

Constitutional Research

- Constitutions (federal and state):
 - Establish form and limitations of the government.
 - -Interpretation of the text.
 - -Mandatory authority within that

jurisdiction

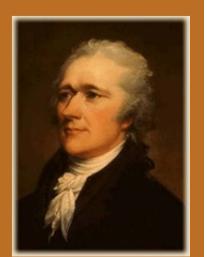
WE the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure dometice. Tranquility, provide for the common Defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that the ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that the ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that the ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish that the ourselves are the United States of America.

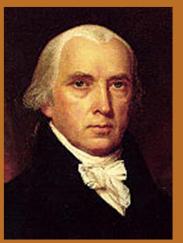
Finding Constitutions

- Are usually published in the same set as the statutes
- Most common source for <u>researching</u> constitutions is the annotated codes
- There are also compilations of state and federal constitutions

U.S. Constitution

- Entered into force in 1789 and amended 27 times
- Interpretation by the courts is very important



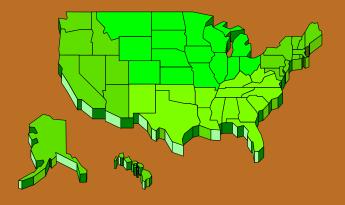


U.S. Constitution

- Constitution of the United States of America Analysis and Interpretation (every 10 years)
- U.S. Code 1st volume (text only)
- U.S.C.A. first 10 volumes (text and annotations)
- U.S.C.A. 7 volumes at the end (text and annotations)

State Constitutions

- Each state has its own constitution
- As with federal constitution, interpretation by courts is very important



Finding State Constitutions

- Starting point for research
 - -State constitutional law sources
 - Annotated code for that state
 - Text only also in unannotated codes



State Constitutions

THE WYOMING STATE
CONSTITUTION
A Reference
Guide
Robert B. Keiter and Tim Newcomb

- Reference Guides to the State Constitutions of the US
- State Constitutional Conventions material from the conventions helps courts interpret what authors of the constitution had in mind.