



Vocabulary Terms

Bill of Rights – The first 10 amendments of the Constitution

Amendment – To change or add a statement to a document

Bill – A proposed law that is presented to Senators and Representatives to vote on

Checks and Balances – Term given to the President as having executive power of the United States

Chief Executive – Someone who has allegiance to a state and is entitled to its protection

Citizen – Laws relating to human conduct

Articles of Confederation – The plan, ratified by the states in 1781, that established a national Congress with limited powers

Commander in Chief – Term for the President as commander of the nation's Armed Forces

Democracy – A form of government in which the supreme power is given to the people

Judicial Branch – This branch of government has the power to interpret laws and consists of the courts

Veto – To reject a proposed bill

Federal Government – The form of government where power is divided between the national government and state governments

Donald Trump – The current President of the United States

Impeachment – Formal charge brought against a public official by the lower house in a legislative body

Law – A rule or procedure that is enforced by a specific authority

Constitution – Laws of a nation or state that establish the powers of the government and guarantee certain rights to the people

Legislative Branch – This branch of government has the power to make laws and consists of the congress

Political Party – An organized group that seeks to control government through winning elections and holding public offices

Precedent – Previous court decisions that influence the ruling of later and similar cases

Separation of Powers – The principle that the executive, legislative and judicial powers are divided equally

John F. Kennedy – The 35th President of the United States

Election – The process of voting to choose a person for office

Term – The length of time a person may serve in office once elected

Vote – A formal expression of one's opinion; you do this when you elect someone to office

Executive Branch – This branch of government has the power to enforce laws and consists of the President