

to

Legislators and Public Servants

You took an Oath under Section 228 of the Kentucky Constitution.
Oath of officers and attorneys:

Members of the General Assembly and all officers, before they enter upon the execution of the duties of their respective offices, and all members of the bar, before they enter upon the practice of their profession, shall take the following oath or affirmation:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of Kentucky so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully execute, to the best of my ability, the office of ... according to law; and I do further solemnly swear (or affirm) that since the adoption of the present Constitution, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State nor out of it, nor have I sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, nor aided or assisted any person thus offending, so help me God.”

Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.

Your Oath of Office is a Contract with We the People

The Remedy is found in Section 229

Sections 229. Treason defined – Evidence necessary to convict.

“Treason against the Commonwealth shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason except on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.”

Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.

“This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and thee demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.”

Daniel 4:17 KJV
Public Law 97-280

Section 24. Emigration to be free.

Emigration from the State shall not be prohibited.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 25. Slavery and involuntary servitude forbidden.

Slavery and involuntary servitude in this State are forbidden, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 26. General powers subordinate to Bill of Rights - Laws contrary thereto are void.

To guard against transgression of the high powers which we have delegated, We Declare that every thing in this Bill of Rights is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and all laws contrary thereto, or contrary to this Constitution, shall be void.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

The Bill of Rights Sections 1 through 26 are inviolate.

Section 195. Corporation property subject to eminent domain; corporations not to infringe upon individuals.

The Commonwealth, in the exercise of the right of eminent domain, shall have and retain the same powers to take the property and franchises of incorporated companies for public use which it has and retains to take the property of individuals, and the exercise of the police powers of this Commonwealth shall never be abridged nor so construed as to permit corporations to conduct their business in such manner as to infringe upon the equal rights of individuals.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

PREAMBLE

"We, the People of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties we enjoy, and invoking the continuance of these blessings, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

BILL OF RIGHTS

"That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare that:

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 1. Rights of life, liberty, worship, pursuit of safety and happiness, free speech, acquiring and protecting property, peaceable assembly, redress of grievances, bearing arms.

All men are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inherent and inalienable rights, among which may be reckoned:

First: The right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties.

Second: The right of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of their consciences.

Third: The right of seeking and pursuing their safety and happiness.

Fourth: The right of freely communicating their thoughts and opinions.

Fifth: The right of acquiring and protecting property.

Sixth: The right of assembling together in a peaceable manner for their common good, and of applying to those invested with the power of government for redress of grievances or other proper purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

Seventh: The right to bear arms in defense of themselves and of the State, subject to the power of the General Assembly to enact laws to prevent persons from carrying concealed weapons.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 2. Absolute and arbitrary power denied.

Absolute and arbitrary power over the lives, liberty and property of freemen exists nowhere in a republic, not even in the largest majority.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 17. Excessive bail or fine, or cruel punishment, prohibited.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishment inflicted.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 18. Imprisonment for debt restricted.

The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 19. Ex post facto law or law impairing contract forbidden – Rules of construction for mineral deeds relating to coal extraction.

- (1) No ex post facto law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be enacted.
- (2) In any instrument heretofore or hereafter executed purporting to sever the surface and mineral estates or to grant a mineral estate or to grant a right to extract minerals, which fails to state or describe in express and specific terms the method of coal extraction to be employed, or where said instrument contains language subordinating the surface estate to the mineral estate, it shall be held, in the absence of clear and convincing evidence to the contrary, that the intention of the parties to the instrument was that the coal be extracted only by the method or methods of commercial coal extraction commonly known to be in use in Kentucky in the area affected at the time the instrument was executed, and that the mineral estate be dominant to the surface estate for the purposes of coal extraction by only the method or methods of commercial coal extraction commonly known to be in use in Kentucky in the area affected at the time the instrument was executed.

*Test as Ratified on : November 8, 1988.
History: 1988 amendment was proposed by 1988 Ky. Acts ch. 117, sec. 1; original version ratified August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.*

Section 6. Elections to be free and equal.

All elections shall be free and equal.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 7. Right of trial by jury.

The ancient mode of trial by jury shall be held sacred, and the right thereof remain inviolate, subject to such modifications as may be authorized by this Constitution.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 8. Freedom of speech and of the press.

Printing presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the General Assembly or any branch of government, and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. Every person may freely and fully speak, write and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*

Section 9. Truth may be given in evidence in prosecution for publishing matters proper for public information – Jury to try law and facts in libel prosecutions.

In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libel the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the directions of the court, as in other cases.

*Test as Ratified on : August 3, 1891, and revised September 28, 1891.
History: Not yet amended.*