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1 Congress OF THE United States

2 begun and held at the City of New-York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand
3 seven hundred and eighty nine.

4 THE Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the
5 Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers,
6 that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground
7 of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

8 RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in
9 Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be
10 proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the
11 United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said
12 Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.
13 ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of
14 America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant
15 to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

16 Article the first

17 Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free
18 exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people
19 peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

20 Article the second

21 A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people
22 to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

23 Article the third

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BILL OF RIGHTS

24 No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner,
25 nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

26 Article the fourth

27 The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against
28 unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon
29 probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be
30 searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

31 Article the fifth

32 No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a
33 presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces,
34 or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person
35 be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be
36 compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty,
37 or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use,
38 without just compensation.

39 Article the Sixth

40 In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by
41 an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which
42 district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and
43 cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory
44 process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his
45 defense.

46 Article the Seventh

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47 In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right
48 of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in
49 any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

50 Article the Eighth

51 Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual
52 punishments inflicted.

53 Article the Nineth

54 The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or
55 disparage others retained by the people.

56 Article the Tenth

57 The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the
58 states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.