committing it. If a person has a trial and a verdict is found (guilty or not guilty), the person may not be tried for the same offense again. If charged in criminal cases, we cannot be made to testify against ourselves. We also cannot be punished by loss of life, freedom, or things

we own until we've been through the legal processes. Private property cannot be taken for public use unless we are paid fairly for what's taken.

6. If charged with a crime, we have the right to have a trial soon after being charged. The trial is public, not secret. It is tried by a fair jury of people who live near the place. We have the right to know what we have been accused of. We have the right to require witnesses to testify for us and to question those who testify against us. We have the right to have counsel (a lawyer).
7. In a civil case when you sue someone for money, if the amount of money involved is more than \$20.00, you have the right to a jury trial. In the trial court, the jury tries to find out what happened. This is called finding the facts. Then the jury applies the law to those facts. If the case is appealed to a higher court, the judges must accept the facts that were found by the jury in the trial court. The only thing they can consider for change is how the law was applied to those facts.
8. If bail is required or fines charged, the amount must be reasonable. Punishments cannot be cruel or unusual.
9. The rights that are listed in the Constitution should not be interpreted so that they take away other rights of the people.
10. The Constitution tells specific powers that the United States has as a country. It tells specific powers that individual states cannot have. Any powers not listed should be the right of the individual states.