

Mailing thru the Post Office of the united States of America

(not using the United States Postal Service - a private, foreign ? corporation) 

The more that you do know, the more you can know.
Stop living in the world of assumptions, and find the truth !

Here is simple conclusion: In both the outgoing and the return address:
Do not use zip codes, nor 2 letter state abbreviations.
Spell out all words, not Rd. but Road, etc.

Pay minimum of **2 cents** per 1/2 ounce. [Recent actual Letters Samples received at Bottom](#)
Read more to know more. This may sometimes fail, as not all postmen know these rules.
They may return mail to you and or forward it postage due.
Do not give up. Keep trying. What have you got to lose !

[2 cent Postage - Conclusion at bottom: Laws, Rates, Insignia.](#)

3 Postage - mail letters anywhere within the united States of America - US Mail Regulations at bottom

Sovereign to sovereign, as per united States Post Office rates set by Congress in 1930s ?
US Postal Service is not our gov. see www.USAvsUS.info or Google "United States is corporation"

I, Ted Elden, have successfully mailed at least 1,000+ pieces of mail, using 3 cent postage,
3 cents per 1/2 ounce of weight from one sovereign address to another sovereign address
(with states spelled out and no zip code - no **"Federal Zones"**).

See www.USAvsUS.info for more information on why this works.
People Rights sells information on low postage mail.

Some people think occasionally, US Postal Service
(they are private company - not our organic
government) just makes a mistake, letting my low
postage through.

I've mailed 1,000+, this is not accident. Yes, not all
postmen know of this rule, and either the starting
post office, or the destination post office, has 2 options if
they choose not to honor this. They can return the mail to
me, or they can forward it postage due.

Occasionally they have forwarded the mail, noting on the
mail - some postage due, but they leave it at the
destination mail box without requiring the recipient to pay
any postage.

I researched 9-11. I realized most we know we get
from the corporate controlled media, I researched to
see that most I knew about 9-11 was a Great Deception
of government & media reports. Since then, I've found many
amazing things that are the opposite of what I've always
thought. In the US Tax code, they define the United States
as the District of Columbia, PR, Guam, and the federal
territories, not including sovereign states !.

Most people live in a sovereign state, like Ohio, California,
and are not a part of the "UNITED STATES" and therefore are
exempt from paying federal income tax. The low postage
gives clear evidence that some things are under federal
rule

(41 cent postage to federal territories

If you accept or admit you are dealing with a federal
territory, then you are under federal rules and higher costs.

If you simply state you are mailing from and to a sovereign
state, then you qualify for using the low 3 cent rates,
established by the Congress of the united States of
America.

Summary; both the return address you give and the
destination address must be sovereign states.

Spell out the states, don't use 2 letter Federal
Districts or federal zip codes. Google "Federal
Zone" to learn more.

Google "United States is Corporation" to be shocked.

The large envelop at the bottom contained a heavy
magazine. The normal federal postage rates was \$ 1.83
I mailed it successfully for only 36 cents. Of all I tell of this
rule, most are afraid to try.

At worst, your mail comes back or goes forward postage
due. You have no big risk.

Not all pieces make it, because some postman who does not
know the rule, tries to return it.

You will not go to prison, or suffer fine or harm. Try it.
Try mailing from your sovereign address to

like Columbus OH 45121 or San Francisco CA 94123)
but only 3 cent postage to
Columbus, Ohio or San Francisco, California

another person at another sovereign address.

This is your ticket to begin to understand / regain freedoms you have lost
by accepting the direction / assumptions of the federal government.

On the samples below, I have intentionally obliterated
the full name & address of the recipient to protect their privacy.

The corporate government system has to provide a remedy for those who are without (outside) its venue and jurisdiction.

I still find DMM 602 1.3e (2) in the "Domestic Mail Manual" (DMM) online at:
<http://pe.usps.gov/text/dmm300/602.htm#wp108554>1 as follows (emphasis by Me):

1.3 Address Elements

All mail **not** bearing a **simplified address** under [3.0. Use of Alternative Addressing](#), must bear a delivery address that contains at least the following elements in this order from the top line:

- a. Intended recipient's **name** or other identification.
- b. Private mailbox designator ("PMB" or alternative "#") and number if the mailpiece is addressed to a commercial mail receiving agency (CMRA) address.
- c. **Street and number**. (Include the apartment number, or use the Post Office box number, or general delivery, or rural route or highway contract route designation and box number, as applicable.)
- d. **City and state** (or state abbreviation). The city is any acceptable mailing name for the 5-digit ZIP Code serving the intended recipient as shown in the USPS City State Product.
- e. ZIP Code (5-digit or ZIP + 4) where required:

1. ZIP Codes are required on Express Mail, Presorted and automation price First-Class Mail, Periodicals mail, Standard Mail, Package Services mail (except single-piece price **Parcel Post**), all mail sent to military addresses within the United States and to APO and FPO addresses, all official mail (penalty mail), all business reply mail, and all merchandise return service mail.

2. **Unless required above, ZIP Codes may be omitted from single-piece price First-Class Mail (including Priority Mail), single-piece price Parcel Post, and pieces bearing a simplified address.**

The term: "single piece" is used because ordinary people send out letters or packages separately. But corporations are usually the ones that send out mass mailings. The corporate government has jurisdiction over its creations such as corporations (fictions), their services, and products. Also, keep in mind that fictions can only deal with fictions. Therefore, corporations usually convert Ones proper name and mailing location into a fiction. Mail from corporations are usually sent to a fiction. Computer database software today is set up for fictions only. It is nearly impossible to do otherwise unless hand written.

The current definition for "single piece" is as follows and found at <http://www.presort.com/pub32.pdf>:

single-piece rate — A postage rate available for **individual pieces** of Express Mail, First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Standard Mail (B). It is not available for Periodicals except under the rate category of basic. This type of rate contrasts with rates available for bulk mail and presorted mail.

Also, take notice that "state abbreviation" is a minor option in brackets "()" and not required. True state abbreviation for California is "Calif." not CA.

According to the above, most mail and packages can be sent without zip. The DMM states that mail "must bear a delivery address", not a zip, unless where required under special conditions. But most people are like sheep and follow the wrong shepherd (The wolf) or go about blindly. They volunteer into the corporate system without research and understanding. So who is going to save them from themselves?

The current definition for "simplified address" is as follows and found at <http://www.presort.com/pub32.pdf>:

simplified address — An alternative addressing format used when delivery of identical mail is requested to every customer on a rural route or highway contract route, or to all post office box customers at a post office without city carrier service. Instead of listing the name and address of the addressee, the mailer may use "postal customer." It may also be used by government agencies for official mail sent to all stops on city routes and post office boxes at post offices with city delivery service. In such cases, these formats may be used: "Postal Customer," "Residential Customer," and "Business Customer," depending on the type of coverage requested.

Also see: http://www.dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/www.santacruzcountyrecycles/Junk_Mail/index.html for the statement below:

Rural Routes and Box Holders

Residents on rural routes or with P.O. Box addresses face a greater challenge than most in getting off lists addressed to "Occupant" or "Resident." Since the mailing label companies used by advertisers like Valpak and AdWorks are allowed to use a simplified address that only identifies the rural postal carrier route without the specific box numbers,

I am glad to see that the word "Occupant" is still being used. I do not want the word "Resident" attached to Me. There probably is an even better word than "Occupant." Anyone know what that is?

The current definition for "occupant" is as follows and found at <http://www.presort.com/pub32.pdf>:

occupant address — An alternative addressing format that uses one of four designations (that is, postal customer, occupant, householder, or resident) rather than an addressee name at a specific street address or post office box number, or rural route and box number; and post office, state, and ZIP Code. (Compare with exceptional address and simplified address.)

The current definition for "standard mail" is as follows and found at <http://www.presort.com/pub32.pdf>:

Standard Mail — A class of mail consisting of mailable matter that is not required to be mailed as First-Class Mail or is not mailed as Periodicals.

Standard Mail (A) — Standard Mail matter that weighs less than 16 ounces.

It comprises the subclasses of Regular Standard Mail, Nonprofit Standard Mail, Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail, and Nonprofit Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail. These subclasses include circulars, printed matter, pamphlets, catalogs, newsletters, direct mail, and merchandise.

Standard Mail (A) may be sent at presorted rates and at automation rates.

Standard Mail (B) — Standard Mail matter that weighs 16 ounces or more but not more than 70 pounds. It comprises four subclasses: Bound Printed Matter, Library Mail, Parcel Post, and Special Standard Mail.

Most people who work for the Postal Service or Post Office do not know this information and have not read the DMM. We need to hold them to the written word in their DMM and educate them.

May Our heavenly Father (YHVH), in the name of Jesus (Yeshua), The Christ, Yahu'shuah the Messiah, bless each and every one of Us and be with Us in all of Our endeavors that are according to His will and for His glory.

Jack

The greatest Possession of all is having Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Take a look at the following listed web page and discover "The Truth as I See it" about American governance: <http://www.USAvsUS.info>.

You will find out what they do not want you to know. This is true with most other countries controlled and manipulated by the One World government elite.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

All email sent and offered to Me is accepted for value. All email sent by Me is private, non-negotiable, exempt from levy, confidential, and is for the intended recipient only. I reserve all of My rights with prejudice, without recourse, and waive none. Whatever is authored by Me is copy protected and remains as My property. Access, disclosure, distribution, copying of and or copying by any means by any device or retrieval systems is prohibited without the explicit written permission of the author. Reliance on any of it by anyone without doing further research, proving, having proof, or verifying is prohibited. Violations, infringements, and or offences may result in civil and or criminal actions, and or tried by common law.

"Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." - Thomas Jefferson

Two- Cent Postage - *Never to be rescinded* - [Statues, Insignia, Reasons](#) - *notes from the internet*

Instructions for 2 cent mailings.

The laws regarding the **cost of postage may never be rescinded, repealed or amended, never.**

The law requires that (all) one half oz. letters - be delivered anywhere in the Continental US for 2 cents.

1) In the upper right hand corner write:

First Class Non Domestic
Without Prejudice
USC-1-207
bk.12 Statutes At Large
Chapter 71 section 23
37th. Congress Session 111

2) Do not use zip code

3) Do not abbreviate states (These factors change the class of mail to "[Federal Zone](#)", and federally controlled i.e 44 ¢)

I do and when I used it got several HOT letters and threats from postal authorities. The problem with it is that DOMESTIC MAIL is sent through the UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE and the 2 cent rate doesn't apply to them. Not the same Post Office. I've done some checking on the International mail sequence since you forwarded that email on Domestic v/s International mail. I went to the local office of the UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE and requested an International mail, return receipt requested card. It is PS Form 2865 and MAGICALLY it is delivered by POSTAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA! SAYS SO, RIGHT ON THE CARD. That's why breaking the "sequence" as mentioned in the e-mail, is important.

The law cite:

12 Stat 701, CHAP. LXXI:

CHAP. LXXI.--An Act to amend the Laws relating to the **Post-Office Department**.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General shall have the power to appoint and commission all postmasters whose salary or compensation for the preceding fiscal year shall at the time of such appointment have been ascertained to be less than one thousand dollars per year; and in all other cases the President shall appoint. The person appointed postmaster shall reside within the delivery of the office to which he shall be appointed.

[...]

[at 12 Stat. 705] SEC. 23. And be it further enacted, That the rate of postage on all letters not transmitted through the mails of the United States, but delivered through the post-office or its carriers, commonly described as local or drop letters, and not exceeding one half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at two cents, and an additional rate for each half ounce or fraction thereof of additional weight, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamps affixed to the envelope of such letter, but no extra postage or carrier's fee shall hereafter be charged or collected upon letters delivered by carriers, nor upon letters collected by them for mailing or for delivery.

"12 Stat. at Law, Ch. 71, Sec. 23"

refers to. See <http://home.earthlink.net/~walterk1/Patr/PO/PO2cent.html>

and

<http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llsl&fileName=012/llsl012.db&recNum=736>

Here is most interesting read. Use search engine, web site may vary

"General Post Office" Richard Anthony - Google Search

[General Post Office](#)

"General Post-Office by Richard Anthony [copied by www.brainwashing.info] ...
www.brainwashing.info/portal/redirect.asp?id=1&type=dw

[General Post Office](#)

"1 Jul 1971 ... [General Post Office](#). [Richard Anthony](#) ... But there was another entity, known as the general post-office, which was not for commercial ..."
ecclesia.org/truth/post_office.html

USPS Copyrights abbreviations for their use.

(Changing mail from USPO to USPS for higher rates and control by DC.)

. From Wikipedia

Here, the U.S. Copyright Office has clarified that works of the [U.S. Postal Service](#), of the government of the [District of Columbia](#), or of the government of [Puerto Rico](#) are **not** "works of the U.S. government" and thus are subject to copyright.

For years, following USPS directions I changed all my address

From to

Street St.

Road Rd.

Avenue Ave.

I did presorts, and bound zip groups for 2 % price discount.

Now I find if I:

- do not use zip codes, - do not use 2 letter states, and
- do use long words; Road, Street, Avenue, [states spelled out](#)

then I can mail for just 3 cents (2 cents per 1/.2 ounce as set by Congress)

The USPS is not a part of the government of the united States of America,

They are a part of the Dist. of Columbia which **only** controls the 10 square miles around Wash. DC. and PR, Guam, VI.

I was conned. Ted Elden I've mailed 1,300+ pieces for 3 cents now.

The USPS employs more people than any company in the United States except [Wal-Mart](#).^[citation needed] It employed 790,000 personnel in 2003,

USPS Official Abbreviations - Copyrighted 1997

<http://www.usps.com/ncsc/lookups/abbrev.html>

Acronyms and Abbreviations

http://www.usps.com/ncsc/lookups/usps_abbreviations.htm

Delivery Status Products (Copyright Records)

http://ribbs.usps.gov/files/delstats/DELIVERY_STATISTICS_PRODUCT_3.1.DOC

To **learn more** about the "United States" formerly known as [Dist. of Columbia](#).

They do not have dominion over the continental united States of the Union,

only over DC & PR, Guam, VI, for such purposes as postal rates and collecting income tax, and other assumed federal laws.

www.abodia.com/2/United-States-is-a-corporation.htm

This is entirely separate from the united States of America.

www.USAvsUS.info explains further.

I think you need to mail from a living person (sovereign) to another named person, not to just an address or a business.

I don't use Mr. Mrs. Ms. or Dr. as I fear they may also be copyrighted & controlled by the non federal USPS

Disclaimer: The author of this web site is not lawyer nor accountant nor any accredited professional on these subjects. I just read and use common sense and deductions from obvious public records.. All information offered here is what I find. Do your own research and or experiments. I make no promises of guarantees. I speak from my own research & experience.

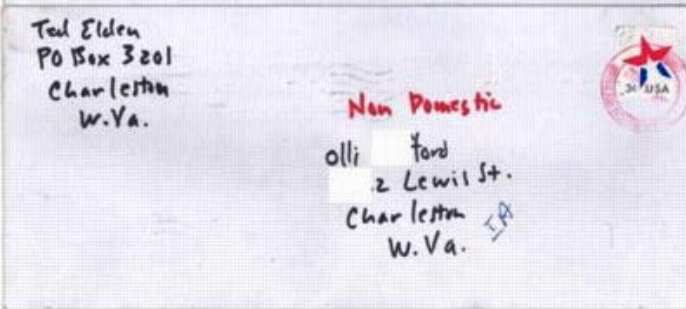
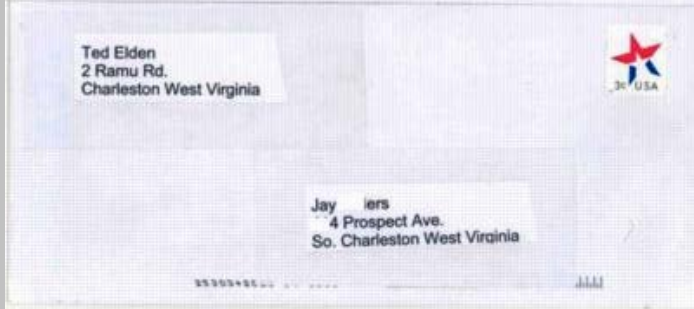
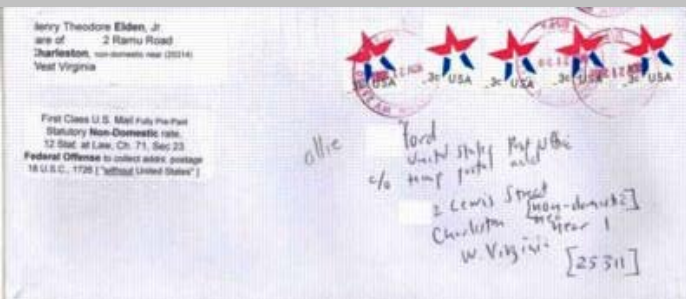
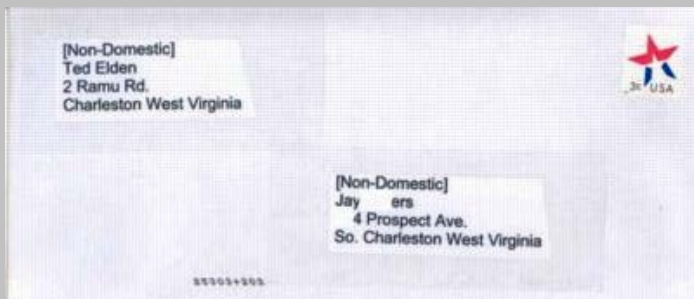
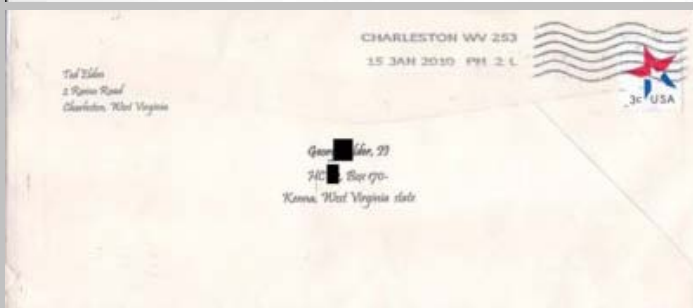
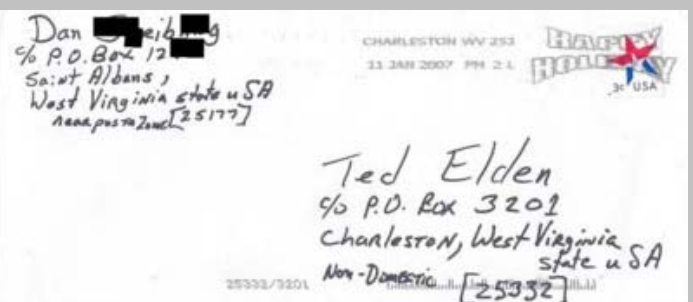
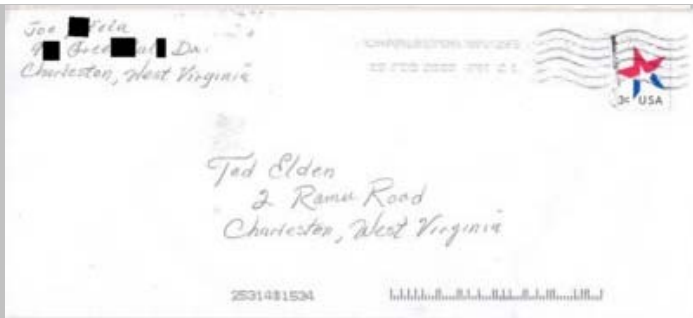
More of my research here:

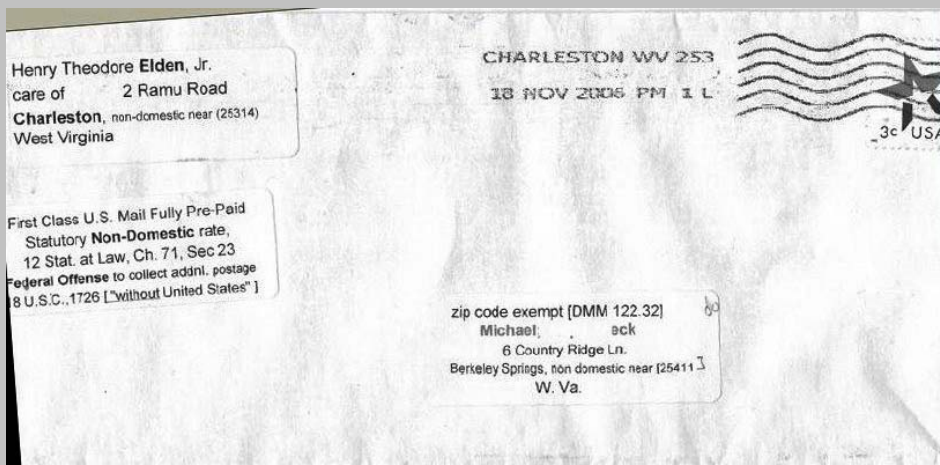
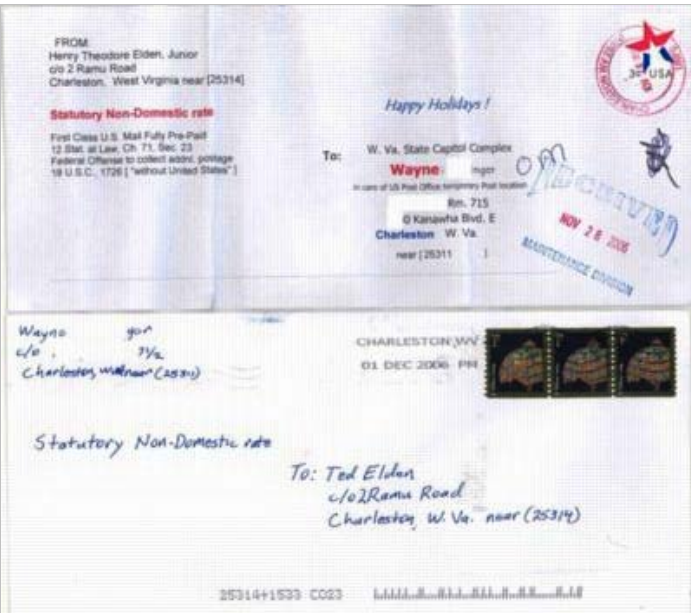
www.abodia.com/911 www.abodia.com/irs www.abodia.com/t Truth Seekers

www.abodia.com/f Free Energy www.abodia.com Research at the bottom

Sample Letters Sent & Received







Your SPACE Here
Click here for information



Your SPACE Here
Click here for information

"The Truth as I see it."

Updated The Thirty-first day of the Fifth month, anno Domini Two thousand ten



Bruce Ray Riggs
17.5 min. video
Says: "I can fix this"
Also watch his other video on same web page. It has a lot of good info.



Evils of Socialized Medicine
1 min. video
"One of the traditional methods of imposing statism or socialism (communism) on a people has been by way of medicine. It's very easy to disguise a medical program as a humanitarian project..."
Ronald Reagan 1961
Also listen to:
[Reagan Speaks Out](#)
10 min.
A Great Speech!
Well worth listening to



Independent Thinker Mental Disorder
People in the Freedom Movement can now be diagnosed as having a mental disorder and be placed in a mental institution while being prescribed dangerous antipsychotic drugs and other adverse treatments.



NRA info relating to
Arizona's Problem
37 min. video
You will not hear this on the major news media

American Governence

Both systems concurrently exist today. However, the corporate system has been gaining predominance in the last 70 years. Many Sovereigns (We the people) have contracted with the corporate system unknowingly, unintentionally, and or without full disclosure given.

Once you learn the difference, you may have to make a decision for yourself, family and posterity. That decision may require changes in how you conduct yourself. You will have to undo what has been done to make your Sovereign status known. This is not taught in the corporate government's public school system, because you are not to know.

The elite of the "One World government" corporate system want and need to have power and control over the population (masses) they call "Human Resources."

Original	CORPORATE
Description	DESCRIPTION
union of the several states the states united united states in Congress assembled these united States of America The <u>u</u> nited <u>s</u> tates of America The United States of America The United States (intent or defined to be the original or organic)	the UNITED STATES the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (all capital letters--a fiction--a corporation) the United States of America the United States (intent or defined to be the corporate US),
Started with: Declaration of Independence in 1776, Articles of Confederation in 1778, and the Constitution in 1787	Started with: Gettysburg Address in 1864, and the Incorporation of District of Columbia by (Presidential) Legislative Act of February 21, 1871, under the Emergency War Powers Act and the Reconstruction Acts . Then reorganized June 11, 1878 --16 Stat. 419 Chapter 62
a " Republic " having its beginning with the colonial resistance against England's tyrannical government. Major opposition against British control began with The Stamp Act, established by British parliament on March 22, 1765--Taxation without representation, followed by the Declaratory Act, the Boston Massacre of 1770, and the Tea Act passed by Parliament on May 10, 1773 to save the East Indian Company from bankruptcy. Resistance continued with the Quartering Act established by Parliament on June 2, 1774,	a " Corporation " with a legislature was established, with all the apparatus of a distinct government created (Incorporated) by (Presidential) Legislative Act, February 21, 1871 Forty-first Congress, Session III, Chapter 62, page 419 On June 20, 1874, the President with advice of Senate abolished and replaced the 1871 government with a commission consisting of three persons. 18 Stat. at L. 116, chap. 337 A subsequent act approved June 11, 1878 (20 Stat. at L. 102, chap. 180) was enacted stating that the District of Columbia should 'remain and continue a municipal corporation,' as provided in



Enemies within
4 min. video



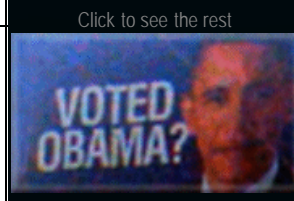
The Enemy is At Home
4 min. video



Know the Problem
54 min. video
Video Gets better as it goes
Lots of Info



Is He The One?
3 min. video
Some US citizens
still believe he is



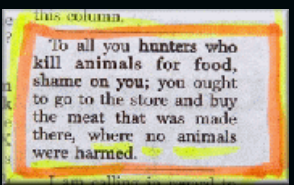
billboard sign at the corner of Hwy 59
and Hwy 43 in Marshall, Texas



CIA Officer Speaks Out
10 min. video



3 min. video
after short commercial
Also see: [Video 2](#)



requiring American colonists to provide shelter to British troops and horses when requested.

From September 5 to October 25, 1774 Twelve colonies, all but Georgia, sent 56 delegates to Philadelphia to participate in the First Continental Congress. The purpose of the First Continental Congress was to debate and plan a unified response to British policy and actions.

On March 25, 1775, Patrick Henry delivered his "give me liberty or give me death" speech to the Virginia Assembly in Richmond.

Various conflicts took place and blood continued to be shed.

On May 10, 1775, The Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia. Delegates from all thirteen colonies were present.

After signing the [Declaration of Independence](#) on July 4, 1776, and winning the revolutionary war which ended with the Paris Peace Treaty signed September 3, 1783, all American colonists became free, Sovereign people, endowed with the same rights that the King of England had.

"... at the Revolution, the sovereignty devolved on the people, and they are truly the sovereigns of the country, but they are sovereigns without subjects, and have none to govern but themselves; the citizens of America are equal as fellow citizens, and as joint tenants in the sovereignty ...

Sovereignty is the right to govern: a nation or State sovereign is the person or persons in whom that resides. In Europe, the sovereignty is generally ascribed to the Prince; here, it rests with the people; there, the sovereign actually administers the government; here, never in a single instance: our Governors are the agents of the people, and, at most, stand in the same relation to their sovereign in which regents in Europe stand to their sovereigns. Their Princes have personal powers, dignities, and preeminences; our rulers have none but official; nor do they partake in the sovereignty otherwise, or in any other capacity, than as private citizens."

--Supreme Court of the United States
2 US 419 (February 1794)
Chisholm v. Georgia
Chief Justice: Jay, John
Argued: February 5, 1793
Decided: February 18, 1793

having a *de jure* form of government
Of right; legitimate; lawful; by right and just title;
"by law"
--Black's Law Dictionary sixth edition

Created by Sovereigns

2 of the Revised Statutes relating to said District
(brought forward from the act of 1871)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA v. CAMDEN IRON WORKS,
181 U.S. 453 (1901)
<http://supreme.justia.com/us181/453/case.html>

METROPOLITAN R CO v. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 132 U.S. 231 (1889)
<http://supreme.justia.com/us132/1/case.html>

Corporate Officers

"... But by the Act of June 11, 1878 (20 Stat. chap. 180), a permanent form of government for the District was established. It provided ...and that the commissioners therein provided for should be deemed and taken as officers of such corporation."

The District of Columbia v. Henry E. Woodbury,
136 U.S. 472 (1890)
<http://www.supremelaw.org/decs/dccases/woodbury.htm>

In UNITED STATES CODE, Title 28,
in Section 3002 Definitions,
it states the following:
(15) "United States" means—
(A) a Federal corporation;

To incorporate means to become
a part of something bigger

Some people believe
it is incorporated with England
or the crown
and the paperwork
is filed in Puerto Rico.

This so-called government is
an imposter
posing and or masquerading
as the original government.

" As Charles Evans Hughes, Governor of New York and twice appointed Justice of the Supreme Court said. "The Constitution is whatever the Supreme Court says it is." This is as frank an assessment of the true situation as you will ever get from a government official. George Bush said practically the same thing when he declared "The Constitution is just a piece of paper." ...the Northwest Ordinance shows why the Federal government has no legal jurisdiction over any territory but that which is owned by the United States of America. ...The fact is, the Constitution, for all practical purposes, annuls the Declaration of Independence."

--Lawrence Berg

a *de facto* government
In fact, in deed, actually; a state of affairs; but is illegal or illegitimate; "by equity" and not "by law"; is not constitutional. Thus an officer, king, or government *de facto* is in actual possession, but by usurpation, or without lawful title.
--Black's Law Dictionary sixth edition

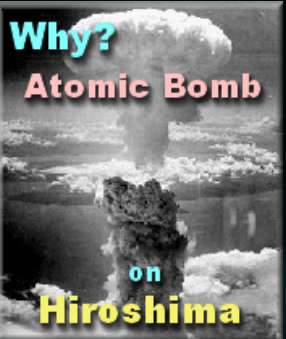
Created by merchants, bankers,
and their cohorts by acts of treason.

They also forced the South
and other states to secede.



4 min. video
Also see: [Pay-off Scheme](#)

The untold Truth



"most of the dead were civilians."
[-Wikipedia](#)



The crowd was estimated at 10,000 to 20,000. Many could not get into town, so they parked on the roads and walked several miles to get to the rally.



Also see:
IRS Given [More Power](#)



Robbery defined as "theft of property through the offender's use of physical force or fear against a victim."
 STATE Sponsored THEFT
 Cities now seize and impound cars for profit.
 RICO violations--low companies and cities conspiring to steal cars.
 Bill (writ) of Attainder violations-- Punishment without trial.
 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, & 10th Amendment violations.
 Also, see: [Suspicionless Sobriety Checkpoints: A growing threat to individual liberty](#)



Introduction

Philadelphia is the Capitol

The **Articles of Confederation** were agreed to by the united states in Congress assembled on November 15, 1777 and were ratified March 1, 1781. From the time of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, to the time of the Articles of Confederation there was a space of time of sixteen months and eleven days. During this period of time, the several nations, states, countries were sovereign unto themselves as relates to foreign earthly powers.

There was an outstanding debt of 17 million silver Lira from french banks over 21 separate occasions all due on December 1, 1789.

Therefore, a bankruptcy Charter had to be drafted. On September 17, 1787, twelve State delegates approved the Constitution. The States have now become Constitutors.

"Constitutor: In the civil law, one who, by simple agreement, becomes responsible for the payment of another's debt."
 --Blacks Law Dictionary 6th Ed.

The States were now liable for the debt owed to the King, but the people of America were not. The people are not a party to the Constitution because it was never put to them for a vote.

The judge in the Padleford case stated; "But, indeed, no private person has a right to complain, by suit in court, on the ground of a breach of the Constitution. The Constitution, it is true, is a compact, but he is not a party to it. The States are the parties to it. And they may complain. If they do, they are entitled to redress. Or they may waive the right to complain."
 --Padelford, Fay & Co. vs. The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah.
 14 Georgia 438, 520

"Articles" establish a sovereign nation of people, but all "Constitutions" are bankruptcy charters or compacts.

President Andrew Jackson paid the debt in the 1830's. In 1832, while discussing the Bank Renewal Bill to a delegation of bankers, he said, "You are a den of vipers and thieves. I intend to rout you out, and by the Eternal God, I will rout you out."

The Articles of Confederation are still in operation.

Pres. Lincoln fell into their scheme and went along for awhile.

This Martial Law government [actually: "Martial Rule"] is a fiction managing civil affairs

INTRODUCTION

Certain members of Congress created the District of Columbia (DC) from portions of two states; Virginia (Virgin) and Maryland (Mary). Physically united together they are "Virgin Mary," to form a more perfect union as a new **"United States"**.

US Titles and Codes, in their awkward definitions, call "DC" the "United States"

The new "United States" includes States such as District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands. It does not include the 50 states united.
 i.e. Title 26 Section 7701 Definitions (a) (9) and (10) 42 U.S.C. 405 (2)(c)(vii)

All Titles of the United States Code (USC) are strictly meant for the United States and none of the 50 states have their own constitutions and laws. See *Hepburn v. Elzey*, 2 Cranch, 445, 452, and *John Barron v The Mayor and City of Baltimore* 32 U.S. 243 (1833). These last two cases clearly state that the United States is not the 50 states of the Union.

All Rule comes from **"District of Columbia"** which is run by the **Gnostic Priesthood of the undisclosed mystery Babylon.**

"Masonic Rule"
 Some of the Masonic symbolism is found in the layout of the District's streets, the Washington monument (Obelisk), the Pentagon, and on the back of the One Dollar Federal Reserve Note.



" The best place to hide something is in full view"

"Columbia" is a name for "Goddess of Creation, War, and Destruction" more known as the goddess of death and pain. She is derived from the imagery of Semiramis, wife of Nimrod, and Queen of Babylon.

The statue on top of the [Capitol building](#) called the [Statue of Freedom](#) is actually Persephone, meaning "She who Destroys the

IRS's [role](#)
IRS [Provision](#)



2.5 min. video
Enjoy!



Also see: [Nazi Artifacts](#)



7.5 min. video

"We have the beginnings of totalitarian control just like the early days of NAZI germany, or Stalin's USSR. Welcome to the new Amerika comrade, the USSA." --Iron Horseman
 2010



8 min. video
Even more interesting, see: Part [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)





6 min. video



Must We be forced to Finance Sedition?



55 min. video
Historical insight in the financial arena, collapsing economies, and the bailouts.



7 min. video
I am not Catholic, but it is interesting what he says



ASSES AND CAMELS
Over five thousand years ago, Moses said to the children of Israel "Pick up your shovel, mount your asses and camels, and I will lead you to the promised land".
Nearly 75 years ago, Roosevelt said, "Lay down your shovels, sit on your asses, and light up a camel, this is the promised land".
Now Obama has stolen your shovel, taxed your asses, raised the price of camels, and mortgaged the promised land.
How's that "Change" workin' for you now?

"He [Patrick Henry] boycotted the Constitutional Convention of 1787 because, as he so eloquently put it, "I smell a rat " and suspected the worst: that the independent colonies that had thrived for over a century were to be herded under one consolidated government, a vast government apparatus founded not on liberty, but on the bureaucratic dreams of monarchists and mercantilists like Alexander Hamilton."

--Ryan McMaken, columnist for LewRockwell.com

...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. -- That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government...
--Declaration of Independence

Samuel Adams said, *'When the people fear the government they have tyranny, when the government fears the people they have freedom.'*

Many governments are established by good people having good intentions. But, certain men with bad intentions or another agenda get into government office by some means, lawful or otherwise, find loopholes, revise government and its laws to suit their needs and agenda, and build an empire within government itself. Through deceit and lies and through the absence of truth, gain power and control over the people, extracting the people's well earned money from the people's labor to finance and increase the empire to such an extent that it would seem difficult for people to rise up against it.

"Apathetic and dependant Americans today are unsuspectingly going into bondage unless America wakes up."
--Jack Slevkoff 2006

The Constitution for The United States of America
Now known or referred to as the organic constitution.
This Constitution established a central government with limited powers to do the will of the people. Its purpose was to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity.

The Constitution (a bankruptcy compact)

Light". She is the queen of the underworld. She is crowned with pentacles (pentagrams--stars with five points). When someone stands on something, it is usually an indication of ownership. Therefore, she owns the facility she stands upon. Although the dome on top of the Capitol building was not finished until 1868, the final installation of this statue on top of the dome took place on December 2, 1863. The original Capitol building, without the dome, was completed in 1826.

Columbia and Persephone are seen as other statues around Washington D.C. area.

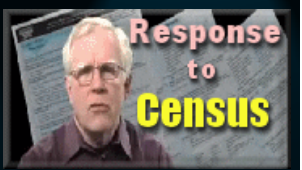
Some of the Gnostic Priesthood include: Illuminati, Skull & Bones Society, Hospitaliers, Knights of Malta, Knights of Columbus, Knights of the Round Table, Oddfellows, Society of Jesus, Jesuit Priesthood, Club of Rome, Knights Templar, Freemasons, Scottish Rite Temple, York Rite Temple, Shriners, Inner Temple Bar, International Temple Bar Association, Barrister's Inn, Zionists, Jesuits, Jesuit Brotherhood, Milner group (a.k.a. Milner's Kindergarten, Round Table Group, Rhodes crowd, Rhodes Scholars, The Times crowd, All Souls goup, Cliveden set, The Society of the Elect, The Association of Helpers, Junta of Three, the Secret Society of Cecil Rhodes, Chatham House crowd, Commonwealth of Nations, Royal Institute of International Affairs), Tri-lateral Commision, Bilderberg group, Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), Magistrates, Bar Attorneys.

"Since 1873, the Global Elite Has Held Secret Meetings in the Ancient Redwood Forest of Northern California. Members of the so-called "Bohemian Club" Include Former Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon and Reagan. The Bush Family Maintains a Strong Involvement. Each Year at Bohemian Grove, Members of This All-Male "Club" put on Red, Black and Silver Robes and Conduct an Occult Ritual Wherein They Worship a Giant Stone Owl, Sacrificing a Human Being in Effigy to What They Call the 'Great Owl of Bohemia.'"--Alex Jones;
InfoWars.com

There is a small owl just to the left of the "1" which appears on the upper right hand corner of the One Dollar Bill.

The Constitution of the United States
The original organic Constitution was adopted by the corporation as its "By-laws". The original Thirteenth Amendment was replaced, and other amendments added, some by fraud.
The 14th Amendment was not ratified.
Utah Supreme Court Cases, Dyett v Turner, (1968) 439 P2d 266, 267; State v Phillips,

Also see:
[Churches are Trapped](#)



5 min. video
Also on [YouTube](#)



See article about [unlawful arrest](#)



3.5 min. video

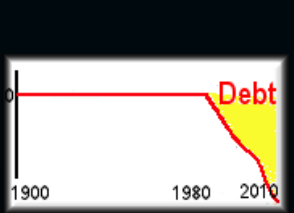




Did Ron Paul Sell Out?
7 min. video
Also see: [Handshake and signs](#)



Rothschild Family
10 min. video
Also see [Rothschilds Exposed](#) and [Wikipedia](#)
Also [read](#)



designates and limits the powers of the newly established central government and restrict its venue to a district not exceeding 10 miles square and areas purchased for forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings.

The organic Constitution was created in 1787, adopted in 1789, and amended in 1791

"The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government."
-- Patrick Henry

Republic

" I pledge allegiance to The United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, One nation under God"

"Republican"
(means "common rights")
form of government

"Government of the people and by the people"

A republic is a self governing forum wherein a free, sovereign, moral, and enlightened people guarantee to one another and to all minorities the right and obligation to have, retain, and protect each other's God given common Rights to Life, Freedom, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness in their separate capacities as free inhabitants and or as free Sovereign people within a nation, state (nation state), and or a country, all by positively accepting the Oaths as recipients of the oaths of their servants holding public office.

The people created a republican form of government with limitations on their servants.

The people are the government, not their servants.

"...shall guarantee to every state in this union a republican form of government"
--Constitution, Art. IV Sec 4

At the close of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia on September 18, 1787, a Mrs Powel anxiously awaited the results, and as Benjamin Franklin emerged, asked him directly: "Well, Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" "A republic if you can keep it" responded Franklin.

James Madison, the fourth president, known as

(1975) 540 P 2d 936; as well as Coleman v. Miller, 307 U.S. 448, 59 S. Ct. 972; 28 Tulane Law Review, 22; 11 South Carolina Law Quarterly 484; Congressional Record, June 13, 1967, pp. 15641-15646)

Also see:
[The 14th Amendment Never Passed](#)

The **16th Amendment** was not ratified by the states.
--documented research in THE LAW THAT NEVER WAS by Bill Benson and "Red" Beckman

DEMOCRACY

Emphasizes "Democracy" which is the next thing to "Socialism" which is another form of "Communism".

Did you say Communism?
Can't happen here? Check this out!
[Communist Manifesto](#)

"Democracy"
(means "Priest rule")

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependency; from dependency back again to bondage."
--Attributed to Scottish History Professor at University of Edinburgh Sir Alexander Fraser Tytler (1747-1813) and others

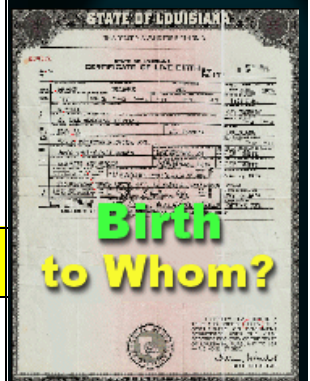
"...often the most tyrannical government on earth."
--Noah Webster

Democracy can be explained as "two wolves and a lamb, voting on what to have for dinner" or "A political system calculated to make an intelligent minority subject to the will of the stupid."
--Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 - 1900)

A "Mob Rule" form of government giving the impression of representation and rule by it's citizens. But, today, if one follows the paper trail one will come to believe that it is Rule by: Crown of England, Crown Templar, and the Vatican together pulling the strings in Washington D.C. as well as utilizing the "Mob



Pastor's Sermon on New World Order
To Order videos or audios of Pastor Chuck Baldwin's sermons [Click Here](#)



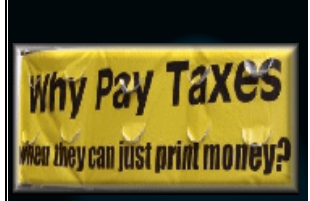
Also see: [Federal Children](#) and [Fictitious Legal Entity](#)

Foreclosure or not?
Click on play button

54 min. sound track
Needs time to start
[I share but do not endorse.](#)



4.6 min. video
"Our real enemy is not the ones living in a distant land whose names or policies we don't understand; The real enemy is a system that wages war when it's profitable"



12th day 11th Month 2009
Downtown Chicago



Watch 1.5 min video or read info right side of video

Click on photo to enlarge

So now we know...
"CHANGE" =
MORE Debt
MORE Taxes
MORE Welfare
MORE Regulation
MORE Government
MORE Wasteful spending
MORE CORRUPTION
 Thanks Mr. President

Sign seen on US Hwy 15-501 at Lamm's Grove intersection near Durham, North Carolina



At web site, click on the "play" button.

Was the stimulus-type bill(s) to bring America out of a recession and prevent a depression or a means to have the bankers and corporations steal the peoples labor and money and bring this country into a serious depression; eventually hyper-inflation and the destruction of the currency along with the peoples so-called wealth destroyed and or diminished.

Just like USSR, the powerful US has to die in order for One World government to progress as the dominant power. If one does research in the right places, one will discover that almost all depressions and wars are by design (by the elite for their agenda).

Wake up AMERICA. Change from being apathetic to one of diligence and action. Do not rely on or trust those in power. Unrestrained power corrupts.

Possible?



10 min. verbal video

"The Father of Our Constitution" made the following statement:

"We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

"The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government." -- Patrick Henry

The Tenth Amendment clearly states: "The powers not delegated to the united states by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

--ratified December 15, 1791

Article I, Section 8 of the original Constitution allowed the creation of certain federal areas and a district for certain limited purposes:

"To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful buildings." --Wikipedia

It is very important to know that Congress has exclusive Legislative power and authority only over certain specified areas purchased for certain reasons by consent of the state in which they lie.

These are the only areas whereby a democracy is allowed to exist. Outside of these areas, a republican form of government is guaranteed.

The Residence Act of 1790, established the actual location of the district.

"Republican government" is defined as one in which the powers of sovereignty are vested in the people and are exercised by the people, either directly, or through representatives chosen by the people, to whom those powers are specifically delegated.

--Black's Law Dictionary, 6th edition, pg 695

The rights of the people and the protection of the people of America are its main concern and maintains that all states shall be guaranteed a Republican form of government.

Rule" principle. Some believe the Roman Pope is in control, but actually, the unseen, behind the scenes, "Black Pope" is the one in power; the one most people never hear about or knows exists. The other Pope is just a figure head for the people to see and relate with.

"One must admire the craft of the priests, spawn of satan, [known as] Esquires, members of the Court of Saint James of the Middle Temple BAR of the Knights Templar which is headquartered in "The Crown" which is inside of the ancient walled City of London and is a sovereign nation just like the Vatican and Washington, D. C., i. e.: the triad that controls the world."--author?

A large Egyptian symbol called the obelisque (obelisk) can be found in each of the three locations: The London financial area, The Vatican, and Washington DC (Washington Monument: 555 feet 5.5 inches). These three have been ruling the world and setting up the One World government system. These three places are NOT in UK, Italy or USA.

The Rockefeller grave site has an obelisque. Many national cemeteries have an obelisque. New York City has one that is 70 feet tall and weights 193 tons.

The obelisk symbolizes the sun god Amon Re (Ra) as a petrified ray of the Aten, the sundisk.

--wikipedia

There are two entities known as the "Crown". One is the king's corporation, setup to do the king's business and protect the king of England from liability. The other is the "Knights Templar" (Temple) a.k.a. "Crown Templar", a secret society.

Those in power behind the scenes dress up their candidates for office, help them get elected, and then control them while in office. Supposedly giving you a choice when both major Political parties and other parties are controlled by them. Their controlled major media is used to control and direct public opinion. So, you wonder who is really in control--It's definitely not the people.

"Democracy" is defined as that form of government in which the sovereign power resides in and is exercised by the whole body of free citizens directly or indirectly through a system of representatives.

--Black's Law Dictionary, 6th edition, pg 432

Expands and conquers by deceit and fraud. and uses "words of art" to deceive. Convinces Americans to utilize such words and terms as "Residence," "Reside", and "US citizen," regional designations (fictional overlays) such as "CA", "NV", "TX" etc. in addresses to expand its venue and control, and to obtain "Certificates of Birth" and to sign up for "Social Security" to gain and maintain jurisdiction.

A Critical Decision



Will the military be used against us?



6 min. video

Senate Hearing 2 min video

Sitting on a Powder Keg



"Seeking Freedom and change without total understanding of history, words, and terms is a detriment to True Freedom."

--Jack; Slevkoff 2009

I reluctantly withdrew "Notice And Demand"

3 min. video

"Ecclesiastical Notice"

2.5 min. video

due to threat by author

Health Care Reform

Click on Photo to enlarge



"Fight organized crime: Re-elect no one.."

Received in an email



The Dollar Bubble
30 min. video

Click on Photo to enlarge

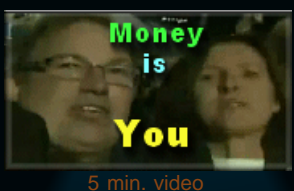


Billboard found on I-70 in Missouri North side, west of Grain Valley exit

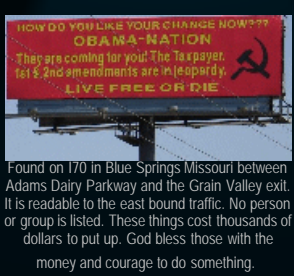
Billboard found on I-70 in Missouri North side, west of Grain Valley exit



In the Constitution
Where does it say...
7.5 min. video



Money is You
5 min. video



Found on I70 in Blue Springs Missouri between Adams Dairy Parkway and the Grain Valley exit. It is readable to the east bound traffic. No person or group is listed. These things cost thousands of dollars to put up. God bless those with the money and courage to do something.



SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
The Plot Against America



More Info
911
23 min. video

The work of a criminal enterprise at 5 murder sites

The central government is limited in power and ability and its venue is restricted by the Constitution to the 10 miles square district now called "Washington, D.C." and its enclaves for forts and arsenals.

Represents "We the people" and the "state Republics" among nations.

Living souls are created by God and are answerable to their Maker who is Omnipotent.

"...one nation under God..."

The Bible is the Basis of all Law and moral standards. In 1820, the USA government purchased 20,000 bibles for distribution. Also take note of [PUBLIC LAW 97-280](#) approved October 4, 1982

Separation of God and state?

"We recognize no Sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!"

John Adams and John Hancock gave this response to a British major who ordered them and those with them to disperse in the name of George the sovereign King of England on April 18 1775.

-- [American History](#)

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ."--Patrick Henry

"Americans should select and prefer Christians as their rulers."
--John Jay (very first Supreme Court Justice)

No state of Emergency and is not at war

Adjournment of Congress **sine die**
a Latin term meaning "without [fixed] day";
(No day is set for reconvening)

Seven southern nation States of America walked out of the Second Session of the Thirty-sixth Congress on March 27, 1861.

In so doing, the Constitutional due process quorum necessary for Congress to vote was (temporarily) lost and Congress was adjourned sine die, or "without day." To some, this meant

Gives away American rights, land, parks, and streams over to a foreign government such as the United Nations by Executive Orders or by decree and calling them "Biospheres," "Biosphere Reserves," "World Heritage Sites" or some other designated name.

As planned according to Article 4 of UNESCO's Statutory Framework for U.N. Biosphere Reserves

List of Biospheres in USA

Represents its own supposed sovereignty among nations.

This corporate so-called government **sees itself as god.**

It sets morals and values of those in its jurisdiction without any basis. These values are ever changing at their whim and are influenced by opinion and the media.

Emphasizes religious and social tolerance but discourages Christianity.

It provokes the godly to give up their stand and to go with the crowd.

Homosexuality and abortions are no longer discouraged, but are now protected.

"Thus it is easy to understand how law, instead of checking injustice, becomes the invincible weapon of injustice. It is easy to understand why the law is used by the legislator to destroy in varying degrees among the rest of the people, their personal independence by slavery, their liberty by oppression, and their property by plunder. This is done for the benefit of the person who makes the law, and in proportion to the power he holds."

"...it erases from everyone's conscience the distinction between justice and injustice. No society can exist unless the laws are respected to a certain degree. The safest way to make laws respected is to make them respectable. When law and morality contradict each other, the citizen has the cruel alternative of either losing his moral sense or losing his respect for the law."
--1848 "THE LAW" by Claude Frederic Bastiat, a French economist, statesman, author, and philosopher.

US continues to be in a permanent state of **national emergency** since March 9, 1933, and possibly as far back as the Civil War
--Senate report 93-549 (1973)

On April 15, 1861, President Lincoln reconvened Congress under the Executive branch by proclamation (number 1):
"I do hereby, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, convene both Houses of Congress."

Cesar (President) is now in full control even over the Senate (Congress).

A Presidential dictatorship has been imposed on U.S. citizens. The sad thing is, "Most American people do not realize it yet."



Oklahoma Update



Fall of the Republic

2 Hr. 24 min. video
Long, but well worth watching



Obama to cede U.S. Sovereignty
4 min. video
plus written material
Also see: [GlobalClimateScam.com](#)



Obama Media Control

9 min. video
White House boasts: We 'control' news media
As if we didn't know!
Schwarzenegger signs ammo-regulation bill [Read](#)



Ammo Registration

Not let happen in other states



30 City Lock Down

7 min. video



Reverse Foreclosure



list is near the bottom
Beware of
Negative consequences:
[Warning 1](#)
[Warning 2](#)
[Warning 3](#)

An eye opener



2 min. video
Blatant disregard to ethics...
Is this how Congress
will pass...



1 of 6; 11 min. video
[2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#)
"Red Dawn" in America
Also see: [Checkered Past](#)
and [Constitution Violations](#)



Diogenes



4 min. video
"We are on the verge of a global transformation. All we need is the right major crisis and the nations will accept the New World Order"
--David Rockefeller

"No one will enter the New World Order unless he or she will make a pledge to worship Lucifer. No one will enter the New Age unless he will take Luciferian Initiation."
--David Spangler, Director of Planetary Initiative, United Nations

See: [Gravediggers](#)

that there was no lawful quorum to set a specific day and time to reconvene. Some say that according to Robert's Rules of Order, Congress automatically dissolved because there are no provisions within the Constitution allowing the passage of any Congressional vote without a quorum of the States. Keep in mind that Robert's Rules of Order was created and published by Henry Martyn Robert who was born in South Carolina in 1837. He sold a half million copies of his rules by 1914. Those rules were not made a part of the Constitution or any Amendment to the Constitution. According to The Constitution, Congress was only required to meet at least once in every year on a specific date unless changed by law and a smaller number may adjourn from day to day. Therefore, because there were no other provisions, dissolution does not take place unless "the people", the creators thereof, or the posterity thereof, the sovereigns of the states, say so.

Because the King's men did not attend a meeting required by Him does not constitute a loss of the King's kingdom or His government. It just means that such men may loose their heads for not obeying the King.
The King in this case is the people or "We, the people"

"...to prevent abuses in our government, we will assemble in Convention, recall our delegated powers, and punish our servants for abusing the trust reposed to them."

--paraphrased by Patrick Henry, June 1788

The corporate government created in 1871 will continue to exist as long as:

1. "state of war" or "emergency" exists (War on Drugs, War on Poverty, War on Terrorism, War on Iraq, etc.),
2. the President does not terminate "martial" or "emergency" powers by Executive Order or decree, or
3. the people do not resist submission and terminate by restoring lawful civil courts, processes and procedures under authority of the "inherent political powers" of the people.



The Fourteenth Amendment for all intents and purposes does not exist. On March 28, 1861 Congress adjourned sine die and never has reconvened de jure.

The original Thirteenth Amendment (no title of nobility), approved by 13 of the 17 states March 12, 1819 and thereby ratified, is the last proper draft of a de jure Amendment but is not recognized by the corporate (de facto) UNITED STATES.

The original 13th Amendment prohibits "Esquires" (Attorneys) from holding positions of public office.

See: [Reverse Foreclosure 02](#)



11 min. video



7 min. video



6.5 min. video

Read: [Article](#)

Buy: [Book](#)

titled: "Target: TRAFICANT"



1 hr 45 min. video



Get Prepared now!

Above is [Part 3](#) of 3

10 min. video

[Part 1](#) [Part 2](#)



10 min. video

Flag



The United States of America Military Flag

plain and simple--no gold fringe or other ornaments and symbolism attached

Prior to the 1950's, state republic flags were mostly flown, but when a USA flag was flown, usually only at USA facilities, it was one of the following:

FLAG



Not the original USA Military flag

Some say it is a flag of Admiralty/Maritime type jurisdiction and is not suppose to be used on Land.

Others say it's not a flag at all, but fiction.

However, the gold fringe which surrounds the flag gives notice that the American flag has been captured and is now being used by the corporate so-called government to give notice of its jurisdiction.



The new 2009 Series
FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE

1. Military flag --Horizontal stripes, white stars on blue background Has no fringe, braid (tassel), eagle, ball, spear, etc.



Some say the correct size ratio is 1 x 1.9



2. Civil Flag -- Created in 1799 by Secretary of the Treasury Oliver Wolcott. Intended for peace time usage, denoting civil jurisdiction under the Constitution and common law. Has vertical stripes, blue stars on white background--last flown before Civil War with a few exceptions.

A 1913 Postcard has a civil flag flying on the Customs House in San Francisco



Click on picture to enlarge

Another example of the vertical stripes:
"The Coast Guard Ensign (flag) was first flown by the Revenue Cutter Service in 1799 to distinguish revenue cutters from merchant ships."
--Wikipedia



This flag was a symbol of law enforcement authority, not Military authority.



The flag shown above appears to be a "USA flag" but has one or more of the following:

1. Gold fringe along its borders (called "a badge")
2. Gold braided cord (tassel) hanging from pole
3. Ball on top of pole (last cannon ball fired) Mainly used at induction centers.
4. Eagle on top of pole
5. Spear on top of pole

Some people see them as ornaments but all symbols have a meaning and purpose.

The flag shown above is Not described in Title 4 of USC and therefore is illegal on land except for maybe (1) the President since he is in charge of Naval Forces on high seas, and (2) naval offices and yards.

President Eisenhower settled the debate on the width of the fringe.

The so-called justification for a Naval/Maritime flag to be on land is that all land was under the high water mark at one time even if it was eons ago.

Flags on poles flying at the same height as other flags have equal status. A flag flying higher than the flag below indicates superiority over the flag below. Note that corporate state flags fly below the US flag.

Keep in mind that the states were originally Sovereign over the central government and only the state flags were flown except in the District of Columbia not exceeding 10 miles square, its territories, forts, dockyards, arsenals, and other needful buildings, such as Post Offices, purchased with the consent of the legislature of the affected state.
(Constitution, Section 8, Clause 17)

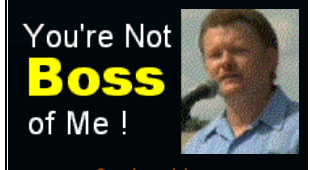
The people in the geographic continental USA are at peace but the corporate government continues to be at war to exist, to increase and perpetuate debt, and to enrich others through Defense contracts.

Governing Body

Having three separate and distinct

GOVERNING BODY

The President (a Caesar) rules by Executive Order (Unconstitutional)



Music Video
"My country's soul is on the line"



1.5 min. video
MONSANTO and others are trying to make



Referred to as the AMERO



WARNING!

Do not go to "Cars.gov"
Your computer and data may be hi-jacked by feds.

"CASH FOR CLUNKERS"
PROPERTY OF FEDERAL GOVT?

"This application provides access to the DoT CARS system. When logged on to the CARS system, your computer is considered a Federal computer system and is the property of the U.S. Government."

See 5.5 min. video above and read info on [NewsBusters](#)



12-second video
Disgrace and Disrespect brought upon US



Barry Soetoro
a.k.a. **President Obama**

Received financial aid as a foreign student from Indonesia
Was awarded a fellowship for foreign students from the Fulbright Foundation Scholarship program

Branches or Departments equal to each other as to power and control of a segment of government while being on the same playing field laterally in position to each other.

- Legislature (Constitution; Article I)
--can enact **positive law**
- Executive (Constitution; Article II)
- Judicial (Constitution; Article III)
--known as article III courts

The purpose of having three separate and distinct branches at the same level is for checks and balances so that no one man or branch of government has complete power.

The legislative Branch consists of the Senate and Congress.

The purpose of the Senate was originally designed to voice states rights while Congress voiced the peoples rights.

The Senators were chosen by the states and were not elected by the people.

Together, they can come to a conclusion that meets the rights, interests, and benefit of both the state and the people.

Separation of Powers

"To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public."
--Theodore Roosevelt, 1912

Congress and the Courts are under the President.
Did you ever wonder why Congress is ignored by the President?

The President is the Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O.) of the government corporation. Impeachment today is nearly impossible, unless it is in the best interest of the controlling bankers and the one-world government elite. Also, what most people do not realize is that most courts today are legislative courts and not Judicial.

The so-called (corporate) Congress sits by resolution not by positive law.

Therefore, the position of power is as follows:

1. President (C.E.O of the corporation sits as Ceasar
--does not need congressional approval)
2. Legislature (The new Congress and Senate voices Public Opinion)
3. so-called Judicial (Legislative, Article I courts)
4. Non-existent Judicial (Article III courts) except for Special circumstances that benefit the elite

The top position has control over the second position and the second position has control over the last position vertically and not laterally.

There are no checks and balances unless the President is concerned with a potential revolution based on the outcry of its citizens.

Each puppet that comes into office wears a different costume but ends up serving the same master. (The Masters are the Elite and Bankers operating behind the scenes)

Medium of Exchange

Lawful Money

Has substance

Controlled by Treasury of the united States of America

MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE

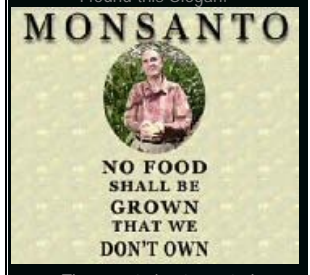
Legal Tender
Units of Monetized Debt

Has no substance--Built on credit

Controlled by US Treasury

ORGANIC FARMING
a Criminal Offense

I found this Slogan:



They are trying to control the Food Supply in turn, control YOU or your posterity
Don't let it happen!



5 min. video
See the [other videos](#)



8 min. video
A Pastor speaks out



11 min. video



Refuse Medical Coverage Pay \$1,000/Yr Fine



What do you know about medical symbolism? See "Caduceus" and "Rod of Asclepius" Which one do you see being used?

9-11 "Plane" Myth

Staged by Major Media 42 min. video

Gangster Government

5 min. video

CAFR - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

The Second Set of Books

2 Hr 15 min video documentary Be sure to listen to Recent Interview 8 min. audio Also, see: 2003 Report Find your state's report and more info Also see: CAFR1

If the corporate gov't says they can't meet the budget or need to cut back services, they are not telling you the whole Truth so as to get more money from you.

CAFR Books are found in reference section of libraries

How Hitler came to Power

Similarities today in America

THE DEATH OF THE INTERNET



Real Money

Assets of value such as gold or silver or can be exchanged for same.

Many of the older generations of the American people were taught to write the "S" with two lines through it. The two lines was a derivative of the "U" inside the "S" signifying "Units of Silver". The United States of America silver dollar is the accepted and approved uniform monetary unit (coin standard). The United States of America did not issue paper money until 85 years after its independence from Britain, and when it did, it was backed by silver or gold. Even at that, early Californians refused to accept and use paper currency, especially the people in San Francisco.

Lawful Money

consist of:

1. Silver coins* (Silver Specie) Silver dollar--standard unit of value containing 90% silver
2. Gold Coins* containing 90% gold
3. Spanish milled dollar called the "real." and its fractional parts such as the "medio" (half-real).
4. Warehouse receipts or certificates redeemable in gold or silver* such as "Silver Certificates" and "Gold Certificates" are not in itself money but is an exchange for a specified amount of lawful money. *Issued by the Treasurer of the United States of America.

"The first coins issued by authority of the United States were the "Fugio" cents. Entries in the Journal of Congress. . . "Saturday, April 21, 1787. . ."

"That the board of treasury be authorized to contract for three hundred tons of copper coin of the federal standard, agreeable to the proposition of Mr. James Jarvis, . . . That it be coined at the expense of the contractor, etc." "On Friday, July 6, 1787, there was "Resolved, that the board of treasury direct the contractor for the copper coinage to stamp on one side of each piece the following device, viz: thirteen circles linked together, a small circle in the middle, with the words 'United States,' around it; and in the center, the words 'We are one'; on the other side of the same piece the following device, viz: a dial with the hours expressed on the face of it; a meridian sun above on one side of which is the word 'Fugio,' (The meaning is, 'time flies') and on the other the year in figures '1787', below the dial, the words 'Mind Your Business.' The legends have been credited to Benjamin Franklin by many, and the coin, as a consequence, has been referred to as the Franklin Cent."

"These cents were coined in New Haven, Conn., and possibly elsewhere. Most of the copper used in this coinage came from military stores. It is believed to have been the copper bands which held together the powder kegs sent to us by the French." --A GUIDE BOOK OF UNITED STATES COINS 35th Edition



Phoney Money

Not backed by assets but thrives on faith alone.

Today, all computer programs, stock certificates, financial paper, accounting records, balance sheets and summaries, bills, bonds, Promissory notes, bank paper such as checks, et cetera use the familiar symbol \$ having only one line through it to denote the amount of debt considered.

All Notes are "I Owe You's" (IOU's) including Federal Reserve Notes (FRN's) All Notes represent debt. The corporate UNITED STATES is in bankruptcy and has no assets but can only monetize debt.

Legal Tender

consists of:

1. Federal Reserve Notes (FRN's)***
2. Bonds
3. Other Notes--evidences of debt.
4. Tokens--clad coinage having no inherent asset value.
5. "A unit of debt" in a cashless society-- Electronic banking.

***Issued by the Federal Reserve Bank (FRB)--A private corporation created by the Bank of England in 1913 and is owned by foreign bankers/investors

The Federal Reserve is a continuation of the "Exchequer" of the Crown of England.

Edward Mandell House was instrumental in setting up the Federal Reserve.

"Some people think the Federal Reserve Banks are U.S. government institutions. They are not government institutions. They are private credit monopolies which prey upon the people of the U.S. for the benefit of themselves and their foreign and domestic swindlers and rich and predatory money lenders." Chairman Louis T. McFadden, House Banking and Currency Committee, June 10, 1932.

Federal Reserve is not listed under the Federal Government. They are in the white pages, along with Federal Express, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC), and any other business. Find out for yourself if all this is true. And then, go to your local law library and look up the case of Lewis vs. US, case #80-5905, 9th Circuit, June 24, 1982. It reads in part: "Examining the organization and function of the Federal Reserve Banks and applying the relevant factors, we conclude that the federal reserve are NOT Federal instrumentality's . . . but are independent and privately owned and controlled corporations - federal reserve banks are listed neither as 'wholly-owned' government corporations [under 31 USC Section 846] nor as 'mixed ownership' corporations [under 31 USC Section 856] . . . 28 USC Sections 1346(b), 2671."

6.5 min. video He has the right to be Mad Wants to take back America But believes America was created as a Democracy and not a Republic. He needs to be educated on what the Truth really is and needs to get out of the corporate system of gov't.

WHO and UN Intent to Commit Mass Murder

Pandemic being staged see more links at [Abodia](#)

Bank Holiday?

Also see more info at [Pyrabang](#)

Breach of Economic Trust

5 min. video

US Empire Bankrupt!

Expect the best but prepare for the worst Also see [CIA Report](#)

U.S. Fascist Youth Corps similar to



as We know it today
Only selective sites
will remain
unless people speak out
7 min. video



10 min. video No. 3 of 6
Watch all 6
[Video 1 of 6](#)
[Video 2 of 6](#)
[Video 3 of 6](#)
[Video 4 of 6](#)
[Video 5 of 6](#)
[Video 6 of 6](#)



10 min. video



7.5 min. video

"Not on Our Watch"

9 min. video

Going corporate



More favoritism, censorship



Historical review:

[Lincoln, Gold, and Greenbacks](#)
by [Thomas J. DiLorenzo](#)

Did you ever wonder where the words "bank" and "currency" come from? Keep in mind that a river has two banks that control a current of water running between them. Therefore, that is what the bankers do, they control the current or flow of money called currency.

Payable, in Specie Means "In coin" from Latin, in kind

The "Dollar"

"The dollar, or "thaler" (which did not originate with the Spaniards), is short for the "Joachimsthaler" of Joachimsthal, a mining town in the Joachims Valley in Bohemia, where the coins were first struck in the sixteenth century."

"Thomas Jefferson recommended on September 2, 1776, to the Continental Congress, that the United States adopt the silver "Spanish Milled Dollar" called "Pillar Pieces of Eight", as our monetary unit of value, since daily trade was transacted in that coin."
--The United States Mint

A "dollar" was defined by law (Act of April 1792) as 371.25 grains of pure silver, which was the amount contained in a One-Dollar silver coin.

The gold eagle was equivalent to Ten silver dollars and had 247.50 grains of pure gold.

Therefore, 371.25 grains of pure silver was equivalent to 24.75 grains of pure gold; a 15:1 ratio.

Coinage started in 1783. The first gold coins were made July 31, 1795 and consisted of 744 half eagles.

Coinage of Silver coins for circulation ended with the 1964 coins.

Under the "free coinage" provision, no charge was to be made for converting gold or silver bullion into coins "weight for weight." At the depositor's option, however, he could demand an immediate exchange of coins for his bullion, for which privilege a deduction of one-half of one percent was to be imposed.

Redeemable Certificates

Although the first paper currency was issued in 1862, redeemable certificates were not issued until 1886

[Congressman McFadden Speaks Out \(1934\)](#)

[Congressman Traficant Speaks Out \(1993\)](#)

[Congressman Ron Paul Speaks Out February 15, 2006](#)

The amount of FRN's printed is based upon the corporate government's borrowing or appetite for debt. For example: If the corporate government prints \$100 billion in interest-bearing U.S. bonds and takes them to the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve places the \$100 billion in a checking account and the government writes checks or prints debt currency against the balance. In other words, this private banking system creates so-called money out of thin air and the bankers get interest on it forever. In addition, new debt and debt currency has to be created just to cover the compounding interest. An ideal "Ponzi scheme."

Keep in mind that bonds are IOU's and are to be paid back by the people through their future labor or the labor of their posterity. That is why wars are created and perpetuated, government bureaucracy and empire building increases, and superfluous spending continues. They create an ongoing and ever increasing debt to enslave the people and their posterity. Debt must be continually created to feed the debt-credit economy system.

The so-called expanding economy always needs new debt notes (FRN's) and therefore more debt must be created. Budgets can never be balanced in this type of system. If the budget is balanced, the economy will collapse because no new FRN's can be printed and no new debt credit created.

The FRB pays 2½ ¢ per FRN note printed whether \$1 or \$1000. The US in-turn pays FRB interest indefinitely for each outstanding note or representation of a note. With electronic banking FRN's are created out of nothing and nothing being printed. *What a deal!*

[Central Banking and credit](#)

Beginning in 1963, the words "redeemable in lawful money" and "will pay to the bearer on demand" were removed from future issues of Federal Reserve Notes

Public Law 88-36, approved June 4, 1963 made Silver certificates redeemable for silver bullion in the form of pellets or granulations and not in silver dollars. The exchange could only take place at the U.S. Assay Office in San Francisco up to June 24, 1968. After that, Silver certificates were no longer redeemable and are only legal tender having same value as Federal

9.5 min. video

Also see:
[Sacrifice](#)
[Dedication](#)
and others

Beware of similarities today



7.5 min. video

Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth
<http://www.ae911truth.org/>



7.5 min. video



5.5 min. video

Great Yard Sign



10 min. video



1 min. video

This man wants gov't control of the

2 min. video

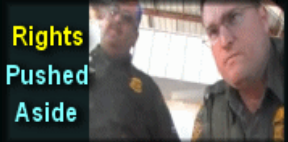


49 min. video



7.5 min. video

The 911 Reichstag Fire



27.5 min. video
American stand on rights



WorldNetDaily article

Actual document in Acrobat format available via email upon request. Lawsuit filed against Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano

"I went to bed last night a God fearing Marine Corps combat veteran, and according to Homeland Security I waken to find out I'm now a terrorist"
--Al Beyer

Silver Certificates were contracts initially redeemable in face value silver coin or silver bullion. Silver Certificates were released into circulation in 1878, redemption in silver dollars ceased in 1934, last printed in 1957, and redemption in all forms ceased on June 24, 1968.

Gold Certificates were contracts initially redeemable in face value Gold coin or gold bullion. Gold Certificates were released into circulation in 1882 and ended in 1928.

Banker's Currency

Mints

Although a government mint was approved February 21, 1782, no immediate action was taken. The first mint building was erected in 1792 on Seventh Street near Arch in Philadelphia. The first coin struck was the half dime (half-dime). Fifteen hundred were produced during the month of July 1792 before the mint was completed. File marks on early coins was a mint process of weight adjustment.
--A GUIDE BOOK of UNITED STATES COINS 35th Edition

The Mint was initially a part of the Department of State, became an independent agency in 1799, and became part of the Department of the Treasury in 1873 when the Mint's administrative headquarters moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C.



America's wealth would be like a "Pot of Gold"

Fore warned:

"If the American people ever allow private banks (the Federal Reserve Banks) to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all property until their children wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.." --Thomas Jefferson

The Law, which still stands, stated:

Individual states are "not allowed to make any things but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." The Constitution also stated: "Congress has the power to COIN money and regulate the value thereof."
--Article I Section 10 of the Constitution

Notice that it states the word "coin" and not "print paper currency."

Reserve Notes.

The silver content of the dimes and quarters was completely eliminated under the Coinage Act of 1965 and the silver content of the half dollars was greatly reduced and or eliminated since then. Coins that no longer have silver content are called "Copper-nickel clad coins" or just "clad coins" and have no intrinsic value.

In 1982, the cent was changed from being 95 percent copper and 5 percent zinc to copper plated zinc weighting 20 percent less. The cent is now just like a token.

"In My opinion, the purchasing power of the debassed coinage and the increasingly inflationary currency system is undeniable proof to substantiate extortion and embezzlement by the banking industry and those who hold office in the corporate government system."

--Jack Slevkoff 2008



In My opinion, it is impossible to pay the entire US debt because there is not enough money in circulation and not enough money created to cover the principle let alone the interest being created and accumulated.

--Jack Slevkoff 2008

A Maxim of Law:

"One is not required to do the impossible."

The Greenback Acts of 1861 allowed the Union (during the Civil War) to print and issue paper currency in 1862 for the first time in US history. Prior to that, the federal government restricted itself to coins. The paper money was not backed with gold or silver but simply with the full faith and credit of the Union government. The ink chosen for the back side was a peculiar green; thereby nicknamed "greenbacks".

The confedrate states did the same thing and their currency were called "bluebacks" and "graybacks."

One year later, the 1861 Acts were revoked and replaced with the National Banking Act in 1863. An Act passed on April 12, 1866 authorized the sale of bonds to retire currency called greenbacks.

FRN's were first issued in 1914.

The Independent Treasury Act of 1921 suspended the de jure Treasury Department of the United States government and turned it over to a private corporation called the Federal Reserve (de jure means "by right of lawful establishment")

Just prior to the Stock Market crash of 1929, millions of dollars of gold was taken out of this

Internet

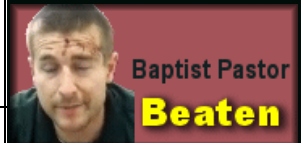
Do not let it happen
Also see Act [explained](#)



1.5 min. video

US tells Russia

Planned Confiscation

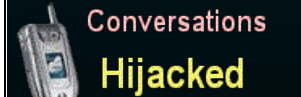


9 min. video
See: [Charges Dismissed](#)
and [Produce ID?](#)



"Every single one of my anti-Second Amendment friends became instant Second Amendment supporters by the end of this film."

4 min of a 58 min. video
Full video can be purchased online. Full version no longer available on Youtube or Google
Also, see: [illuminati-news](#)



5 min. video



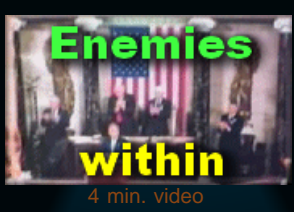
Texas affirming Sovereignty
10.5 min. video



Obama Deception
114 min. video



Bailout Comparison



Enemies within
4 min. video



IRS Not Who You Think



It's an Illusion
53 min. video
The same is true in America



We Got Your Money



Angry Men

Our Founding Fathers knew how a central bank printing paper money would collapse our economy.

"And to preserve their independence, we must not let our rulers [leaders] load us with perpetual debt."
--Thomas Jefferson

"Until we realize that our money power is our sovereign power we cannot act as sovereigns"
--E.C. Riegel.

"Gold will always remain the ultimate form of payment in the world."
--Alan Greenspan, Testimony before US House Banking Committee, May 1999.

Sovereigns

Living Souls coming out of mothers womb onto the land of one of the several states of America are "Sovereign", "Freemen", and "Freeborn" unless that right is given up knowingly, intentionally, and voluntarily upon full disclosure.

Amendment X
"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, ...are reserved to ...the people."

The people are Sovereign

"...at the Revolution, the sovereignty devolved on the people; and they are truly the sovereigns of the country, but they are sovereigns without subjects... with none to govern but themselves; the citizens of America are equal as fellow citizens, and as joint tenants in the sovereignty."
--Chisholm v. Georgia (US) 2 Dall 419, 454, 1 L Ed 440, 455 @Dall 1793 pp471-472

Sovereign
A chief ruler with supreme power; one possessing sovereignty. (q. v.);
2. In the United States the sovereignty resides in the body of the people.
Vide Rutherford. Inst. 282.
--Bouvier's Law Revised 6th Edition, 1856

"[It is] the people, to whom all authority belongs."
--Thomas Jefferson to Spencer Roane, 1821.

"There is no such thing as a power of inherent Sovereignty in the government of the United States. In this country sovereignty resides in the People, and Congress can exercise no power which they have not, by their Constitution entrusted to it: all else is withheld." --Julliard v. Greenman, 110 U.S. S. 421

Country and transferred to England.

All of the remaining assets of the US citizens, including their person, are held by the Depository Trust Corporation (DTC), the central securities depository, at 55 Water Street, New York, NY - secured by Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Commercial Liens, which are then monetized as "debt money" by the Federal Reserve.

Under the umbrella of the DTC lies the CEDE Corporation, the Federal Reserve Corporation and the American Bar Association, the "legal arm" of the banking interests.

Return Money To The People

Today, the popularity of the **dollar** has fallen behind the **Euro**.
"the euro is the currency with the highest combined value of cash in circulation in the world, having surpassed the U.S. dollar (USD)." --Wikipedia

SUBJECTS

US citizens (Chattel Property) are belligerents in the field and are "subject to its jurisdiction" (Washington DC)

U.S. citizens are 14th Amendment citizens implemented by the Civil Rights Act of 1866 originally established for the newly freed slaves.

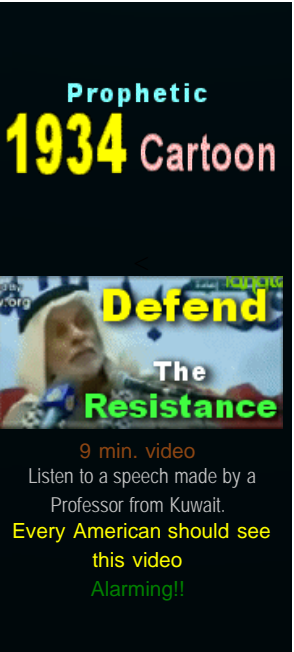
That is to say: "Now slaves of the corporate government plantation"

Today, almost all mothers, black or white, unknowingly inform on their own babies. Take a look at the so-called "Birth Certificate" CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH where the mother signs and you will see the title of the box stating in small print: "MOTHER OR OTHER INFORMANT".

The word "OTHER" makes the mother "an informant." By signing the "Birth Certificate" as an informer, she contracts with the government putting her child and her child's future labor as collateral for the national debt (servitude--slavery). The father or mother can rescind the contract within three business days (Truth-in-Lending).

Since the Birth Certificate neither lists the father as the husband nor lists the wife's acceptance of the father's surname as her own but has the mothers maiden name instead, the baby is considered a BASTARD. Bastards are therefore under the care and control of the Priest Rule (democracy) and can be taken from the mother at any time.

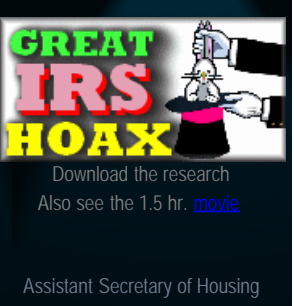
The hospitals receive a fairly large monetary benefit (\$3,000, more or less, per child) from



Prophetic 1934 Cartoon
9 min. video
Listen to a speech made by a Professor from Kuwait. Every American should see this video Alarming!!



Habeas Corpus Done Orally



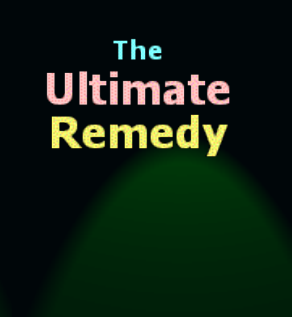
GREAT IRS HOAX
Download the research Also see the 1.5 hr. movie



Gatherine Fitts Speaks Out
Discloses that "Fraudulent Inducement is the Federal Government's POLICY!"
84 min. video



Trillion?



The Ultimate Remedy

3 United States

Why America is not a Democracy

 10½ min. Video

Yes, this is happening in America
bet' the news'
Drug Cartels Take Over Local Politics


 9 min. video
 Also, found on [YouTube](#)

More Gun Control

 Will make ordinary people criminals

Foreclosure Problem?

Ask the Bank to Produce the Note
 4 min. video

What happen to

Due Process Today?
 1 min. video

Constitution ignored on her behalf


Obama Attacks We the People Constitution

 1½ min. Video

A piece of paper does not give people the right to walk the earth as one of God's creatures. People have that right without the Constitution, without the Amendments some people call the "Bill of Rights," and without a Birth Certificate.

No Political or Royal figure can give one the right to be free or take that right away. The idea that one is "given" what one already has is an illusion created for the purposes of control, power, and manipulation. Such an idea exists only when people allow it to exist or are ignorant of their rights.

Judicial Name (Appellation)

Name of a living soul in a flesh and blood man. ('man' includes woman and child).

John James, Christianson
 Note upper and lower case
 (Proper by Rules of English Grammar)

Christian Appellation: John James (Sole property)
Family Name: Christianson (Common property)

Here is an example of how Jack, the author, declares who he is:

Jack, the son of Jack, of the family named Slevkoff (surname), a living soul in a flesh and blood man on the land, [hereinafter I, Me, My, or Myself], is an American having Sovereign status [Declaration of Independence: anno Domini, Seventeen seventy-six for America], a native of California, thereby being a California national, California being one of the Republics and a nation unto itself [an Act establishing government in California: anno Domini, eighteen hundred forty-nine]

Maintaining Sovereignty

the corporate government for having Birth Certificates filled out and signed.

The Wizard of Oz

"The primary control and custody of infants is with the government"
 --Tillman V. Roberts. 108 So. 62

Legal Name

is a "Prisoner of war" name
 Fictitious " *nom de guerre* " name for a non-living entity:
 also referred to as the "Strawman" and/or "Transmitting Utility"

JOHN DOE
 Name is in all capital letters a.k.a. all CAPS
 which is in a format called Capitus Diminutio Maxima

Capitus Diminutio Maxima (Maximum diminished status) means that a man's condition changes from freedom to bondage and becomes a slave or an item of inventory.
 --Blacks Law Dictionary, Revised 4th Edition 1968

John C. Doe
 Note: middle initial
 (No name at all--A fiction)

First Name: JOHN
 Middle Initial: C.
 Last Name: DOE

A **fictional persona** being surety for the debt as a fiction in commerce

Also known as an " **Ens Legis** " which means 'legal entity'. It is non-human, 'civilly dead'.

Look at the name on Drivers Licenses, Social Security cards, Credit Cards, Deeds, Bank Accounts, etc.

Name in all CAPS

U.S. citizens were declared **enemies** of the U.S. by F.D.R. by Executive Order No. 2040 and ratified by Congress on March 9, 1933, 48 Stat. 1

FDR changed the meaning of The Trading with the Enemy Act of December 6, 1917 by changing the word "without" to citizens "within" the United States

People become surety for the debt by a number of different ways. One way is by a **Birth Certificate** when the baby's footprint is

Stimulus Pork by State


Alan Keyes speaks out
"Stop Obama or US will cease to exist"


4 min. video
 Also read this [Article](#)

Wyoming Sheriff Keeps Feds Out


More Gun Control

 Can't buy, own, or sell, unless licensed
 Do not let it happen!

Money as Debt


47 min. video
 Makes it easy to understand

Do You Have a Facebook ?

4 min. video
 Facebook is an information collection web site for CIA, In-Q-Tel, DARPA, and the Information Awareness Office

The Bail Out Embezzlement




As a result of a king's uncontrolled spending spree, France had severe inflation which resulted in a monetary crisis. A group of people stormed the Bastille in Paris on July 15th 1789, and the French Revolution was born. The 'Rights of Man' was declared on August 26, 1789. By midsummer of 1792, the king was dethroned and the royal family was imprisoned. Since the people no longer had any use for a king and queen, Louis XVI was beheaded on January 21, 1793 and Marie Antoinette was beheaded later that year.

Therefore, it is the people who are really in control. It is intended for government to be the servants and the people to be the masters. It is better for the government to fear the people than the people fear their government.

"..whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government,.."
--Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776



Freeborn
Freeman
Freeholder
Sovereign
"We the people..."

Inherent rights
present at birth
but not necessarily hereditary

placed thereon before it touches the land. The certificate is recorded at a County Recorder, then sent to a Secretary of State which sends it to the Bureau of Census of the Commerce Department. This process converts a man's life, labor, and property to an asset of the US government when this person receives a benefit from the government such as a drivers license, food stamps, free mail delivery, etc. This person becomes a **fictional persona** in commerce. The Birth Certificate is an unrevealed "Trust Instrument" originally designed for the children of the newly freed black slaves after the 14th Amendment. The US has the ability to tax and regulate commerce.

The central banks now have a negotiable instrument against which credit is advanced by the international funding community, namely The World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Bank for International Settlements, Bank of England, Federal Bank of America etc

Bond Servant
To cover the debt in 1933 and future debt, the corporate government determined and established the value of the future labor of each individual in its jurisdiction to be \$630,000. A bond of \$630,000 is set on each Certificate of Live Birth. The certificates are bundled together into sets and then placed as securities on the open market. These certificates are then purchased by the Federal Reserve and/or foreign bankers. The purchaser is the "holder" of "Title." This process made each and every person in this jurisdiction a bond servant.

"None are more enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free."
--Goethe

Inalienable rights
Rights from the corporate government that can be liened against or taken away at any time.
Very much like a 'privilege'.

Minds Set in Stone

Martial Law?
11 min. video
Ignore the overlaid words that appear a few times.

Illegal Alien Health Care
3 min. video

Uncle Sam's Ponzi Schemes

Brits Protest
I Love My Country But I Fear My Government
9 min. video
Finally waking up
Want their guns back Americans should not let it happen in America!

Breakup
It happened to the Soviets
Will it happen to the US?

New Hampshire Asserting Sovereignty

10 min. video
Resolution [HCR 6](#)
Resolution [HCR 1](#)
Resolution [HCR 10](#)
states doing the same:
[Washington](#)
[Arizona](#)
[Michigan](#)
[Missouri](#)
[Montana](#)
[Oklahoma 2](#)
[Hawaii 2 3](#)



Basically, they are not necessarily seceding from the union, except maybe Hawaii, but are demanding that the "federal government stop taking actions that are outside the bounds of the rights explicitly provisioned for it by the constitution" In other words, "Stop micromanaging us." Get your state to do the same "I hope and Pray this sweeps the country"

Do's and Don'ts
45 min. video

Easy to Grasp
10 min. video
Hard to believe, but True

Does it Matter?

1 min. video

This TV Ad was refused to be aired by mainstream media and the national networks.

I wonder why? Must be too revealing. Does it matter if he is eligible or not? If not, then the Constitution is no longer valid.



"SEE WHAT THOSE IDIOTS IN WASHINGTON DC HAVE ALLOWED BY GIVING CORPORATIONS UNWIELDY POWER. Thanks 14th Amendment... and also thanks to all the idiots voting for those criminals in DC"

--L.B. Borg 2008



4 min. video

Also see: [Response](#) to above clip

Unalienable rights

Rights from God that are not lienable.

Unalienable vs Inalienable

Elector

VOTER

The "Electoral college of electors" are the ones that actually determine who will be President - not any popular vote, poll, media, or statistic.

"Registering to vote" is an admission that the declarant is subject to the exclusive legislative power of the corporate Congress and is a 14th Amendment citizen residing in federal territory.

An **Elector** is **Not** subject to exclusive legislative power of Congress.

"Stop and think for a moment as to voting. When you vote for an office to be filled in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA or one of its SUB-CORPORATIONS (THE STATE OF TEXAS), you have voted to fill a fictional corporate position designed to represent the CORPORATION, not a political position to represent the people. All elections in the "United States" are nothing more than proxy fights in a board room!"

Almost anyone can become an elector. Did not used to have to be a registered voter or a party member.

--Ed: Brannum (Secretary of Privatization; Provisional Government; Republic of Texas)

Currently, there are 538 elector positions. It now takes 270 Electoral Votes to win the Presidential Election.

There are more people receiving government benefits today than ever. Most of these people are Democrats and vote for people who are Democrats. Reason being; the Democratic party provides and creates more benefit programs and services to obtain votes and popularity.

The total number of electors a state can have is equal to that state's total representation in Congress. Less populated states such as Wyoming, North Dakota, and Vermont have at least one Representative and two Senators. Therefore, they have only three electoral votes. California, for instance, with 52 Representatives and two Senators, have 54 electors.

Also, there are more people coming from Mexico, legally or illegally, amnesty or not, who know that the benefits are mostly created by Democrats and will always vote for the Democrats or convince others to do so. As these numbers increase, it will be very difficult for any non-democrat to win an election.

Members of Congress or anyone holding any Federal office cannot be an elector based on what the Constitution refers to as: 'trust or profit.'

"The elite and the major media have the people pitting the democrats against the republicans or vise versa. The democrats get in, the people find negative consequences and then vote republican. The republicans get in, the people find negative consequences and then vote democrat next election. In the meantime, the one-world government elite's agenda is being fulfilled.

The Founding Fathers did not intend to have institutionalized party systems such as Democrats, Libertarians, and or Republicans.

People have to wake up and realize that this is a corporation doing business disguised as the former government and is not the government originally instituted in the 1700's.

Stop playing their game."

--Jack:Slevkoff 2009

An Elector's choice (election) or decision counts like one on the Board of Directors

A voter's vote is a **recommendation only**. Votes are counted at a poll or polling station. "Poll" is defined as an inquiry into public opinion.

Justice System

"JUST-US" SYSTEM

Judicial Branch of government established by "Article III" of the Constitution

So-called Judicial system and Legislature are under the President



Recent [incident](#)



6 min. video



rap music by Michael Adams the Health Ranger
3 min. audio/video with lyrics displayed

What do they have in common?





THEY LIVE
A great 1988 flick!
94 min
After watching movie,
see this 1½ min. clip

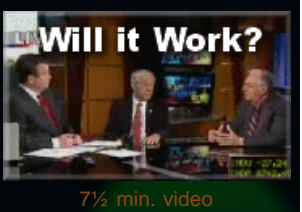


Separate from Executive and Legislative branches of government "serving the People" under Constitutional mandates.	<i>judicial</i> venue
<i>Ministerial</i> court system To serve the people--"Servant"	<i>Administrative</i> court system Responsible to the administration --"Support"
General Law Common Law "The nature of law is to maintain justice." --Bastiat 1848	Private, internal law "...the conversion of the law into an instrument of plunder." "Thus, in order to make plunder appear just and sacred to many consciences, it is only necessary for the law to decree and sanction it." --Bastiat 1848
Common Law (Law not written)	Civil Law based on the Roman Civil Law Covers a vast number of volumes of text that even attorneys can't absorb or comprehend such as: 1. Regulations 2. Codes 3. Rules 4. Statutes
Common Law is based on custom and usage and includes the Magna Carta and The great Charter of the Forest Common Law has two basic requirements: 1. Do not Offend Anyone 2. Honor all contracts	There are now over 60 million of these so-called laws on the books. Keep in mind "ignorance of the law is no excuse" Everyone must be guilty of something. The more so-called laws, the more revenue generated. "The more corrupt the State, the more numerous the laws." --Cornelius Tacitus (c. 55-117 A.D.) "The more numerous the laws, the more corrupt the state." --Bastiat law (1936-) Prior to bankruptcy of 1933 "Public Law" Now the so-called courts administer "Public Policy" through the "Uniform Commercial Code" (instituted in 1967)
The 7th Amendment guarantees a trial by jury according to the rules of the common law when the value in controversy exceeds Twenty dollars [in silver specie; not FRN's] "When injustice becomes law, resistance becomes duty." - Thomas Jefferson	Public Policy and UCC
Constitution Supreme Law of the land restricting a central government, appointed and elected officials, and their staff. The "organic" Constitution and its amendments are created by the states united to institute, restrict, and restrain a <u>limited</u> central government and to protect the people from such central government from infringing on the peoples God-given rights.	No stare decisis Means no precedent binds any court, because they have <u>no law standard</u> of absolute right and wrong by which to measure a ruling—what is legal today may not be legal tomorrow. So-called "court decisions" are administrative opinions only and are basically decided on the basis of "What is best for the corporate government." Most so-called laws today don't protect you against them, but protects them against you.

Most courts today are Article I or Article II courts.
The so-called Judicial is <u>not</u> separate although it may appear that way. Most so-called courts today are listed in Dun & Bradstreet as a private company or corporation , operating as a business, for profit.
<i>federal (feudal)</i> venue
Administrative court system Responsible to the administration --"Support"
Private, internal law "...the conversion of the law into an instrument of plunder." "Thus, in order to make plunder appear just and sacred to many consciences, it is only necessary for the law to decree and sanction it." --Bastiat 1848
Civil Law based on the Roman Civil Law Covers a vast number of volumes of text that even attorneys can't absorb or comprehend such as: 1. Regulations 2. Codes 3. Rules 4. Statutes
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Public Policy and UCC
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Yes, "Allegiance to Satan" as Wolves in Sheep's clothing
Are you really getting change, ...or more of the same?
The only difference is:
Obama is left-handed
Also see this 3½ min. video and more






Save a Friend
2.7 Min. Video



"Yes it does not matter who the sheeple put in office, as the man in the middle will tell them exactly what to do"
--Keith Bond; 10th month, 23rd day, 2008

Invoking Rights



The Broke Bailout The Rich
2 Min. Video



Obama Not Qualified
11 Min. Video
Also, see: [The Bulletin and Chicago Tribune](#)



Give Me Liberty
30 Min. Video



Potential One Week Bank Holiday
Also, check this [email](#)



Homeschooling now illegal in California
unless credentialed by state
Also see [recent](#) article

Protected Rights List of Cases

Grand Jury composed of **25** people who are Sovereigns
--Magna Carta, Article 61

Judicial Courts with real Judicial Officers and real Juries who can judge the law as well as the facts
Jury decisions cannot be reversed by the judge

Judges
(No black robes)

The judicial officer is actually a coordinator who sits in on behalf of the people, for the good of the people, who swears by full oath of office to abide by and uphold the Constitution, and is there to give presenters and counselors equal opportunity to present their case, with fairness and un bias to all, whether it is pertaining to a controversy or one suspected of a crime or injustice, to produce and provide an impartial and fair trial or suite in Law by bringing forth the facts and the law to be judged by the people who are peers.

The people are the ultimate "judges" of both the law and the facts.

Common Law Court is a "**Court of Record**" that proceeds according to Common Law, keeps a record of the proceedings, has power to fine or imprison, and the tribunal is independent of the magistrate. (May also have a seal)

Lawful or Unlawful

Based on God's law, the common law, and any law that any prudent man will abide by under normal circumstances without giving up one's rights or infringing upon another's rights.

so-called Grand Jury composed of **24 US citizens**

The so-called courts are actually Corporate Arbitration Boards Consisting of an Arbitrator (so-called "Judge") and sometimes a panel of corporate employees (so-called "Juries")
Panel decisions (recommendation) can be reversed by the Arbitrator

The so-called judge, a corporate "black-robe" referee, an actor (acting judge), on a fictitious stage, sitting under a gold or yellow fringe flag, becomes the "captain" or "master" of that ship or enclave and has absolute power to make the rules at his whim as he goes; all the while talking to or about the fictitious PERSON.

The so-called judge will sometimes not allow all of the facts to be heard or the so-called law examined because of his bias or is following orders of the corporate so-called government who may even want to have the case sealed from the public.

If one does not conform to the judge's wishes, the judge, without proper cause, will send the non-conformist to a psychiatric ward for evaluation (intimidation) and sometimes left there to be drugged and not released until one is willing to conform to the judge's bias.

This has happened many times in the latter years and has been personally witnessed by Myself concerning friends.

"...the judiciary has usurped the law for its own purposes and replaced constitutional guarantees with a system in which judges rule by decree."--
www.tulanelink.com

These so-called courts are not "in law" but are simply acting on behalf of a corporate business enforcing it's contracts under the disguise of Equity Courts, Superior courts, Federal courts, District courts, Municipal Courts-Merchant Law, Military Law, Marshall Law, Summary Court Martial proceedings, and administrative *ad hock* tribunals (similar to Admiralty/Maritime) and appear to be governed by "The Manual of Courts Martial" (under Acts of War) and the "War Powers Act of 1933."

Legal or Illegal

All legal actions are pursued under the "**color of law**"

Color of law means "appears to be" law, but is not

"Because of what appears to be lawful commands on the surface, many Citizens,

Government Keeps 2 sets of Books

4 min. video
Be sure to listen to [Recent Interview](#)
8 min. audio
Also, see: [2003 Report](#)
Find [your state's](#) report and [more info](#)



End the Chaos! End the Fed!

6 min. video
Also see: [Abolition Act](#)



Can anyone provide verifiable proof whether these designs are real or a hoax?



W-4 or W-9 is Voluntary



Dennis Kucinich Speaks Truth
I do not endorse democrats or the party but his speech reveals some issues.
6 Min. Video

Cocktail Avocados.com

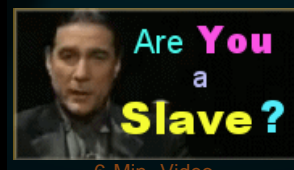


Doctored film clips by media 90 Min. Video

For Police, Sheriffs, Enforcement Officers, and Military personel



Officer Jack McLamb Show Operation Vampire Killer Also, see 3½ min. Video



6 Min. Video

	<p>Trial by Jury of one's peers, whether Civil or Criminal.</p> <p>The people have the ultimate say in any matter.</p>
	<p>Suit</p> <p>Accusor</p>
	<p>Accused No defense necessary unless evidence and witnesses is overwhelming.</p>
	<p>Accusation</p> <p>"Claim" other terms used: "true bill," "libel"</p> <p>"In-jury" Latin for infringement-of rights</p>
	<p>"Writ" Form of written command in the name of one in authority such as a Sovereign, such as a member of "We the people"</p> <p>Some examples are as follows: Writ of Habeas corpus, "An order to bring forth the body"; usually from jail or prison. Writ of Mandamus "Commanding an official to perform a ministerial act." "Used only when all other judicial remedies fail" Writ of Prohibition "An order prohibiting an act" Writ of Certiorari "An order demanding the record"</p> <p>Although most definitions today only mentions that writs can be issued by a judge or are a court order, in reality, almost anyone, except "US citizens" (subjects or slaves), can issue such writs. Writs are tools of the common law.</p>
	<p>Emit writs</p> <p>Present" Present as ones self.</p>

<p>because of their respect for what appears to be law, are cunningly coerced into waiving their rights due to ignorance." --United States Supreme Court US. v. Minker , 350 US 179 at 187 (1956)</p>	<p>Provides "hearings" whenever possible for total control unless one insists on having a jury trial.</p> <p>"Jury Trial" (recommendation) is not the same as "Trial by jury of one's peers." Waste of time</p> <p>So-called judges have been known to overturn jury trial recommendations. Hearings are not mentioned in the constitutions.</p>
	<p>Action</p> <p>Plaintiff Informant Complainant</p> <p>Defendant Needs to defend against guilt assumption. More Info</p>
	<p>"Charge" Charged with...(a negative) (payment or retribution is the positive) "an assertion that someone is guilty of a fault or offence" "(criminal law) a pleading describing some wrong or offense"</p> <p>When asked, "Do you understand the charges...?", actually means "Do you stand under the charges...?"</p>
	<p>"Motion" "A formal application to a court (so-called judge) for its (his or her) order, ruling, judgement or decree." --Ballentines Law Dictionary</p> <p>A motion must be supported by an affidavit but the affidavit cannot be read during the hearing. --lectlaw.com</p> <p>"hearings are conducted as oral arguments in support of motions," --Wikipedia</p>
	<p>Submit documents</p> <p>"Represent" derived from re-present. To present as someone else. To re-present as the "Ens Legis"</p>

Under-reported Headlines

Criminal Activity at FDA

Inflation Pickpocket

Scared into Gold

No Answers, No Taxes.

Treason Against The People

Illuminati Running America
1½ min. video

When Confronted with a Gun
1 min. video

State's Indoctrination Same Sex Marriage
7 min. video
Gay Day for kindergartners in Sacramento

"The Dictator cometh..."

MEDIA Blackout

We Sell Acai

I.O.U.S.A. LIVE WITH
 WARREN BUFFETT, PETE PETERSON & DAVE WALKER
 IN A MOVIE THEATRE NEAR YOU
THURSDAY, AUGUST 21st

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 In Fresno, Seats were sold out 7PM

Connects Brain to Computer



Are you American or Globalist?

Gov't Spies Everywhere

Bank Failures

List of failed banks today
[Failures during Depression](#)

No SHORTAGE

Rights Retained

by corporate Supreme Court

"Venue"
 (A place)
 "the county from which the jury are to come, who are to try the issue" --Bouvier's Law Dictionary

"in-law"
 (i.e. "Son-in-law" or a "covenant in law")

Submersed in (true) law.
 Dealing with Law itself.

"Private" side

man, woman, child
 "one of the people"
 "a living soul"
 "flesh and blood"

"the people"
 mankind

"Sui Juris"
 Latin, of one's own right
 One who has all the rights to which a freeman is entitled;
 one who is not under the power of another, as a slave, a minor, and the like.
 To make a valid contract, one must, in general, be sui juris.
www.lectlaw.com

Appearing on one's own behalf-- meaning you are not beholden to or obligated to anyone in or out of government.

Referring to people who present themselves as a living soul in a flesh and blood body presenting the law and the facts.

Affirmation
 testify to the facts
 written testimony of the facts
 witness statement of the facts

Declaration
 To declare
 "...by these Presents"

"...being of sound mind, over the age of 21 years, competent, and having first hand knowledge of the facts stated herein, do hereby tell the truth, the whole truth and

a.k.a. STRAWMAN name
 If you are represented, you are a ward of the court and are incompetent or a juvenile.

"Re-venue"
 Now often seen as "revenue" which refers to monies collected by changing ones venue to a corporate government venue.

"at Law"
 "Attorney at law"

Can be at something but not submersed in it or a part of it.
 On the outside of law, not in it.

"Public" side

"Person"
 defined as a corporation, trust, partnership,...
 "artificial legal entity"
 All fictions
 mirror-like identity recognizable in written form; usually in all caps
 The word "person" originated from the Latin word "persona" derived from Etruscan "phersu" which means "mask."
 Is the STRAWMAN masquerading as the real man?

"Pro se"
 Re-presents one's self "in person" or "in persona" (mask) as a fiction.
 Serving as one's own attorney.
 A privilege that can be taken away at anytime
 United States v Dougherty, 473 F 2d 1113, 1122

"Pro per"
 short for "propria persona" meaning "proper person"
 Since "Person" is a fiction you are telling them you are in your proper person (mask) and not a man by any means.

Keep in mind that pro per is better than pro se.

Jurisdiction not admitted, if no attorney pleads.

[More info...](#)

"Persons"

"Persons"

Affidavit
 (statutory venue)
 "An affidavit is an oath in writing, sworn before and attested by him [officer/notary] who hath authority to administer the same."

NSPD51 HSPD20

10½ min. video
 Also read the text

GunTown

Real Reason for Bailout

9½ min. video
 and [Senators](#) voting Yes

The Drumbeat

Secret Killing Weapons

in IRAQ

See 3 videos on web page

The Ultimate Con

10 min. video


Duties of Sheriff

6 min. video

Brain-washed Americans

5 min. video

MONA VIE
contains
Acui Berry



and the IRS
10 Min. Video [Interview](#)

"Home of the Brave"
Oklahoma
claiming
Sovereignty
[Vote count:](#)
92 Yeas to 3 Nays
See to it that your state do the same

Homeland Security
Checkpoint
2 min. Video
if not start, click on arrow bottom left
[Another Stop](#)
4½ min. Video

Safe?
5 min. Video

ENDGAME
Global Enslavement
2 hour 19 min. Video

Who owns you?

Hope
for Freedom and Liberty
in America

nothing but the truth and herein say, saith, declare, proclaim, and claim as follows:..."

Speak the Truth
"My word is My Bond"
Cannot swear or make an oath
Matthew 5:33-37, James 5:12

"I do not accept"
"I take exception" to that

Counsel
or "Counsellor in-Law"
(Lawyer)

No license required

No registration required

No Bar card required

Just need to know the Law.

The Law is simple

Do not Offend Anyone

Honor all contracts

And of course, you have to obey "Natures law"
such as "gravity"
or "breathe air to live."

The Supreme Court
for The United States of America

The District Court
for The United States of America
were implemented for territories
that were not states.

Lawyer or counsel

Oath
an external pledge
to swear or affirm
usually under penalty of perjury

"I Object"
"Objection, please"

Attorney
an "**Esquire**" (British nobility)
a title meaning "Shield Bearer"

Attorney-at-law
The defense Attorney, the Prosecutor, and the so-called Judge are all attorneys doing business in the corporate administrative courts (tribunals) of the U.S. as agents of the Crown of England

Attorneys swear an oath
to uphold the
"BAR ASSOCIATION".

The BAR ASSOCIATION is registered with the INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE as a 501(c)(3) organization like a religious tax exempt organization.

Some people believe that the first letter of B.A.R stands for "**British**".
(British Accredited Registry).
This could be a myth, although the "bar" term may have originated in London having to do with an obstruction that denies or allows entrance such as "raising the bar" being a bridge or a gate.

The BAR in the U.S. was first organized in Mississippi in 1825.

The "*integrated bar*" movement, meaning "the condition precedent to the right to practice law," was initiated in the US in 1914 by the American Jurisprudence Society.
--Black's Law Dictionary, 4th edition

STATE OF CALIFORNIA


"When only attorneys can understand the codes, statutes, and regulations (so-called laws), then only attorneys should be required to obey them." --Jack; Slevkoff--2002

Should I hire an attorney?


the UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

the UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Lady giving a flower




Gets pepper sprayed twice
Not in Nazi Germany
but in today's America
½ min. video

Hack RFID

for **\$8**
3½ min. video
What about [passport](#) RFID's?

The Truth
about
New Orleans
8½ min. video
[Military operations](#)
against Americans
10½ min. video

Tropical Specials.com

America gone astray


Double The Debt
over a Weekend
8½ min. video


Warns the People
11 min. video


A Den of Thieves


6½ min. Video




29 min. video
I am not a member, but I like this presentation.



3 min. video
May 18th, 2008: No. 1 on New York Times
[Best Seller List](#)



About Obama



Republican Convention in Maine
Aged Brainwashing prevents good actions to take place.
Good resolutions (Amendments) fail
9 min. video



7½ min. Movie Trailer




Police State
5 min. video



One more with Us
Read what she says on right side below "About me."


for the states united	Prosecutor "In the early days of our Republic, 'prosecutor' was simply anyone who voluntarily went before the grand Jury with a complaint." --United States v. Sandford, Fed. Case No.16, 221 (C.Ct.D.C. 1806)
Counsel to help the accused or the lawyer who knows and studies the law	
Must have damaged party	
Maintains rights, freedoms, and liberties of the people	
Unalienable rights, fundamental rights, substantial rights and other rights of living souls are all protected by The Law and protected by The "organic" Constitution and its amendments.	
The first <u>ten</u> articles of amendment to the constitution are sometimes refereed to as "Bill of Rights" which is incorrect. They are not a "Bill" but are simply "amendments."	
Due Process is required	
Innocent <u>until</u> proven guilty "No Bill Of Attainder or Ex-post Facto Law, shall be passed." --Constitution, in Article 1, Section 9, Paragraph 3	
Jurors judge the law as well as the facts Jurors are the last bastion of hope to free one from tyrannical or unjust laws imposed by government.	
Jury nullification "Jury nullification occurs when a jury returns a verdict of "not guilty" despite the common belief that the defendant is guilty of the violation charged. The jury in effect nullifies a law that it believes is immoral, unconstitutional or is wrongly applied to the defendant whose fate it is charged with deciding. Traditionally jurors are	

UNITED STATES DISTRICT ATTORNEY	PROSECUTOR A government official who conducts criminal prosecutions on behalf of the corporate STATE. An attorney who works for the LOCAL, STATE or FEDERAL government to bring and litigate so-called criminal cases. At the LOCAL level, the prosecutor will usually be the COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY's Office. In some cases the prosecutor may be from the CITY ATTORNEY's Office. The PROSECUTOR reviews evidence to determine if a complaint may be filed.
Defense Attorney A so-called court can safely assume jurisdiction when one is represented by an attorney.	
<u>Compels</u> performance No damaged party is necessary.	
No rights <u>except</u> Civil Rights. and privileges that can be taken away at any time. Restricts freedoms and liberties.	
US citizens are at the mercy of government and the administrative courts and tribunals Servants (subjects/ bond-servants) cannot sue the Master (Corporate government) unless allowed to.	
The actual " Bill of Rights " was a declaration in 1689 by King William and Queen Mary to their loyal subjects of the British crown. <small>If you are in this jurisdiction, you <u>are</u> a subject of the crown as well?</small>	
Due Process is <u>optional</u> --Sometimes Gestapo-like tactics without reservation.	
"Guilty" <u>until</u> proven "not guilty" (Especially, when faced with issues relating to the corporate government, its agents, and or its highwaymen.) The so-called judge will ask if one is "guilty" or "not guilty." Always claim to be "innocent." A " plea " enters one into a binding contract with the so-called court.	
The judge instructs the jurors to try <i>only the facts</i> (not the code, statue, et cetera). The judge usually gives the statute, regulation, code, rule, etc. that will most likely convict the defendant. If there is any dispute with the so-called law, the judge will declare "I say what the law is". If there is any more dispute with the law, the judge will say, "I will hold you in contempt if you continue in this manner."	




2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Believe it or Not!




9 min. video


Improve your Health




7½ min. video



5 min. video
Also see [Press Release](#)



27 min. video
Off YouTube twice: now on Google.
Also see [Part 2](#)



A promise made, a promise kept

URGENT VOTER ALERT
THIS IS NOT A JOKE!



More Attempts

to **Limit Guns**

Statistics
of this Website

2



Interview by Fox News
Hannity & Colmes 4-8-08.

6 min. video

Jesse wrote a book:

"Don't start the revolution without me."

Jesse was Governor of Minnesota, 1999 to 2003.

Was also a professional wrestler, actor, Navy Seal (UDT), and a former radio and television talk show host

[12-21-2006 Interview](#)



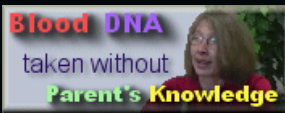
Future Job Market

1½ min. video



Speaks to the **Black** community

10 min. video



Blood DNA taken without **Parent's Knowledge**

Happening in every state 8 min. video

H.R. 3835
Needs Your Help

To restore the Constitution's checks and balances and protections against government abuses as...

free to disregard the judge if they feel he is part of the system of oppression. Jury nullification is an essential protection for citizens against governmental tyranny." --John Tiffany; AmericanFreePress.net

Crime

A crime is an offence against a public law. This word, in its most general signification, comprehends all offences but, in its limited sense, it is confined to felony.

1 Chitty, Gen. Pr. 14.

2. The term misdemeanor includes every offence inferior to felony, but punishable by indictment or by-particular prescribed proceedings.

3. The term offence, also, may be considered as, having the same meaning, but is usually, by itself, understood to be a crime not indictable but punishable, summarily, or by the forfeiture of, a penalty.

Burn's Just. Misdemeanor.

4. Crimes are defined and punished by statutes and by the common law. Most common law offences are as well known, and as precisely ascertained, as those which are defined by statutes; yet, from the difficulty of exactly defining and describing every act which ought to be punished, the vital and preserving principle has been adopted, that all immoral acts which tend to the prejudice of the community are punishable by courts of justice.

2 Swift's Dig.

All from Bouvier's Law Dictionary

Lawful or Judicial determination

"The people's one supreme Court is the county Court of record; the highest Court in the Land. Once it rules, the United States Supreme Courts, Federal or State, can not question the ruling; read the 7th amendment. The State and federal Courts are inferior tribunals to We the People's one supreme Court. The one supreme Court exist wherever the People convene it! ...the People have agreed to convene it at the county seat and the county judge is elect[ed] by the people as the administrator of their one supreme Court of Record. He makes no judicial ruling. He is only there to keep the Court open and see that it is run orderly and enforce the judgments of the Court of the People. When the jury is called and has been sworn from among the People they are the twelve justices sitting as the one supreme Court of Record for the People of that county."

Thomas Jefferson worried about that the Courts would overstep their authority and instead of interpreting the law would begin making law, an

A Respected Juror

Marcella Brooks testimony on video before the National Press Club on November 3, 2006 (14 min 24 sec)

All crimes are considered

Commercial crimes.

"Any of the following types of crimes (Federal or State): Offenses against the revenue laws; burglary; counterfeiting; forgery; kidnapping; larceny; robbery; illegal sale or possession of deadly weapons; prostitution (including soliciting, procuring, pandering, white slaving, keeping house of ill fame, and like offenses); extortion; swindling and confidence games; and attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, or compounding any of the foregoing crimes. Addiction to narcotic drugs and use of marihuana will be treated as if such were commercial crime.".

27 CFR Sec 72.11 (4-1-02 Edition)

"Poor people have access to the courts in the same sense that the Christians had access to the lions."-

Judge Earl Johnson, Jr.

"...there simply is too much law (government) to even function - we cannot get out of our own way, we have tied ourselves in knots - when we were supposed to have a limited government and the purpose of the Constitution was to tie government down to the EXPRESS powers given it. There simply is nothing left that government does not touch, have its hands on, and has not made a mess of. More law, more government will not save us - they are the problem." --from an article written in 2006 by Attorney Gary Zerman, titled: "South Dakota Government Acted In Concert Against The People"

Most courts have become the collection agency for the debt and the corporate government system.

Legal determination

"THERE IS NO LAWYER OR JUDGE THAT CAN OR WILL GO AGAINST THIS COLORABLE SYSTEM!!"

"Under this system, the judge makes "legal determinations" which is in accord with the creditors of this country. No Lawyer (Ly'Er) will demand a "JUDICIAL DETERMINATION". Legal Determinations ARE NOT appealable as are Judicial Determinations!! Legal determinations are anything the judge says they are under their colorable Public policy laws. However, Judicial determinations are in accordance with the Public Law and are subject to CONStitutional constraints."

"Since the Erie RR v. Thompkins decision in 1938, the courts have operating under Public Policy, in the interest of the "nations creditors," instead of Public Law in accord with the CONStitution."

"The judges are not allowed to consider any case law prior to 1938! BUT, there is one case, Clearfield Trust, et al v. US, 318 US 363 (1943), (see attachment). All courts are Administrative Tribunals, operating under a Colorable Admiralty Jurisdiction called Statutory



Almost Too Late !

10½ min. video

My respect goes out to the writers, actors, director, and producer of:



Click to see, why?!

5 min. video



Music Video "Wake Up!"

3½ min. Music video



Accountable for abuses



For you and Me?
Recent proposed Legislation

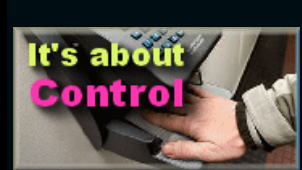


Windfall Tax on Retirement



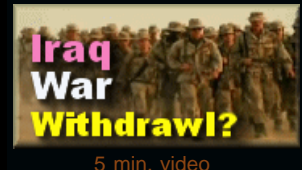
6½ min. video





It's about Control

Cameras and biometrics
Where does it end?
"We are not sheep to be tagged like cattle."
--Jack Slevkoff 2008
We can tell who the owner is by the brand or tag applied.



Iraq War Withdrawl?

5 min. video



Musician
Ted Nugent Right to Defend

3 min. video



Impeachment and Contempt

3 min. video

War On Iraq
Iraqis slaughtered: 1,182,393
Mostly civilians
Sacrificed US soldiers: 4,098
Injured US soldiers: 29,978
Detailed statistics found at: <http://icasualties.org/oif/>
US cost to finance Iraq war: \$527,778,489,742
US Population: 301,139,947
est. July 2007
www.cia.gov
Cost per man, woman, and child in US \$1,752
and still growing
The money could be better spent

oligarchy, the rule of few over many.
The very first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, said, "Americans should select and prefer Christians as their rulers."

Everyone is responsible for their actions and words spoken.
It does not matter what position or title one has in life.

Prisons for incarceration

To Protect Society
The responsibility, accountability, and liability for incarceration belongs to the state.



Inmates are not merchandise to be sold for profit.



The initial purpose of prisons is to protect the people from criminals.

Jurisdiction and all judges are Administrators, and all Lawyers (Pronounced Ly'Er) are officers of the colorable courts."
"The whole judiciary is administering the Bankruptcy of the US, declared by Roosevelt in 1933!!!"
--2004 Billy-Joe..Mauldin

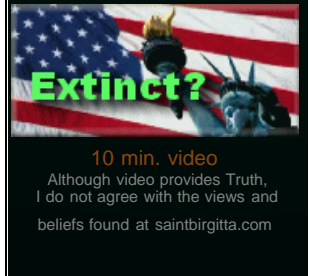
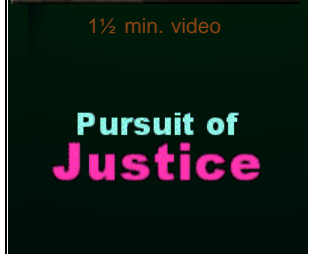
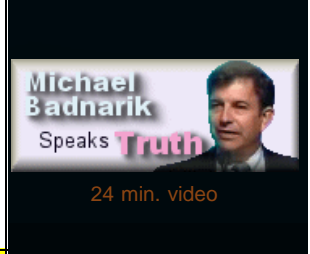
The United States Supreme Court gave full immunity against both civil and criminal prosecution for perjury to Judges, Attorneys, Court Reporters, Stenographers, Law Enforcement Officers and Expert Witnesses, who testify for the STATE.
The deck is stacked against the ordinary people and even the innocent.

PRISONS FOR PROFIT

A Commercial Business
More and more prisons today are privately owned and run as a profit making commercial enterprise creating products and services for sale. It is believed that many judges hold stock or an interest in these privatized prisons. These commercially run prisons do not have the best interest of the Inmates or Staff in mind but the bottom line--PROFIT. They need a continuous supply of low-cost labor (slaves) to produce products in order to increase profits. Even when the crime rate is down, these privateers lobby the appropriate governmental and judicial authorities to increase the incarceration rate in order to add to their already substantial profit taking. There are no checks and balances for monitoring this type of system.

To name a few privateers:

- Corrections Corporation of America (CCA)--founded in 1983, based in Nashville, Tennessee, now operates more than 77 facilities across the USA
- Wackenhut Services, Inc. of Florida
- Wackenhut Corrections Corp.(WCC)--misappropriated over \$700,000 of funds in Texas, which were allocated by that state for drug rehabilitation programs. Directors consists of former members of the FBI and CIA.
- Becon-Wackenhut Inc. of Florida
- U.S. Corrections Corporation, a private company headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky--since 1986
- Rehabilitative Industries & Diversified Enterprises Inc. (PRIDE), a firm based in Clearwater, Florida, now manages all 53 Florida prison work programs as a for profit operation. PRIDE has made a \$4 million profit in one year. Many states considering privatization of prison industries are studying the PRIDE operation. PRIDE products range from optical and dental items to modular office systems.
- Prigor Corporation
- American Correctional Systems, Inc.
- Corrections Development Corporation
- Buckingham Security Ltd.



Symbolism Secret Societies
Open Your Mind Owl 666 Hex
Pyramid Occult Sun
Rising Sun Pentagrams Discs
6 min. video

and deaths prevented

Prisons were also created to punish the guilty for offensive crimes against victims of such crimes.

The amount of punishment was to fit the crime.

There are too many people, in recent times, sent to prisons for the wrong reasons and or were not actually guilty.

As a result of excessive so-called laws, overly zealous, ambitious, and or corrupt prosecutors and judges, ordinary people, innocent people, non-criminals are found guilty of so-called crimes and are sent to prison.

Many people, today, are sent to prison, for one reason or another, to silence them for speaking and sharing information found on this web page.

Many people are not receiving a fair, impartial, and unbiased trial and or not receiving a trial by their peers, especially if it affects the pocket books of such prosecutors and judges such as a tax issue or revenue issue.

- Cornell Corrections--currently has contracts to operate 81 facilities in 17 states and the District of Columbia
- Correctional Services Corp.(CSC)
- UNICOR--a federal government-owned corporation established by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration in 1934 otherwise known as "Federal Prison Industries." UNICOR maintains factories in every Federal Prison in the country. Nationwide sales of "PRISON PRODUCED PRODUCTS" in year 2000 was 8.9 billion dollars. Some products produced are; office furniture, high tech military cable and wiring systems, mattress and boxsprings, camouflage military uniforms, sheets, towels, pillow cases, brooms, mops, et cetera. UNICOR has now partnered with Spire, an American solar company, to manufacture photovoltaic modules and systems.

Best Western International, Inc, a major hotel chain, employs over thirty Arizona prison workers to operate the hotel's telephone reservation system. Trans World Airlines, Inc. hires young offenders from the Ventura Center Training School in California to handle "over the phone" flight reservations.



10 min. video
Be sure to see [Part 2](#) also



CNN-Lou Dobbs report
4 min. video



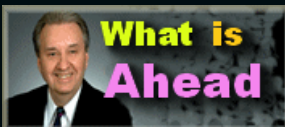
3 min. video



Preacher with bold question provides answers
Give it time to load
49 min. video

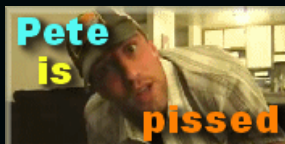


Do not let it happen!

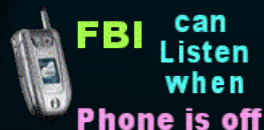


According to CIA
US ranks No. 191

Was no. 163 in 2007
So, who bankrupts the US?
Enemies within?
See who are the healthy nations
You will be surprised



One-man ENTERTAINMENT with a message
6 min. video



1 min. video
Was removed from YouTube.com
But, I happened to record it.
Give it time to load



8 min. video



Tells Harvard Law School "American Legal System Is Corrupt

Guarantees

"QUARANTINES"

Amendment IV

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

Warrantless and unreasonable searches in homes, airports, corporate government facilities, on the roadways (highways), etc.

Government may search and seize Americans' papers and effects without probable cause to assist in so-called terror investigation. --Patriot Act

In Nazi Germany, It started with:
"Where's your papers?"
or *"Your papers, please?"*

History repeats itself. Now, it is:

"ID, please?"

The I.D. called "Real ID" with biometrics is on the horizon and about to be implemented if not already.

Amendment V

"...nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

Property is constantly, currently, and consistently being taken for alleged taxes without due process and without just compensation.

Land and property is now being taken by EMINENT DOMAIN for purposes not originally intended.

"Man can live and satisfy his wants only by ceaseless labor; by the ceaseless application of his of his faculties to natural resources. This process is the origin of property. But it is also true that a man may live and satisfy his wants by seizing and consuming the products of the labor of others. This process is the origin of plunder." "...the proper

All kinds of fees and penalties are being extorted from the people for so-called laws. The people can no longer win in court against the corporate government system. If one tries, one may be held "in contempt of court" and fined

Beyond Recognition"

Blind Allegiance

The Pledge and Flag Salute
Its beginnings and Purpose
**See actual pictures
and movie footage.**
You may be surprised



90 min. video



6 min. video

World leaders
and The Elites'



81.5 minutes

Give it time to load
Sound is not in synch,
It is censored from YouTube



7 Min. video

Was removed from YouTube.com
But, I happened to record it.
Give it time to load



and the CFR
Council of Foreign Relations 4½
min. video



American soldier exposes US policy
in Iraq

purpose of law is to use the power of its collective force to stop this fatal tendency to plunder instead of work. All the measures of the law should protect property and punish plunder."

"Thus it is easy to understand how law, instead of checking injustice, becomes the invincible weapon of injustice. It is easy to understand why the law is used by the legislator to destroy in varying degrees among the rest of the people, their personal independence by slavery, their liberty by oppression, and their property by plunder. This is done for the benefit of the person who makes the law, and in proportion to the power he holds."

--1848 "THE LAW" by Claude Frederic Bastiat, a French economist, statesman, author, and philosopher.

Amendment VI

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury..., and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense."
(does not say "attorney")

States

"state" when used by itself refers to the "Republics" of The nited states of America

All of the states are "Republics"

e.g. "California republic"
"California state"
or just "California"
abbreviated "Calif."

Each state is a nation unto itself

The book "Golden Fleece in Nevada" written by Judge Clel Georgetta states "In 1780, the Continental Congress adopted a resolution requesting the thirteen original states to surrender to the central government (the Confederation) all the lands they claimed in the territory west of their original boundaries [west of the Appalachian Mountains] to the Mississippi, so such lands could be sold to private interests for money to pay off the debt incurred by the Revolutionary War, and then the area would be divided into new states to be admitted into the Confederation on the same basis as the original states." Judge Georgetta continues "The thirteen independent sovereign states were first joined together in a Federal Union known as 'The Confederation' and in 1781 ratified 'The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union.' Those Articles contain the following words: Article II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States in Congress

The Senate examined exactly what powers they had granted the President by amending the Trading With the Enemy Act on March 9, 1933, they concluded that: "Under these powers the president may: seize property; organize and control the means of production; seize commodities; assign military forces abroad; institute martial law [actually: Martial Rule]; seize and control all transportation and communication; regulate the operation of private industry; restrict travel, and in a plethora of particular ways, control the lives of all American citizens."
--Senate Report 93-549.

Government may jail Americans indefinitely without a trial. --Patriot Act

So-called Government may monitor federal prison jailhouse conversations between attorneys and clients, and deny counsel to Americans accused of crimes.

Fascism police-state tactics and methods, similar to Nazi Germany

"The privileges and immunities clause of the Fourteenth Amendment protects very few rights because it neither incorporates any of the Bill of Rights nor protects all rights of individual citizens. See Slaughter-House Cases, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 21 L.Ed. 394 (1873). Instead, this provision protects only those rights peculiar to being a citizen of the federal government; it does not protect those rights which relate to state citizenship."

--Jones v. Temmer, 829 Fed. Supp. 1226 (1993)

STATES

In U.S. Titles and Codes "State" refers to U.S. possessions such as Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.

Politicians and the legislature of each state formed a new so-called government (de facto) and incorporated it into the corporate US commercial corporation a.k.a. UNITED STATES, Inc. and are therefore under its jurisdiction. This so-called government is actually a limited-liability corporation (Limited Liability Act of 1851), chartered in a private, military, international, commercial, admiralty/maritime jurisdiction, entitled "STATE OF..." as evidenced by, inter alia, the change in the seal and the flag and the creation of a new constitution. Each "STATE OF..." collects whole life insurance premiums, known as "taxes," for the International Monetary Fund, based, inter alia, upon the Limited Liability Act of 1851 and the bankruptcy of United States of 1933.

e.g. "State of California"
corporate California
California State
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CA

"In this state" or "within this state" includes all federal areas lying within the exterior boundaries of the state. --Revised Code of Washington



against POTENTIAL WARCRIES
CNN-The Cafferty Report
Immunity from War Crimes
2 min. video

Are We
Witnessing The Rise of



by Chuck Baldwin
Founder-Pastor of
Crossroads Baptist Church
in Pensacola, Florida
February 7, 2006



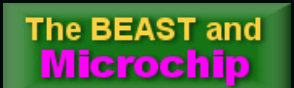
Erasing all borders
9 Min video



The Proposed currency
for US, Mexico, and Canada
similar to the Euro.



"A Nation of Sheep Will Beget
a Government of Wolves"
--Edward R. Murrow



10 min video

**Too True
To be funny**

Hillary Exposed



Media Coverup
10 min video

25 Reasons

9-11 Solved

An Article by
American Free Press

**The
Ling Story**

Sauerkraut Recipe

**9/11
Mysteries**

What You Are Not to Know

Excellent, well made documentary
Produced September 15, 2006
Watch Parts 1, 2, & 3
(1 Hr. 31 min.)

You can also buy the film at
www.amazon.com

**More info on
WTC and 911**

assembled. Article IX. ...provides also that no state shall be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States. There can be no doubt that the purpose of guaranteeing each state its complete sovereignty was to waylay all fear of joining the organization. It was those words of guaranty in the Articles that the various states joined the 'Confederation' in order to form a Central Government to perform certain functions for all the states as a group. It was to be a central government with very limited power."

written by Dick Carver, Nye County Commissioner, member of the Nevada State Land Use Planning Advisory Council

"I am not a "Resident," not a "Non-resident," not in "in this state," not in "within this state" and certainly not a UNITED STATES citizen. If I am to be categorized or described, one can consider Me a living soul in a flesh and blood man on the land, being one of the people of "We the people" or the posterity thereof, a California national, a member of the Sovereign. California, being a nation unto itself, having a republican form of government having limited powers limited by the 1849 Constitution, drafted and adopted by "We the People."
--Jack; Slevkoff

"We the people" created the states (the republics) and are Sovereign over the states.

Certain powers are granted to the state, not by the state.

A document made by the people to create a state purposely limits the powers granted to the state; said document does not measure the rights of those governed, but is to assure that those rights are not trampled upon.

Sovereigns of California are sometimes referred to as "California nationals." In Texas, "Texas nationals," etc.

Likewise, "We the People" made the document that created the government of the United States of America (USA) and are therefore sovereign over the USA government.

Also, people from each individual state of the states united participated in the creation of the document that created the government of the united states of America with limited power. The people from each state accepted and gave their approval with the conditions that each individual state gave up only certain portions of their power on an equal basis but retained all other rights and powers in the states and in the people. Thereby, the states and the people in each state retained their Sovereignty over the government of the united states of America.

The creator is over the created, not vise versa

Indirect tax verses Direct
In some states, an indirect tax is implemented on certain specific items. Other states may not have any indirect tax, while others may have an indirect tax on all items sold by corporations. Although "direct taxes" are unconstitutional,

(RCW) 82.04.200 found at:
<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=82.04.200>

The citizens of the corporate States, federal areas, are "subjects" and are called "**Residents**"
Derived from "res" meaning "the thing" and "ident" meaning "identify." Therefore, a "resident" is "a thing identified."
And, "President" is "P-resident," meaning "Principal resident." enjoined in the federal area.

"**Nonresident**" means any person whose residence is outside "this state" and who is temporarily sojourning "WITHIN THIS STATE". [1961 c 12 §46.04.360. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 37; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.] (emphasis added).

All state governments today are corporations, not sovereign states.

The corporate states were created by incorporation into the corporate federal United States as corporate entities appearing to be similar to and overlaying the republics so as not to rouse suspicion. Likewise, the corporate states created political subdivisions of the corporate state such as COUNTY OF FRESNO being similar to Fresno county but is not; COUNTY OF MADERA being similar to Madera county but is not; etc.

The corporate States are controlled by the corporate US government by its purse strings such as grants, funding, matching funds, revenue sharing, disaster relief, etc.

**Comprehensive Annual
Financial Report**

Section 666 of the Federal Social Security Code (42 USC §666) preempts Idaho's Free Exercise of Religion Act (FERA) and similar acts of other states. Section 666 appears to mandate that every State is to force everyone to identify with a Social Security Number (SSN) in order to obtain a professional license, occupational license, recreational license, driver's license, and or marriage license in spite of ones religious beliefs based on Revelation, Chapter 13, of the Bible which warns of a beast that requires every person to identify with a number in order to engage in a livelihood. The Bible clearly states that one is not to accept a number whereby one cannot buy or sell without it.

Sales Tax and Sales Permit
Only corporations are required to pay sales tax. The sales tax is what corporations are required to pay as creatures of the corporate government. But they got ordinary people volunteering to pay up front sales tax on their behalf directly. They also got other companies to collect sales tax up front as well by making a "Sales Permit" mandatory to enter corporate

**Clinton's
in White House**
You gotta be kidding!!

**Driver's License
Requirements**
Where does it end?
8 min video

Tryphorgetin
A pill that may work for you.
About 2 min.

County Recorders
**commit
Fraud**

**Available
Domain Names**

**AMERICA
Freedom to Fascism**
A film produced by
Aaron Russo

Give it time to load
Slow going in the beginning
but sparks up
(1 Hr. 50 min.)
You can also buy
the film www.freedomtofascism.com

Today's Example of a
Police State
2 min.

**What is a Good
CITIZEN**
Gov't Point of View
Comedy--10 min.

Jordon Maxwell
Point of View
 (About 16 Min.)

Ron Paul
True Patriotism
 Before the U.S.
 House of Representatives
 May 22, 2007
 24½ min.

Go Daddy
 Save on Domains,
 Web Hosting & More!


Best Designer Domains
 Names that mean something
 Have Character
 Are easy to remember

School of Fine Cooking
 Cook Street School of Fine Cooking offers an accelerated Professional Food & Wine Career Program, recreational cooking and wine classes for students of all skill and experience levels.

"indirect taxes" are acceptable. A man or woman still has a choice to pay the tax or not. For example: Do not buy cigarettes if you do not want to pay the indirect tax. a "direct tax" is appropriate only by means of apportionment under certain circumstances.

California state republic Flag

"A nation unto itself"




This flag was first flown on June 14, 1846 in Sonoma, California, by American settlers in California who revolted against Mexican rule in California and proclaimed California an independent republic.

The short-lived revolution ended on July 9, 1846. Eventually the war with Mexico ended May 30, 1848 resulting in a treaty signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico, whereby, Mexico gave up "Alta California" (Upper California). Baja California being the lower California. Monterey was the capital of Alta California under Spanish and Mexican rule since 1775.

They raised a bear flag that had a Red star, red bear, and red stripe from "Old Glory" The animal silhouette was a rendition of the California Grizzly. However, the silhouette did not actually look like a bear. A 4-inch strip of red flannel from a petticoat worn by Mrs. Sears was sewn onto the bottom to produce a red stripe. Blackberry juice was used for the words 'California Republic' in Roman letters. The whole flag was about three by five feet.

Some people believe it was a gold star and bear, But, I did not find anything to substantiate that claim.



The Bear Flag was a result of a [mistake](#)
[\(More Historical info\)](#)

California's original constitution was created by 48 delegates from 10 districts of California who were called to convene a Constitutional convention on September 1, 1849 in the Colton Hall building in Monterey. Said constitution was signed October 13, 1849,

trade shows. A "Sales Permit" is a license and makes one obligated to collect taxes and to turn them over to the corporate government. Out of ignorance, most companies volunteer to obtain a license even though it is voluntary. Most government people enforcing Sales licenses assume every company is required to collect sales tax. That is what the majority believes.

corporate flag of the
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 being incorporated within the corporate UNITED STATES

This flag design was adopted as the official flag of California in 1911 with minor changes in design from time to time. The last known design change was made by prominent California historian and artist Donald Kelley in 1953



This flag is seen today in the corporate STATE OF CALIFORNIA usually with a gold fringe around it or with gold tassels, or with a ball or spear on top of the pole. The Grizzly bear design on the flag is based on Charles Nahl's rendition on paper and in sculpture.

In California, the US corporate military flag is required to be flown above the corporate California flag indicating which one is superior or submissive to the other.

The corporate STATE OF CALIFORNIA is actually a fiction, overlaying the original California state, a republic.

Government buildings of the original state, government buildings of the original counties, and buildings of the original government of the united states of America have been abandoned and become museums until such a time the original government is re-established and or re-convened.

The original constitution was revised and adopted by the corporate State of California on

The Amero
 The North American Union
 The Proposed currency for US, Mexico, and Canada similar to the Euro.

Judge Napolitano speaks out
 June 3, 2007
 (start with Part 3)
[Part 1](#)
[Part 2](#)
[Part 3](#)
[Part 4](#)

Iraq War Nation Building
 This 7 min video is from a BURIED "60 Minutes" INTERVIEW
 War plans were in the works, long BEFORE the 911 World Trade Center attack.
 Iraq had the third largest military force in the World.

Loquat World

How to make Sauerkraut

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How to cure **OLIVES**



adopted by the people of California and went into effect on November 13, 1849. Said 1849 constitution designated San Jose as the capital. California was admitted into the union as a Republic on September 9, 1850.

--Volume 9, Statutes at Large, Page 452
The people created the original state constitution to give the government limited powers and to act on behalf of, and for the people.

Four days after being admitted, the President said "...which, on due examination, is found to be republican in its form of government..."

Preamble
"We the people of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom: in order to secure its blessings, do establish this Constitution"

Adjournment *sine die* occurred in California on April 27, 1863

For more history on California, see: [Alta California](#), [History of California](#), [Raising the Bear Flag](#), [Flag of California](#), [Fremont in the Conquest of California](#), and [California Bear Flag: Symbol of Strength](#)

End California state info

May 7, 1879
It has been revised many times hence.

On April 24, 1950, the U.S. District Court of Appeal, Second District, Division 2, State of California, with Justice Wilson presiding in a case titled "SEI FUJI v. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA" decided that the Law of the Land is the United Nations Charter

Preamble
"We the People of the State of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom: in Order to secure and perpetuate its blessings, do establish this Constitution"

A one word change in the original State (California) constitution from "unalienable" to "inalienable" made rights into privileges

"Inalienable" means government given rights that are "in-a-lien-able" condition.
"Unalienable" means God given rights that are "not-in-a-lien-able" condition.

Unalienable vs Inalienable

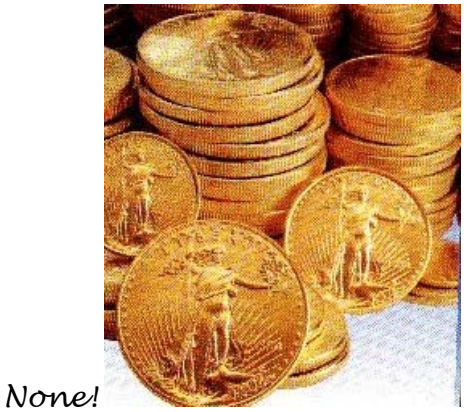
End STATE OF CALIFORNIA info



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Debt

DEBT



None!

Wouldn't it be nice to be completely out of debt, personally, and have a stash of gold and silver besides?

"The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, Public Debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work instead of living on public assistance." - Cicero, 55 B.C.

Trillions of Dollars

First bankruptcy was in 1863

In 1865 the total debt was
\$2,682,593,026.53

A portion was funded by 1040 Bonds to run not less than 10 nor more than 40 years at an interest rate of 6%

When a government goes bankrupt, it loses its sovereignty.

In 1933 the U.S. declared bankruptcy, as expressed in Roosevelt's Executive Orders 6073, 6102, 6111, and 6260, House Joint Resolution 192 (Public Law 73-10) of June 5, 1933 (31 U.S.C. 463) confirmed in Pery v. U.S. (1935) 294 U.S. 330-381, 79 LEd 912, as well as 31 United States Code (USC) 5112, 5119, Senate Report 93-549, and 12 USC 95a.

Members of Congress are the official Trustees in the bankruptcy of the US and the re-organization

Match ALL words

Taxation

TAXATION

Limits on taxation

Direct taxes such as "Income taxes" are unlawful

Indirect taxes such as excise tax and import duties are lawful

No limit on taxation

Income taxes are legal when properly applied and are ever increasing.

Other taxation's such as inheritance taxes are legal when properly applied.

Definition of Human Being



IRS's 1040 forms originated from the 1040 Bonds used for funding Lincoln's War

1863, first year income tax was ever used in history of US. The taxes were collected to help finance the civil war.

The IRS is a collection arm of the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve was created by the Bank of England in 1913 and is owned by foreign investors. The IRS is not listed as a government agency like other government agencies.

The IRS does not have franking privileges. The IRS has to pay for postage.

United States Government Attorneys deny Internal Revenue Service is agency of United States Government.

Documentation

The Constitution provides for imposts, excises, and duties to provide funds for running the government.

Jesus asked Peter "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes--from their own sons or from others?" Peter replied "From others. Jesus said to him "Then the sons are exempt" --Matthew 17:25

Understanding Jurisdiction

"Taxes are not raised to carry on wars, wars are raised to carry on taxes."
--Thomas Paine 1737-1809

"All individual Income Tax revenues are gone before one nickel is spent on services taxpayers expect from government"
--Ronald Reagan, 1984

Grace Commission Report provided the information Reagan used

This corporate Government is actually funded by the trillions of dollars collected from duties on import/exports and the excise taxes placed on cigarettes, Liquors and other products. Not one cent of the trillions collected from income taxes by IRS runs the government. Highways are funded by Gasoline taxes. The Postal Service is run like a business and is funded by postage (stamps and the like).

Internal Revenue Laws were Repealed in 1939

What former IRS agents have to say:

Sherry Peel Jackson, CPA

Joe Bannister and John Turner

County Recorders commit fraud together with IRS.

Fraud

"Our federal tax system is, in short, utterly impossible, utterly unjust, and completely counterproductive it reeks with injustice and is fundamentally un-American... it has earned a rebellion and it's time we

Benefits

BENEFITS

Unalienable rights

(are "not-a-lien-able" condition) meaning "can not be liened" in other words, "cannot be infringed upon" (rights that can not be taken away or lost)

Inalienable rights

(are "in-a-lien-able" condition)

Government given rights that are really Privileges. Can be taken away at any time

Composed of:

God given rights,
Substantial rights,
Fundamental rights,
Natural rights (breathe, locomotion etc.)

Persons (legal fictions) have only inalienable rights, which may be surrendered or transferred without the consent of the one possessing such rights.

So-called Benefits are as follows:

Flesh and blood people have unalienable rights granted to them by their Creator, which can never be sold, given away, or contracted away.

1. Social Security Applying for and receiving an "SS card" makes one a member of the "US DC Communist Party" and is eligible for benefits of the party membership. Since one is eligible for benefits, 100% of ones earnings (wages) belongs to the party and the party determines what they will keep and how much you will get back. (You paid all your working life and there are no guarantees that there will be money for you to help in retirement)

The Supreme Court ruled that Congress has no constitutional authority whatsoever to legislate for the social welfare of the worker. The result was that when Social Security was instituted, it had to be treated as strictly voluntary. [Railroad Retirement Board vs Alton Railroad](#) (1935) 295 US 330

There is no law that requires one to get a Social Security card.

Unalienable vs Inalienable

Right to Enjoy:

1. Life
2. Liberty
3. pursuit of Happiness
4. full property ownership.

2. Medicare
3. Medicaid
4. Grants
5. Disaster relief
6. Food Stamps
7. Licenses and Registration (Permission)
8. Privileges only, no Rights
9. Experimentation on citizens without their consent.



Corporate government takes your money and gets credit for helping others. Politicians in return create more such programs to get more votes. Eventually there is no more to collect and give. Everyone becomes takers and there are no givers. The government then collapses within. That is why democracy never survives.

"The Master does not ask his servants or slaves for benefits."

No US benefits--Every living soul is responsible for themselves and has the option of helping others.

Each living soul gives accordingly to help others in need and receives the credit or gives the credit to his Maker and Provider.

No tax burdens or government debt obligations.

Records

RECORDS

Your SPACE Here
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Your SPACE Here
Click here for information

Notary Service
Hanford to Madera, Calif.
(559) 999-7463
Rick Page

Your BANNER Here
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Your SPACE Here
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Your BANNER Here
Click here for information

Your SPACE Here
Click here for information

Ex-officio clerks

County Clerk is also Clerk of the superior court, (i.e. a court of **common law**) and "courts of record"

Records are also kept by Sovereigns such as in a family Bible

County Clerk

Recorders Office

Created by statute to keep track of the corporate government's holdings which are applied as collateral to the increasing debt. The written records are a continuation of the "Doomsday Book" which keeps track of the Crown of England's holdings. The "Doomsday Book" originated as a written record of the conquered holdings of king William, which was later the basis of his taxes and grants.

Property recorded at the recorders office makes the corporate de facto government "holders in due course"

Your TV is not recorded there, therefore you are "holder in due course" for the TV.

Your SPACE Here
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Notice
Ecumenical Redemption International Church in Saskatchewan, Canada
Contractual Agreement
Deregistration from de facto
Click here for details

Record the date family members are born, married, and the date they pass on in the **Family Bible**

"Birth Certificate" is **required**. It creates a trust and puts one into commerce as a **fictional persona**

The "Death Certificate" closes the trust


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Common Law Marriage

1. Agreement of the two parties and consent of the father of the bride is all that is really required to be married, and/or
2. Married by a minister or pastor constitutes a marriage, and/or
3. Living together for more than 7 years constitutes a marriage.

A ceremony was optional. The seven years is only encountered when one of the two requirements for common law marriage was missing, presumably the consent of the father. The seven years is the law of Jubilee which is the forgiveness of the obligation to allow the marriage to be lawful.

Certificate of Matrimony



Both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were married without a marriage license. They simply recorded their marriages in their Family Bibles.

"Marriage License".
Invokes the Corporate State to be the third party to your union and whatever you conceive is theirs and becomes their offspring (children). That is why they can take away your children at any time at their discretion. The State leaves them in your custody and care unless or until they find reason not to.

Definitions from
BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY, 4th Ed:

"license"
"The permission by competent authority to do an act which without such permission, would be illegal."

"marriage license"
"A license or permission granted by public authority to persons who intend to intermarry."
What if you apply and the State says "no"?

"Intermarry" is "Miscegenation"

"Miscegenation"
"mixture of races; marriage between persons of different races, as between a white and a Negro."
Some marriage licenses will actually state that its purpose is for interracial marriage.

"marriage certificate"
"An instrument which certifies a marriage, and is executed by the person officiating at the marriage; it is not intended to be signed by the parties, but is evidence of the marriage.
It seems that a certificate would be more appropriate than a license.

Pastor Matt Trawhalla

Secular Contract

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Ecumenical Redemption International Church in Saskatchewan, Canada
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Secure your
data and
transactions.



Property

Full and complete ownership

1. Allodial Title--Land Patents--Allodial Freeholder
2. Can not be taxed (Only voluntary)
3. You are king of your castle



4. No government intrusion, involvement, or controls

Free Enterprise

The people engage in free enterprise by trading ones labor for another's labor.

There is no filing, registering, or obtaining permission or licensing from any government structure.

The people are responsible for themselves and

"Marriage is a civil contract to which there are three parties-the husband, the wife and the state."
--Van Koten v. Van Koten. 154 N.E. 146.

PROPERTY

Privilege to use

1. Fee title--**Feudal** Title
2. Grant Deed and Trust Deed Note: GRANTOR and GRANTEE in all caps are **fictional persona**
3. Property tax (Must pay)
4. Other taxes (such as water district taxes)
5. Subject to control by government
6. Vehicle Registration
(The incorporated State owns vehicles on behalf of US)
7. Property and vehicles are collateral for the government debt

"The ultimate ownership of all property is in the State"

"All the property of this country now belongs to the state and will be used for the good of the state."-- FDR, 1933

Mortgage

Latin word "Mort" means 'death' and "gage" means 'pledge'. Therefore, a mortgage is a death pledge. Most people never really own their house, even unto death. End up paying more than twice the initial cost of the house. A mortgage is designed so that someone else will make money on you during your lifetime.

You create the money
for the bank loan

CORPORATISM

Composed of, encourages, and creates a corporate structure of corporations and big businesses that use people as human resources to further its goal to grow and expand and become more powerful thereby eliminating competition and becoming more controlling.

The thing created (the corporation) becomes more powerful than the creator (man) who created it. Man is no longer free but is subservient (a slave) to the corporate structure. The corporate structure needs to reduce the wages of its human resources to decrease cost to increase profit to keep growing.

Corporations eat each other and grow bigger and more powerful thereby allowing fewer persons having big egos controlling the lives of the common folk from cradle to grave.

Corporations have no feelings. Corporations primary purpose is to grow and are thereby less responsible and less sympathetic towards the people, thereby rely on and utilize insurance or other resources such as the corporate government to bail themselves out of irresponsible critical

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Best
Designer Domains
Names that mean something
Have Character
Are easy to remember

Secure your
data and
transactions.



Links
that may be
of interest

The Modern Red Hen

A parable
Enjoy!

each other.

The people do not rely on insurance to overcome irresponsibility and capriciousness.

situations.

Most often, people start with a free enterprise but choose to be incorporated into the government structural system. To incorporate is to become a part of something bigger. Therefore, corporations are creatures created by the so-called government and are no longer a free enterprise. Corporations become big uncontrollable monsters who eventually control government by putting their people into office to maintain control. These monsters got out of their cages when they made fictions such as corporations equal with people by calling them "persons" having the rights equal to people. Most corporations eat each other up and become huge monsters, thereby creating monopolies that stifle "capitalism" in its true meaning. Corporations do not want competition. They want to eliminate competition using their power and politicians they purchased. They want to capture the system and use it for their benefit.

Common Way

ROADWAYS

Sovereigns have a right to use the common way such as the traveled way (Public right-of-way) for locomotion purposes.

The right to travel is an ancient right; acknowledged by the Magna Carta.

The right to travel was recognized in the Articles of Confederation.

Drivers Licenses are required, because driving is a privilege.

First state law requiring all drivers to pass an exam before receiving a [commercial use privilege] license took effect in July of 1913, in New Jersey

Beginning in 1920, courts began to hold that driving is not a right, but a privilege that the state may revoke

"Liberty of the common way"

May lose licensed privilege or have it suspended at the whim of government

No "Driver's License" is required for private, personal, and recreational use of the common way.

A "driver's license" can only be required for those people using the common way for hire for commercial purposes such as Taxi Drivers, Truck Drivers, Bus Drivers, Chauffeurs, etc.

Must comply with the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Vehicle Code, which is ever changing, and the Highway Patrol.

Even the ordinary "Class C" Driver's license is a "commercial" license.

[See document](#)

Private Conveyance
or "Private Car"
--a mode of conveyance or a means of locomotion for travel purposes; being private and not for hire.

"Car" is short for "carriage" such as "horseless carriage".

Carriage is an English word derived from Old North French word "carier" which means "to carry"

Hackney is a coach or carriage for hire and "hackneying" means "to hire out."
--TheFreeDictionary.com

By law, the state can only regulate intrastate commerce.

Motor vehicle

"(6) Motor vehicle. - The term "motor vehicle" means every description of carriage or other contrivance propelled or drawn by mechanical power and used for commercial purposes on the highways in the transportation of passengers, passengers and property, or property or cargo."

"(10) Used for commercial purposes. - The term "used for commercial purposes" means the carriage of persons or property for any fare, fee, rate, charge or other consideration, or directly or indirectly in connection with any business, or other undertaking intended for profit."

-- Title 18, Section 31(a)(6) & (10) United States Code

"The Motor Vehicle Act (Stats. 1913, p.639) is not unconstitutional...in that it requires professional chauffeurs, or drivers of motor vehicles for hire, to pay an annual license tax, but exempts all others operators of such vehicles from such tax and regulation." In re Stork, (1914), 167 C. 294.

"A chauffeur is one who is paid compensation for his services." Hunton v. California Portland Cement Co. (1942), 50 C.A. 2d 684, 123 P.2d 947.

By law, the government of the united states of America can only regulate interstate commerce.

Tom Hyland Story

Bovier's Law Dictionary describes TRANSPORTATION as: "punishment. In the English law, this punishment is inflicted by virtue of sundry statutes; it was unknown to the common law. 2 H. Bl. 223. It is a part of the judgment or sentence of the court, that the party shall be transported or sent into exile. 1 Ch. Cr. Law, 789 to 796: Princ. of Pen. Law, c. 4 2."

"Guest"--One who comes along for pleasure, recreational, or private reasons without cost or without having to pay.

"Passenger"--One who pays, employs, or hires someone to transport themselves to another location

"Traveling on the common way"--The act of locomotion and conveyance on the common way for private, personal, and recreational purposes

"Driving on the road"--The act of propelling a motor vehicle on the roadway or highway by one who is employed or hired to transport goods or passengers.

"Control"--The act of having power over locomotion or to direct locomotion.

"Drive"--The act engaging locomotion and control of an automobile, bus, or truck by one who is employed or hired to transport goods or passengers. Operating Motor Vehicles on the roadways for commercial purposes.

"Controlling the Car"--The act of having power over a car in a safe manner as it is propelled.
"Steering the car"--Directing the path of the car as it is propelled.

"Driving the truck"--The act of controlling or steering a truck by one who is employed or hired to transport for commercial purposes.

"Traveler"--One who uses any means of locomotion, from point to point, for private and personal reasons, convenience, and pleasure.

"Driver"--One who is for hire or employed to transport goods or passengers upon the roadways and highways.

Are you a Driver?

"Traveling" and "Locomotion" are unalienable rights

"Driving" is a licensed privilege that can be taken away at any time.

"Travelers"--A number of people who use some form of locomotion, from point to point, for private and personal reasons, convenience, and pleasure.

"TRAFFIC"--. Commerce, trade, sale or exchange of merchandise, bills, money and the like.
--Bovier's Law Dictionary of 1914

Peace Officer
Maintains the peace and the safety of the people

Police Officer
A re-venue agent that enforces corporate government contracts and protects the assets of the corporate government including human resources. Compels performance, no injured party necessary. One who has policing powers as found in a "POLICE STATE" i.e. Nazi Germany.

Americans have the right to travel freely in their cars...

Chicago Motor Coach v. Chicago, 169 NE 221
Thompson v. Smith, 154 SE 579
Kent v. Dulles, 357 US 116, 125
Schactman v. Dulles 96 App DC 287, 225 F2d 938, at 941
1890 Swift v. City of Topeka
1889 Indiana Supreme Court, Holland v. Bartch
King v. New Rochelle Housing Authority (1971)
Rumford v. City of Berkeley, 31 Cal. 3d 545, 550 (1982)

"Law enforcement" out there has changed drastically over the past few years. It used to be that you would be pulled over for bad or dangerous driving to protect other drivers and property.

Today's traffic court is nothing more than a collection agency for the government. The cops are the collection agents, and the judge is the "Head Collector" who plays God over the lives of unsuspecting Americans.

A "Good" motorcycle cop will write as many as 75-100 tickets in one day with his trusty radar

The state cannot issue a license or charge a fee for the exercise of that right...

Murdock v. Pennsylvania, 319 US 105

If the state does try to license or charge for the exercise of a right, the people may engage in that right with impunity...

Shuttlesworth v. Birmingham, AL, 373 US 262
Miller v. US, 230 F 486, at 489
Sherer v. Cullen, 481 F 946

A right cannot be made into a privilege...

Hertado v. California, 110 US 516, U.S Supreme Court
Bennett v. Boggs, 1 Baldw 60
Article Six of the U.S. Constitution

All laws repugnant to the Constitution are null and void.

Marbury v. Madison, 5 US 137
Miranda v. Arizona, 384 US 436, 491

gun... (Hmrrrrrr...10 cops each write 75 tickets totaling 750 tickets @ \$200 each = Why that's \$150,000 PER DAY!!)"
--James R. Butler, Beat The Court.Com

DUI checkpoints and other traffic stops bring in a lot more revenue to the cities via car impoundments. Tow truck companies are in bed with the city police for monetary gain. Both are committing theft and are in violation of the RICO Act (racketeering) and the Hobbs Act (Extortion). Extortion is defined as "the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear, or under color of official right." 18 U.S.C. § 1951

"Between February 1, 2002 and April 30, 2007, the Maywood Police Department towed and impounded some 17,773 vehicles."
--News Release by Attorney General, California

Cities collect an impound release fee varying from \$100 to \$500 for each returned vehicle or sell the car at auction. Therefore, 17,773 vehicles at \$100+ each = Almost 2 million dollars collected in three months time not including citation fines and penalties.

City of Fresno collects \$184 release fee plus \$110 for driving without a license, suspended license, or under the influence. - Fresno Bee

A Maxim of Law

Free people have a right to travel on the roads which are provided by their servants for that purpose, using ordinary transportation of the day.

"The streets of a city belong to the people of the state, and every citizen of the state has a right to the use thereof,.... "The use of highways for purposes of travel and transportation is not a mere privilege, but a common and fundamental right, of which the public and individuals cannot rightfully be deprived ... [A]ll persons have an equal right to use them for purposes of travel by proper means, and with due regard for the corresponding rights of others..."

--Rumford v. City of Berkeley, supra, 31 Cal.3d 545, 549-550 and: City of Poway v. City of San Diego (1991) 229 Cal.App.3d 847, 280 Cal.Rptr. 368

VEHICLE Codes do not have an enacting clause on their face to qualify as a law that binds People to obedience.

Taking on the restrictions of a license requires the surrender of a right.

Mail

MAIL

Post Office of the united states of America

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Created in Philadelphia under Benjamin Franklin on July 26, 1775 by decree of the Second Continental Congress. Based on the Postal Clause in Article One of the United States Constitution, empowering Congress "To establish post offices and post roads," it became the Post Office Department (USPOD) in 1792. It was part of the Presidential cabinet and the Postmaster General was the last one in the United States presidential line of succession.

The Postal Reorganization Act signed by President Richard Nixon on August 12, 1970, replaced the cabinet-level Post Office Department with the independent United States Postal Service. The Act took effect on July 1, 1971. wikipedia

wikipedia

Non-domestic
 Mail that moves outside of D.C. its possessions and territories

DOMESTIC
 Mail that moves between D.C., the regions of the US, and possessions and territories of the U.S.

Zip Code never required must never be used and CA, NV, AZ, etc. must never be used
 spell out completely or abbreviate the state properly in upper and lower case letters such as "Calif." or "Nev." or "Ariz."

Zip Codes are required when using "federal regions" such as CA, NV, AZ, etc.



3 cents--Sovereign to Sovereign labeled properly and is from general Post to general Post. "Non-domestic" inscribed on both labels. (Old 3 cent postage stamps preferred) Otherwise, current Postal Service rates

Cost is 44 cents for first class in 2009.

Write out the state completely such as "California" or abbreviated "Calif.". Never use "CA" for the mailing location of a Sovereign or in your return mailing location.

Must now use "jurisdictional regions or zones" such as "CA", "NV", "AZ", etc. that are not abbreviations but are "two-digit designations" of the federal fictional overlays (Counterfeits) of the states.

Non-use of Zip

The latest cite for the statement "zip codes may be omitted" is now "[DMM 602 1.3e \(2\)](#)" (last printing on January 8, 2006). previously it was "DMM 122.32" "DMM" is "DOMESTIC MAIL MANUAL"

The U.S. Postal Service cannot discriminate against the non-use of ZIP codes, pursuant to the Postal Reorganization Act, Section 403 (Public Law 91-375).

Samples of Mail Received

18 USC Sec. 1726. Postage collected unlawfully Whoever, being postmaster or other person authorized to receive the postage of mail matter, fraudulently demands or receives any rate of postage or gratuity or reward other than is provided by law for the postage of such mail matter, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

AMENDMENTS
 1994 - Pub. L. 103-322 substituted "fined under this title" for "fined not more than \$100".
 Last modified: April 13, 2006

Titles of Nobility
 Do not use or accept titles of nobility such as "Mister" meaning "Master" (has authority over

Zip Code Implementation

"on July 1, 1963, non-mandatory ZIP codes were announced for the whole country"

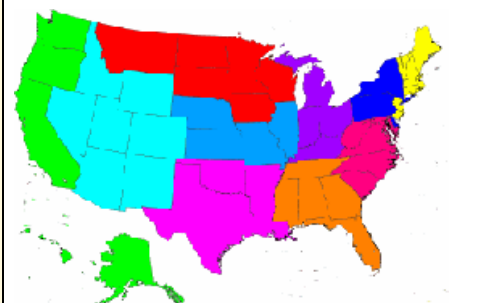
"In 1967, these were made mandatory for second- and third-class bulk mailers, and the system was soon adopted generally."

"a cartoon character, Mr. ZIP, to promote use of the ZIP code."

In 1983, "add-on code 9998 for mail addressed to the postmaster"

"9999 for general delivery"

--[Wikipedia](#)



Federal Districts

The corporate de facto government utilizes the "ZIP-Code" system to prove that one actually resides in a "federal district of the District of Columbia". This is why the IRS and other government agencies (federal, state, and political subdivisions thereof) assert jurisdiction by sending letters and notices with zip codes required. They claim that this speeds up the mail, but this is a sly and subtle deception. It is also prima facie evidence that one is "a subject" of corporate U.S. Congress, a "citizen of the District of Columbia", and is a "resident" in one of the several States although not a state

servants) and abbreviated "Mr."; "Esquire" abbreviated "esq."; and others like "Missus", "Madame" (non-English nationality) or "Mesdames" meaning "Mistress, feminine version of Master " and abbreviated "Mrs."; "Missy" meaning "unmarried young mistress" and abbreviated "Miss."

Citizen or National of that state.

the IRS has adopted ZIP code areas as "Internal Revenue Districts". See the Federal Register, Volume 51, Number 53, for Wednesday, March 19, 1986

The corporate so-called government attempts to assert jurisdiction by sending letters with ZIP codes, when jurisdiction would otherwise be lacking.

Patrons receive mail by "general delivery" or "general Post" at main post office or post offices in existence prior to the creation of corporate government

Post used since Biblical times

Since July 1st, 1863 Customers receive "Free delivery" to any location having a mailing address or PO Box. Rural Free Delivery became an official service in 1896

This is a corporate government benefit. Receiving a benefit admits that one has a contract with the corporate government. There is usually an exchange, consideration, or payment made for a "benefit." So, what price is paid for this benefit? If the price is "loss of freedom and liberty". Is the price too high?

Examples of Mailing Labels:

John-David: Christian
general Post (general delivery)
Franklin [Main] Post Office
California state
[NON-DOMESTIC to corp. US]

John David
general Post-office
Franklin
California state

John-David; Christian
general Post
Franklin Post Office
California

John-David; Christian
in care of temporary Post location
1324 West Weldon Avenue, Suite 7
Franklin [Non-Domestic]
California

John; Christian
c/o 1324 West Weldon Avenue, Suite 7
Franklin [Non-Domestic]
California [Zip exempt]

Some people who are afraid to leave off a zip use the format below. I prefer not to use any zip at all unless out of absolute necessity (rarely). I receive hundreds of mail and packages without a zip code, without delay.

John David; Christian
in care of 1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin,
California republic [near 54321]
Non-Domestic

John David, Christian
c/o 1324 West Weldon Avenue, Suite 7
Franklin
Nevada state [Postal zone 54321]
NON-DOMESTIC

Anything in brackets or boxes is considered to be excluded from the rest of the document.

JOHN C. DOE
1324 WEST WELDON
FRANKLIN NV 66633

DOE JOHN C
1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin, NV 66633

JOHN C. DOE
1324 WEST WELDON
FRANKLIN NV 66633

JOHN DOE
GENERAL DELIVERY
FRANKLIN MAIN POST OFFICE
FRANKLIN NV 66633

John C. Doe
General Delivery
Franklin Main Post Office
Franklin, Nevada 66633

Mr. John C. Doe
1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin, NV 66633

Mr. John C. Doe
c/o 1324 West Weldon Ave.
Franklin, NV 66633

John C. Doe
1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin, Nevada 66633

John Doe
1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin, NV 66633

Mr and Mrs. John Doe
c/o 1324 West Weldon Avenue
Franklin, NV [66633]

Note: All caps and/or Middle initial makes the name a fiction-- a non-living entity

Schools

Human Resource DEVELOPMENT

Enroll your child "sign up," "join"

Register your child "put into inventory"

Public Schools are actually government schools paid for by forced taxation

Home taught

Community or town schools

Parochial schools

Children who knew how to handle a gun safely, went to school with one for protection along the way.

Prayer was respected

Children learned according to their abilities.

Children were taught to respect their elders.

Discipline was respected and taught in the schools as well as at home.

The rod was not spared.

The "Ten Commandments" were respected and cherished as good rules to live by.

No worshipping of a flag

No blind obedience

No government bureaucracy

No bureaucratic costs

No additional overhead cost

No government control

No superfluous costs or spending

whether they want it or not.

Teaches blind obedience to the central STATE.
Similar to Nazi Germany.

"Give me a child and I'll shape him into anything."
— B. F. Skinner, Jewish psychologist and pioneer of behaviorism "...modern methods of propaganda."

"The populace will not be allowed to know how its convictions were generated. When the technique has been perfected, every government that has been in charge of education for a generation will be able to control its subjects securely without the need of armies or policemen..."
-- Bertrand Russell, "The Impact of Science on Society"

"...in the communist ideology ... education is tied directly to jobs — control of the job being the critical control point in an authoritarian state."
--Eugene Maxwell Boyce, Professor of Educational Administration at the University of Georgia, The Coming Revolution in Education, 1983.

Pledge of Allegiance and Flag Salute

Pledge of Allegiance (a loyalty oath) to one nation. Not to one particular state of the several states or to God.
"one nation, indivisible"
"one nation under God"
Which God? whose God?

Individualism and the love of liberty of the American founding fathers would always stand in the way of achieving the socialist utopia

"National Public School Celebration" in 1892 was the first national propaganda campaign

Originally, "students were taught to recite the Pledge with their arms outstretched, palms up, similar to how Roman citizens were required to hail Caesar, and not too different from the way in which Nazi soldiers saluted their Führer. This was the custom in United States public schools from the turn of the twentieth century until around 1950, when it was apparently decided by public school officials that the Nazi-like salute was in bad taste."
-- Thomas J. DiLorenzo author of The Real Lincoln: A New Look at Abraham Lincoln, His Agenda, and an Unnecessary War (Forum/Random House, 2002) and professor of economics at Loyola College in Maryland.

The origin of this practice was instituted by Pharaoh Akhenaten in his worship of the glory of Aten, the Sun Disc (the Sun god).

In 1867, President Andrew Johnson signed legislation creating the first Department of Education. Its main purpose was to collect information and statistics about the nation's schools. However, many people feared the Department would exercise too much control over local schools and called for its abolition. Thus, the new Department was demoted to an Office of Education in 1868. In 1979,

No government influence programming children's minds and belief system.

No Secret Society hidden agenda

No special interests hidden agenda

Freedom to teach without government influence or intervention

Congress passed Public Law 96-88 creating the Department of Education.

In the 1860's, a budget of \$15,000 and four employees handled education fact-finding. By 1965, the Office of Education employed more than 2,113 persons with a budget of \$1.5 billion. As of early 2002, the U.S. Department of Education has about 4,800 employees and a budget of \$54.5 billion.

Private Schools

Colleges and universities were originally privately owned and run by religious groups

Usually opened and closed with prayer to God

Colleges and universities changed over to government control through grants and other privileges such as accreditation.

Guns

GUNS

Sovereigns have a **right** to own and use guns--"Right to bear arms" against "enemies foreign and domestic".

The founding fathers knew the importance of protecting themselves from governments who get out of hand.

This government wants to disarm the Citizens so as to have complete control and power. Every tyrannical government in the past has taken away the guns to prevent any serious opposition or rebellion. History continues to repeat itself because the new generations who come along don't know or tend to forget about the past and will say it will not happen here.

[Guns Australia](#)

2nd Amendment

"...the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

[Guns are Tools](#)

"Those who hammer their guns into plows will plow for those who do not."
--Thomas Jefferson

"Those who trade liberty for security have neither."
- John Adams

Free men do not ask permission to bear arms.

You only have the rights you are willing to fight for.

When you remove the people's right to bear arms, you create slaves.

The Second Amendment is in place in case the politicians ignore the others.

64,999,987 firearms owners killed no one yesterday.

Disregards the 2nd Amendment or justifies what weapons should not be legal. Ever changing and ever restrictive.

Protecting One's Self

The corporate government system requires:
Registration of guns.
Means to bring them into the corporate registrar.

Then becomes the property of the corporate government, and that is why they can take them at any time.

The constitutions make no mention of registering guns.

If any of you saw the motion picture called "**Red Dawn**" would realize that the enemy finds these lists and then goes door to door collecting all of the guns.

[Gun Control--Human Cost](#)

Militia

MILITARY

Amendment II

A well regulated militia being necessary to the

Armed Forces

"I believe:that being in the Militia, based on the Declaration of Independence, declares and maintains one's Sovereignty, but joining the US military, no matter which

security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.
--Constitution for the united states of America

"The Second Amendment (Amendment II) to the United States Constitution is the part of the United States Bill of Rights that declares a well-regulated militia as "being necessary to the security of a free State" and prohibits infringement of "the right of the people to keep and bear arms."

"In United States v. Cruikshank, 92 U.S. 542 (1875), the Supreme Court held that the Second Amendment is only a limit on the power of the federal government, but some people contend that it also limits the power of each State.[4] In the landmark decision in District of Columbia v. Heller (2008), the Supreme Court ruled a Washington, D.C. ordinance, that was an outright firearm ban, to be unconstitutional. In doing so, the Court identified a personal right of self defense protected by the Second Amendment.
--Wikipedia

An oath most Americans take today and agree to:

"I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic"

department (Navy, Army, Marines, etc), one loses all rights and privileges and becomes the property of the US so-called government to do with what they may; therefore a subject (slave). Everyone in the military have volunteered even if and when summoned under the draft system. When they ask for everyone to take a step forward or backward, or give an oath, it is a voluntary action. At that moment, is when one is actually inducted. The one that does nothing or the opposite maintains all rights and privileges. Yes, they will try to persuade you or make you look bad in front of everyone else, and may even yell at you. But, if you maintain your stance, in spite of it all, you will most likely be released: cognizant of your belief and understanding."
--Jack the son of Jack of the family Slevkoff sent above in an email on the Third day of the Eleventh month, 2008

Infantry

derived from the word infant.

Infant: One under the age of twenty-one years. Co. Litt. 171

--Bouvier's Law Dictionary

Infancy: Minority; the state of a person who is under the age of legal majority,--at common law, twenty one years.

--Black's Law Dictionary, 6th Ed.



Faith and Worship

RELIGION

Churches exist alone.
No permission of government required.



1st Amendment

Protects against government making a law that would respect an establishment of religion or prohibit the free exercise of ones belief.

The French and other romance languages get their word for church from the Greek word "ekklesia," meaning "called out" referring to all those, living or dead, who have accepted what Jesus, The Christ, has offered.

"I do not go to a specific church but am just one member of The Church."
--Jack; Slevkoff 1986

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This government wants to control religious institutions by having them come under their jurisdiction as

corporations
under

Section 501(c)(3).

under Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code (U.S. Code)

This is to prevent the clergy, Pastors, Ministers, etc. from having any political influence on its members or the public in general. This government regulates what is to be said and not to be said.

These churches also display the gold fringe flag.

Their faith is in the government and not in God. They exist by permission of this government not



by God alone.

They signed away their Birthright for a so-called benefit:

"Tax-exempt corporation."

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"The labourer is worthy of his hire."

Luke 10:7

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"Make yourselves sheep and the wolves will eat you" -- Benjamin Franklin

"Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins"

Revelation 18:4

"If my people, which are called by my name, humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof."

Psalms 24:1



"We fought the Revolutionary War for no taxation without representation, seems to me we are much worse off today, because we are heavily taxed, and only the king's corporations control this Country, together with mob rule, of the special interests"--James Montgomery; A.D. 2001

"The Truth As I See It" No. 2

Pertaining to HIERARCHY
Who submits to who

"I believe that America is the greatest country in history and for good reasons, but America has been changing and not for the better. Our free society has been falling prey to a more repressive system with methods for the increased control of people. The return of groups and individuals to the controlling ideology of Imperialism and Marxism using the structures of Corporation, Socialism and Democracy. The result is that this nation's foundational principles based on the ideology of Liberty are now in danger of extinction."

--Darren Perkins; A.D. 2002

"There are many people involved in the fight to return our country to a sovereign nation and there are many people who are just plain sick and tired of the "governmental" controls placed on our every day lives. The "government"

"You will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed, if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not so costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance for survival. There may be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no chance of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves." -- Winston Churchill

"Education is the best security for maintaining liberties, and, a nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny reigns."-- Benjamin Franklin, Autobiography

"It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man who knows what the law is today can guess what it will be tomorrow." -- James Madison, Federalist no. 62, February 27, 1788

"If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget ye were our countrymen."-- Samuel Adams

"The problem isn't what we don't know, the problem is what we believe to be so and isn't so."-- Will Rogers

"..it does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds.." -- Samuel Adams

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." -- Benjamin Franklin

"As such, the United States now no longer exists as "united states"; rather, it is now simply a single entity known as "America" whose state-boundaries are now secondary, and which exists as a shell of its former self. It is no longer a land of peace and prosperity, except what little can be maintained in an atmosphere of violence and hostile competition as its inhabitants fight for freedom against one another, each struggling via the law of the jungle to "tax or be taxed, regulate or be regulated." This is only possible in an oppressive, captive environment, which the original system was created to preclude; the only solution, it seems, is to restore this former system, ending federal supremacy and once again restoring supreme sovereignty to the states as a check on such federal excess." -- Defining 'America' July 5, 2004 by Brian McCandliss who is a business and economics graduate of Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, a law student, and a businessman in

controls our lives via taxation, levies, traffic tickets, code enforcement, licensing, permits, registrations, inspections, the mails, banking, child protective services, airport "in"-security, etc.... They listen to our telephone conversations, read our e-mails, rifle through our belongings during roadside searches and now they can come into our homes without a search warrant - even when we're not home. Troops are already being trained to stop us on the highways and demand to see our "papers please." Does any of this sound remotely familiar? Think it can't happen here? When is enough going to be enough? At what point do we say "NO MORE!?"--Ann Sims 2003

"Warning to Americans from a Russian Emigre. ... I came to the United States in the '70's from the very possible future of America - Russia. The longer I live in this country the more ominous signs of the Soviet Union I see around me. I feel like I am on the trip "Back to the Future" - The United States of Socialist Republics. ..." -- Anonymous

"Why of course the people don't want war. Why should some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece? Naturally the common people don't want war neither in Russia, nor in England, nor for that matter in Germany. That is understood. But, after all, it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy, or a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the peacemakers for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same in any country."--

Hermann Goering 1946 (1893-1946) Commander-in-Chief of the Luftwaffe, President of the Reichstag, Prime Minister of Prussia and, as Hitler's designated successor, the second man in the Third Reich. [Göring] Nuremberg Diary (Farrar, Straus & Co 1947), by Gustave Gilbert (an Allied appointed psychologist), who visited daily with Goering and his cronies in their cells, afterwards making notes and ultimately writing the book about these conversations.

Was that what 911 was all about?...To entice public opinion in favor of the Patriot Act(s), Homeland Security, and to bring Afghanistan and Iraq under the rule of the New World Order

"Simply put, freedom is the absence of government coercion."--Ron Paul (United States Representative from Texas) February 7, 2005 from: <http://www.house.gov/paul/rp/rls/rls2005/rls020705.htm>

"As government expands, liberty contracts."-- Ronald Reagan

"Who controls the food supply controls the people; who controls the energy can control whole continents; who controls money can control the world."--Henry Kissinger

"There are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpation"--James Madison (1751-1836)

"When you conquered with armies, everyone knew you were conquering..... When you

Detroit, Michigan.

"Once a government is committed to the principle of silencing the voice of opposition, it has only one way to go, and that is down the path of increasingly repressive measures, until it becomes a source of terror to all its citizens and creates a country where everyone lives in fear."
--Harry S Truman

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

"Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government..."
Sound familiar? It should.
It is from the second paragraph of the American Declaration of Independence.

"A great industrial nation is controlled by it's system of credit. Our system of credit is concentrated in the hands of a few men. We have come to be one of the worst ruled, one of the most completely controlled and dominated governments in the world--no longer a government of free opinion, no longer a government by conviction and vote of the majority, but a government by the opinion and duress of small groups of dominant men."
-- President Woodrow Wilson

"Every act of resistance makes tyranny weaker. Many, many acts of resistance, even small ones, can topple it. I don't wish suffering on myself or anyone else, but I am proud of people who have stood up for truth and justice when it was dangerous to do so. And I'll be proud to BE one of those people, no matter what happens to me."
--Tessa David Rose (Wife of Larken Rose)

"Most people prefer to believe that their leaders are just and fair, even in the face of evidence to the contrary, because once a Citizen acknowledges that the government under which he lives is lying and corrupt, the Citizen has to choose what he or she will do about it. To take action in the face of corrupt government entails risks of harm to life and loved ones. To choose to do nothing is to surrender one's self-image of standing for principles. Most people do not have the courage to face that choice. Hence, most propaganda is not designed to fool the critical thinker but only to give moral cowards an excuse not to think at all."
--Michael Rivero

"A really efficient totalitarian state would be one in which the all-powerful executive of political bosses and their army of managers control a population of slaves who do not have to be coerced, because they love their servitude. To make them love it is the task assigned, in present-day totalitarian states, to ministries of propoganda, newspaper editors and schoolteachers."
--Aldous Huxley (1894-1963)

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil

conquered with economic hitmen you could do it secretly." --ANTHONY PERKINS (former World Bank economist) "THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE"

...the most devastating weapon-of-mass-destruction ever deployed against any particular national population has always been its own unrestrained government, armed with powers ceded during moments of real or imagined crisis.--Peter Hendrickson

"We are fast approaching the stage of the ultimate inversion: the stage where the government is free to do anything it pleases, while the citizens may act only by permission; which is the stage of the darkest periods of human history, the stage of rule by brute force."
--Ayn Rand, The Nature of Government

"When force is the standard, the murderer wins over the pickpocket, and then that society vanishes, in a spread of ruins and slaughter. Do you wish to know whether that day is coming? Watch Money. Money is a barometer of a society's virtue. When you see that trading is done, not by consent, but by compulsion - when you see that in order to produce, you need permission from men who produce nothing - when you see that money is flowing to those who deal, not in goods, but in favors - when you see men get richer by graft and pull than by work, and your laws don't protect you against them, but protect them against you - when you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice - you may know that our society is doomed. Money is so noble a medium that it does not compete with guns and it does not make terms with brutality. It will not permit a country to survive as half- property, half-loot. Whenever destroyers appear among men, they start by destroying money, for money is men's protection, and the base of a moral existence."
--Ayn Rand, whose given name is Alissa Rosenbaum was a witness to the socialist horrors of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. She escaped and arrived in the United States in 1926 on a visitor's visa, but never returned. Ayn Rand became a successful novelist and popular philosopher of reason and individualism after working as a screenwriter in Hollywood. She helped inspire the modern libertarian movement.

"I LOVE MY COUNTRY,
I DESPISE WHAT MY COUNTRY HAS
BECOME!!"
--Billy-Joe..Mauldin 2003

"the systematic repression of all our freedoms under the pretext of "Homeland Security" modeled after the Gestapo and the Security Service [SS] of Nazi Germany. I don't think I need to say more about that, but please make strong efforts to inform others of this who are still afflicted with mass-media brainwashing. Keep throwing the facts in their faces until they can no longer dispute you. We cannot take our country back unless the people are educated and quick!"--Paul Walker [--Aftermath News](#)

"Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God."-- Thomas Jefferson

I believe that resistance to tyranny is obedience to The Creator. Once I learned the truth I had to do something about it. There's no way in good conscience I can allow my posterity to grow up in today's world as it is. I must be one of the

is for good men to do nothing." --Edmund Burke

"No man survives when freedom fails; the best men rot in filthy jails; and those who cry "Appease! Appease!" are hanged by those they tried to please" --Hiram Mann

"Mourn not the dead that in the cool earth lie, but rather mourn the apathetic, through the coward and the meek who see the world's great anguish and its wrong, and dare not speak." --Ralph Chaplin

"Cowardice asks the question: is it safe? Expediency asks the question: is it political? Vanity asks the question: is it popular? But conscience asks the question: is it right? And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor political, nor popular - but one must take it simply because it is right." --Martin Luther King, Jr.

"They don't realize no man escapes when freedom fails because the best men rot in filthy jails and those who cried, 'Appease, Appease' are hung by those they tried to please." --From [Betty Freauf web site](#)

"What good fortune for those in power that people do not think." --Adolf Hitler

"Fascism will come to this country and it will come disguised as Americanism." Governor Huey Long.

"If tyranny and oppression come to this land, it will be in the guise of fighting a foreign enemy." --James Madison

"First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for me."
--Rev. Martin Niemoller (1945)

"The people are the masters of both Congress and the courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who would pervert it!" --Abraham Lincoln

"Dissent is the highest form of patriotism."-- Thomas Jefferson.
[Silence is consent]

"Our government conceived in freedom and purchased with blood can be preserved only by constant vigilance." —William Jennings Bryan

"Man is not made for the State but the State for man and it derives its just powers only from the consent of the governed." —Thomas Jefferson

"Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day." —Thomas Jefferson

"The men the American people admire most extravagantly are the greatest liars; the men they detest most violently are those who try to

People that do something.
--Rae Copitka, 2007

"Regarding the pledge of allegiance to the "Republic." When one "pledges" anything and particularly allegiance he/she is making an oath. We have had oath discussions before but I don't think we take it seriously enough. Though I have MAJOR issues with the Jehovah's Witnesses I must agree with them that taking an oath or a pledge goes against Scripture. Even they do not obey this when it comes to signing "under penalty of Perjury." In my correspondence with Al Thompson he is adamant about this point. He spends a great deal of time in the Bible and has concluded that this is the trap that gets us into those adhesion contracts and entanglements with the "system." I tend to agree with him more and more.

Technically, the only people that should work for [corporate] government, most of which requires an oath, are the non-believers. When they become believers they should "come out of Babylon" so to speak and disengage themselves from satan's system. As much as we can rely on the constitution it DOES require oaths. Kinda makes you wonder, doesn't it? I've long since retired from making my "patriotism" a religion. My wife and I both are military kids. We grew up Very patriotic. Making the pledge, singing the anthem hand over heart, signing under "penalty of Perjury." We no longer claim a citizenship anywhere but God's Kingdom because of His promise. Once the veil is lifted and satan's deception is exposed that is really all that we as believers have left. It was really all that we had to begin with and that is what God has been trying to tell us since the Garden of Eden. Blind loyal nationalism has been the gravestone and suffering of so many millions of people it almost makes me ill. America, despite its roots is NOT a Christian nation and will likely never be one. The membership role of the Kingdom of Heaven is ours to expand no matter where we live. THAT is my country. HE is my King and whom I will serve. He has jurisdiction. I will give to Him that which is His and to Caesar that which is Caesar's (nothing.) I am a bond servant of Christ and will take NO oaths to any other man, beast, or fiction for that would be trying to serve two masters. That cannot be done."

--Rick; Hartz (Rickity) 9/30/2005

"I could sent you the information on how the pledge of allegiance got started and by whom [if you want] but a Christian could never give their allegiance to anyone other than God. I would give my loyalty to this country which I have done, [being USMC retired] but my allegiance is to God only."--Al Beyer 10/1/2005.

"Fear can only prevail when victims are ignorant of the facts."--Thomas Jefferson

I would suggest reading the following books:

The Creature From Jekyll Island (2002)
by G. Edward Griffin Reads like a detective story --cause of wars, boom-bust cycles, inflation, depression, prosperity, etc and who is behind it all.

tell them the truth." —H.L. Mencken

Here's a little story from Plato's most famous book, The Republic. Socrates is talking to a young follower of his named Glaucon, and is telling him this fable to illustrate what it's like to be a philosopher -- a lover of wisdom: "Most people, including ourselves, live in a world of relative ignorance. We are even comfortable with that ignorance, because it is all we know. When we first start facing truth, the process may be frightening, and many people run back to their old lives. But if you continue to seek truth, you will eventually be able to handle it better. In fact, you want more! It's true that many people around you now may think you are weird or even a danger to society, but you don't care. Once you've tasted the truth, you won't ever want to go back to being ignorant!"

"First they ignore you.
Then they laugh at you.
Then they fight you.
Then you win."
--Gandhi

"All truth passes through three stages:
First, it is ridiculed, second it is
violently opposed, and third, it is
accepted
as self-evident."
-- Arthur Schopenhauer, Philosopher
1788-1860

None Dare Call It Conspiracy by Gary Allen

Death of a Nation; None Dare Call It Treason by John A. Stormer

Tragedy and Hope (1977) by Dr. Carroll Quigley a Harvard professor and an intimate, high level member of the international elite, more commonly known today as the New World Order. 1,348 pages. This book is important to read because Quigley meticulously details the carefully planned and orchestrated scheme of the capitalistic elite and their plot to establish a one world government.

"Having heard all of this,
you may choose to look the other way...
...but you can never say again
that you did not know"
--William Wilburforce 1759-1833

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Date of First Publication

The Twenty seventh day of the fourth month in the Year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus, The Christ, Nineteenth hundredth and ninety eight and the Two hundred and twenty third year of the Independence of America

"Here's to the crazy ones. The misfits. The rebels. The trouble-makers. The round pegs in the square holes. The ones who see things differently. They're not fond of rules, and they have no respect for the status-quo. You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify, or vilify them. But the only thing you can't do is ignore them. Because they change things. They push the human race forward. And while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius. Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do."

-- Apple Computers, from "Think Different" Advertisement

"A nation can survive its fools, and even the ambitious. But it cannot survive treason from within. An enemy at the gates is less formidable, for he is known and carries his banner openly. But the traitor moves amongst those within the gate freely, his sly whispers rustling through all the alleys, heard in the very halls of government itself. For the traitor appears not a traitor; he speaks in accents familiar to his victims, and he wears their face and their arguments, he appeals to the baseness that lies deep in the hearts of all men. He rots the soul of a nation, he works secretly and unknown in the night to undermine the pillars of the city, he infects the body politic so that it can no longer resist. A murder is less to fear."

--Cicero Marcus Tullius - Born on January 3, 106 BC and was murdered on December 7, 43 BC

Do yourself and your family a favor
Don't Fall into the Sheeple Pit



TURN OFF YOUR TELEVISION!
Ignore the major Media
Investigate for yourself
if the information on this web site
is true or not
Also investigate 911

A promotional banner for GoDaddy.com. On the left is a photo of NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt, Jr. in his green and yellow racing suit. The text reads: "NASCAR Driver Dale Earnhardt, Jr.", "\$1.99* DOMAINS with any new non-domain purchase", and "GO >". The GoDaddy.com logo is on the right. Small text at the bottom says "© 2008 Hendrick Motorsports • © 2008 JR Motorsports".

A blue rectangular box with a thin border. The text inside reads: "Since The First day of the First month anno Domini Two thousand ten", "Your visit counts as number", a digital counter showing "0366 12", and "Thank you!".

A horizontal banner for GemWorld. It features several small images: a large colorful gemstone, a ring, a necklace, a watch, a jewelry box, and a stack of blue gemstones. The GemWorld logo is on the left.



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602 Addressing

[1.0 Elements of Addressing](#)[2.0 Restrictions](#)[3.0 Use of Alternative Addressing](#)[4.0 Detached Address Labels \(DALs\)](#)

1.0 Elements of Addressing

1.1 Clear Space

A clear space must be available on all mail for the address, postage (permit imprint, postage stamp, or meter stamp), postmarks, and postal endorsements.

1.2 Delivery Address

The delivery address specifies the location to which the USPS is to deliver a mailpiece. Except for mail prepared with detached address labels under [4.0](#), the piece must have the address of the intended recipient, visible and legible, only on the side of the piece bearing postage.

1.3 Address Elements

All mail not bearing a simplified address under [3.0, Use of Alternative Addressing](#), must bear a delivery address that contains at least the following elements in this order from the top line:

- a. Intended recipient's name or other identification.
- b. Private mailbox designator ("PMB" or alternative "#") and number if the mailpiece is addressed to a commercial mail receiving agency (CMRA) address.
- c. Street and number. (Include the apartment number, or use the Post Office box number, or general delivery, or rural route or highway contract route designation and box number, as applicable.)
- d. City and state (or state abbreviation). The city is any acceptable mailing name for the 5-digit ZIP Code serving the intended recipient as shown in the USPS City State Product.
- e. ZIP Code (5-digit or ZIP + 4) where required:
 1. ZIP Codes are required on Express Mail, Presorted and automation price First-Class Mail, Periodicals mail, Standard Mail, Package Services mail (except single-piece price Parcel Post), all mail sent to military addresses within the United States and to APO and FPO addresses, all official mail (penalty mail), all business reply mail, and all merchandise return service mail.
 2. Unless required above, ZIP Codes may be omitted from single-piece price First-Class Mail (including Priority Mail), single-piece price Parcel Post, and pieces bearing a simplified address.

1.4 Complete Addresses

1.4.1 Complete Address Definition

A complete address has all the address elements necessary to allow an exact match with the current USPS ZIP+4 Product to obtain the finest level of ZIP+4 code for the delivery address. A complete address may be required on mail at some automation prices.

1.4.2 Complete Address Elements

A complete delivery address includes:

- a. Addressee name or other identifier and/or firm name where applicable.
- b. Private mail box designator and number (PMB 300 or #300).
- c. Urbanization name (Puerto Rico only, ZIP Code prefixes 006 to 009, if area is so designated).
- d. Street number and name (including predirectional, suffix, and postdirectional as shown in USPS ZIP+4 Product for the delivery address or rural route and box number (RR 5 BOX 10), highway contract route and box number (HC 4 BOX 45), or Post Office box number (PO BOX 458), as shown in USPS ZIP+4 Product for the delivery address). ("PO Box" is used incorrectly if preceding a private box number, e.g., a college mailroom.)
- e. Secondary address unit designator and number (such as an apartment or suite number (APT 202, STE 100)).
- f. City and state (or authorized two-letter state abbreviation). Use only city names and city and state name abbreviations as shown in USPS City State Product. Contact the National Customer Support Center (see [509.1.0](#)) for more information about the City State Product.
- g. Correct 5-digit ZIP Code or ZIP+4 code. If a firm name is assigned a unique ZIP+4 code in the USPS ZIP+4 Product, the unique ZIP+4 code must be used in the delivery address.

1.5 Return Addresses

1.5.1 Purpose for Return Address

The return address tells the USPS where the sender of a mailpiece wants it returned if the piece cannot be delivered.

1.5.2 Return Address Elements

The return address contains elements corresponding to those for the delivery address. A return address is required in specific circumstances (see [1.5.3](#)). If the sender's name is not included in the return address, another clear designation (apartment, suite, or room number) is required to ensure proper handling of ancillary services and/or return of the piece. ZIP Codes (5-digit or ZIP+4) are required in the return address of all mail on which postage is paid with precanceled stamps or company permit imprint, and in the sender's return address on Periodicals mail when "Address Service Requested" is specified. Official mail (penalty mail) also requires a ZIP Code in the return address.

1.5.3 Required Use of Return Addresses

The sender's domestic return address must appear legibly on:

- a. Mail of any class bearing a printed ancillary service request or an ancillary service request embedded within an Intelligent Mail barcode.
- b. Official mail.
- c. Mail paid with precanceled stamps (except Standard Mail pieces weighing 13 ounces or less and bearing a mailer's postmark in accordance with [604.3.4](#)).
- d. Matter bearing a company permit imprint.
- e. Priority Mail.
- f. Periodicals in envelopes or wrappers.
- g. Package Services (except unendorsed Bound Printed Matter).

- h. Registered Mail.
- i. Insured mail.
- j. Collect on delivery (COD) mail.
- k. Certified Mail if a return receipt is requested.
- l. Express Mail if a return receipt is requested. The return address on the Express Mail label meets this standard.
- m. Detached addressed labels (DALs).

1.5.4 Postmark

An endorsement directing return to point of mailing (postmark) is not honored.

1.6 Ancillary Services

The USPS uses the return address to provide ancillary services requested by the mailer (e.g., "Return Service Requested"). The return address on any mailpiece endorsed for an ancillary service must identify where the piece is to be returned and where the mailer is prepared to pay applicable postage and fees for pieces returned or for ancillary service provided at the mailer's request. A domestic return address must be placed in the upper left corner of the address side of the piece or the upper left corner of the addressing area.

1.7 Attachment of Different Class

If the names and addresses of the sender and intended recipient do not appear on both the host and attachment, the sender's name and address must be placed on one piece and the recipient's name and address on the other. Combination containers that have inseparable parts or compartments are mailable with the names and addresses on only one.

1.8 ZIP Codes

1.8.1 Purpose of ZIP Code

The ZIP (Zone Improvement Plan) Code system is a numbered coding system that facilitates efficient mail processing. The USPS assigns ZIP Codes. All Post Offices are assigned at least one unique 5-digit ZIP Code. Larger Post Offices may be assigned two or more 5-digit ZIP Codes (multi-5-digit ZIP Code offices). Separate 5-digit ZIP Codes are assigned to each delivery unit at these offices.

1.8.2 ZIP+4 - A Complete ZIP Code

The most complete ZIP Code is a nine-digit number consisting of five digits, a hyphen, and four digits, which the USPS describes by its trademark ZIP+4. The correct format for a numeric ZIP+4 code is five digits, a hyphen, and four digits. The first five digits represent the 5-digit ZIP Code; the sixth and seventh digits (the first two after the hyphen) identify an area known as a sector; the eighth and ninth digits identify a smaller area known as a segment. Together, the final four digits identify geographic units such as a side of a street between intersections, both sides of a street between intersections, a building, a floor or group of floors in a building, a firm within a building, a span of boxes on a rural route, or a group of Post Office boxes to which a single USPS employee makes delivery.

1.8.3 Numeric Delivery Point Barcode

A numeric equivalent of a delivery point barcode (DPBC) consists of five digits followed by a hyphen and seven digits as specified in [708.4.2.4](#). The numeric equivalent is formed by adding three digits directly after the ZIP+4 code.

1.9 Additional Addressing Standards by Class

Basic addressing standards for First-Class Mail, Express Mail, Standard Mail, and Package Services are in the Prices and Eligibility section for each class of mail. Additional standards for Periodicals are in [707.3.2, Addressing](#). Standards apply to overseas military mail, Department of State mail, mail in window envelopes, international mail, and mail claimed at any automation price.

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2.0 Restrictions

2.1 Dual Address

Mail with a dual address (both a street address and a Post Office box number) is delivered to the address immediately above the city and state (or to the Post Office box if both the street address and Post Office box are on the same line). If a ZIP+4 code or 5-digit ZIP Code is used, it must correspond to the address element immediately above the city and state (or with the Post Office box number in the address if both the street address and Post Office box are on the same line). These restrictions also apply to return addresses on mail (for more information, see Publication 28, Postal Addressing Standards).

2.2 More Than One Post Office

Mail with the name of more than one Post Office in the delivery address or return address is not acceptable for mailing.

2.3 Mail Addressed to CMRAs

Mail sent to an addressee at a commercial mail receiving agency (CMRA) must be addressed to their private mailbox ("PMB" or "#") number at the CMRA mailing address.

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3.0 Use of Alternative Addressing

3.1 General Information

3.1.1 Use

Alternative addressing formats may be used as described in [3.2](#) through [3.4](#) in [Use of Alternative Addressing](#).

3.1.2 Prohibited Use

Alternative addressing formats may not be used on:

- a. Express Mail pieces.
- b. Mail with any extra service under [503](#).
- c. Mail with any ancillary service endorsement under [507.1.1](#) through [507.1.8](#).
- d. Periodicals intended to count as subscriber or requester copies to meet the applicable circulation standards.
- e. Mail addressed to an overseas military Post Office under [703.2.2](#).

3.1.3 Treatment

Mail with an occupant or an exceptional address format is delivered as addressed and is not forwarded. Such mail is treated as undeliverable only when the address is incorrect or incomplete or when the mail cannot be delivered for another reason related solely to the address (e.g., a vacant building), as shown in [Exhibit 1.4.1, USPS Endorsements for Mail Undeliverable as Addressed](#). Periodicals publishers are notified when mailpieces with the occupant or exceptional address formats are undeliverable for solely address-related reasons. Mail with a simplified address format is distributed to all deliveries on a route or to Post Office boxholders. Undeliverable mail with any alternative addressing format is disposed of as waste under [507.1.9.1](#).

3.2 Simplified Address

3.2.1 Use—Rural and Highway Contract Routes, P.O. Boxholders

The simplified address format ("Postal Customer") may be used on mail only when complete distribution is made to each family (household residence) or boxholder on a rural or highway contract route at any Post Office or to all Post Office boxholders at a Post Office without city carrier service. The following also applies:

- a. Mailers may use a more specific address, such as "Rural Route Boxholder," for mail intended to all boxholders on a rural route, followed by the name of the Post Office and state. The word "Local," instead of the Post Office and state name, is optional; however the Postal Service recommends using the Post Office and state name for mail not dropshipped directly to a destination delivery unit.
- b. Mailers may use "Residential Customer" to indicate that delivery is desired to residential addresses only.
- c. See [703.6.0](#) for congressional mail.

3.2.2 Use—City Routes, P.O. Boxholders

When distribution is to be made to each active possible delivery on city carrier routes or to each Post Office boxholder at a Post Office with city carrier service, the addressee's name; mailing address; and city, state, and ZIP Code may be omitted from the address only on pieces mailed as official matter by agencies of the federal government (including mail with the congressional frank prepared under [703.6.0](#)); any state, county, or municipal government; and the governments of the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any U.S. territory or possession listed in [608.2.0](#). The requirement for distribution to each stop or Post Office boxholder may be modified for congressional mail under [703.6.0](#). The following also applies:

- a. Only these forms of address may be used instead of the addressee's name and address:
 1. "Postal Customer" (delivery desired at all addresses).
 2. "Residential Customer" (delivery desired at residential addresses only).
 3. "Business Customer" (delivery desired at business addresses only).
- b. At least 10 days before the mailing date, the mailer must submit a sample mailpiece and the following information to the entry office postmaster (in response, the mailer receives a mailing schedule that must be followed):
 1. Proposed mailing date.
 2. Total number of pieces being mailed.
 3. Method of postage payment.
 4. Names of all city delivery Post Offices to receive any of the mailing and the number of pieces for each.

3.2.3 Mail Preparation

Mailers must prepare letter-size pieces in trays. Mailers must prepare flat-size pieces and irregular parcels in carrier route bundles in sacks or directly on pallets. Bundles, sacks, or trays may be placed on 3-digit, 5-digit, or 5-digit scheme pallets under [705.8.10](#). In addition to the required simplified address, each bundle must bear a facing slip showing the desired distribution (for example, 5-digit ZIP Code and route number) or the top piece of each bundle must include the route number and ZIP Code. Mailers may obtain delivery statistics for routes as described in [509.1.0](#). The following also applies:

- a. All pieces must be in the same processing category.
- b. Mailers must mark pieces according to [102](#), [202](#), [302](#), or [402](#).
- c. Mailers must prepare all pieces for the same carrier route in bundles of 50, so far as practicable. If the pieces are bundled in quantities other than 50, mailers must show the actual number of pieces on the facing slip or on the top piece of the bundle.
- d. If selective distribution is desired, the mailer must include enough pieces to cover the routes selected.

3.2.4 Postage

Postage must be paid with permit imprint, meter indicia, precanceled stamps, or other authorized methods not requiring cancellation, according to the standards

for the class of mail.

3.2.5 Address Designation

Only the address designations in [3.2.1](#) or [3.2.2](#) may be used. Other designations (e.g., "Food Buyer," "Voter") are not permitted.

3.3 Occupant Address

3.3.1 Use of Occupant Address

The occupant address format ("Postal Customer" or "Occupant," "Householder," or "Resident") may be used to address mail selectively to a rural route and box number, a specific street number, or a specific Post Office box number without using the addressee's name:

Example

POSTAL CUSTOMER
2711 ORDWAY ST NW APT 204
WASHINGTON DC 20008-5036

3.4 Exceptional Address

3.4.1 Use of Exceptional Address

The exceptional address format ("Jane Doe or Current Resident" or "Jane Doe or Current Occupant") may be used on any mail except mail types listed in [3.1.2](#). The word "Current" is optional. The order of the words may be reversed (e.g., "Current Resident or Jane Doe" rather than "Jane Doe or Current Resident").

3.4.2 Placement

The exceptional address format must be placed in the address block, with the following exceptions:

- a. If all the current resident/occupant information cannot be placed on the first or second line of the address, the exceptional address format may be placed no more than 3/4 inch above the address block.
- b. If an optional endorsement line (OEL) is used, the mailer may elect to place the exceptional address format above the OEL. In these cases, the exceptional address format must be at least 1/2 inch, but not more than 3/4 inch, above the optional endorsement line. If a window envelope is used with an OEL, the exceptional address information may be printed either in the area on the insert showing through the window or on the envelope above the window.

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4.0 Detached Address Labels (DALs)

4.1 DAL Use

4.1.1 Definition

For these standards, item(s) refers inclusively to the types of mail described in [4.1.2](#) through [4.1.4](#).

4.1.2 Periodicals or Standard Mail Flats Saturation Mailings

Saturation mailings of unaddressed Periodicals or Standard Mail flats may be mailed with detached address labels (DALs). DALs accompanying saturation mailings of Periodicals or Standard Mail flats must be automation-compatible under [201.3.0](#). This standard does not apply to DALs with simplified addressing. For this standard, saturation mailing means a mailing sent to at least 75% of the total addresses on a carrier route or 90% of the residential addresses on a route, whichever is less. Deliveries are not required to every carrier route of a delivery unit. Saturation flats mailings presented with DALs that are not automation-compatible and barcoded do not qualify for saturation prices. Instead they may be entered at the Periodicals basic carrier route price or the

Standard Mail basic Enhanced Carrier Route price.

4.1.3 Standard Mail Merchandise Samples

Merchandise samples more than 5 inches wide (high) or 1/4 inch thick, or nonuniform in thickness, mailed at Standard Mail prices, must be mailed with DALs when prepared for general distribution on city delivery routes. Merchandise samples may be mailed with DALs for general distribution on other (e.g., rural) routes and for the residual portion of a general distribution mailing. For this standard, general distribution means distribution in a single mailing to at least 25% of the addresses in any 5-digit ZIP Code delivery area regardless of the number of samples addressed to a single route or the number of 5-digit areas to which samples are addressed. If the same mailing includes a general distribution to one or more 5-digit areas and a secondary distribution of lesser quantities to one or more other 5-digit areas, pieces in the secondary distribution are considered residual.

4.1.4 Bound Printed Matter

Unaddressed pieces of Bound Printed Matter may be mailed with DALs when:

- a. The mail is prepared on 5-digit pallets meeting the standards in [705.8.0](#), except that for flat-size mail, separate 5-digit pallets of carrier route and Presorted price mail are not required. The destination delivery unit (DDU) is determined using the Drop Shipment Product under the provisions for the DDU price in [366.3.0](#) through [366.6.0](#) or [466.3.0](#) through [466.6.0](#). The mail may not be prepared on pallets when the Drop Shipment Product indicates that the delivery unit that serves the 5-digit pallet destination cannot handle pallets. For such delivery units, mail with DALs must be prepared in sacks. The trays or cartons of DALs must be prepared under [4.3](#), placed on the same pallet as the pieces, and must be stretch-wrapped together as one unit.
- b. The mail is prepared in 5-digit sacks and entered at the destination delivery unit. The destination delivery unit is determined by using the Drop Shipment Product under the provisions for the DDU price in [366.3.0](#) through [366.6.0](#) or [466.3.0](#) through [466.6.0](#). DALs must be bundled under [4.3](#) and presented to the destination delivery unit with the accompanying items to be distributed with the DALs.

4.1.5 Alternative Addressing Format

The addresses on DALs may be prepared using an alternative addressing format under [3.0](#), subject to the applicable eligibility, volume, density, and preparation standards.

4.1.6 Documentation

When requested by the USPS, DAL mailers must provide documentation to establish that the applicable distribution standards in [4.1.2](#) through [4.1.4](#) are met.

4.1.7 Extra Services

Items mailed with DALs may not be combined with any extra service.

4.2 Label Preparation

4.2.1 Label Construction

Each DAL must be made of paper or cardboard stock that is not folded, perforated, or creased, and that meets these measurements:

- a. Between 3-1/2 and 5 inches high (perpendicular to the address).
- b. Between 5 and 9 inches long (parallel to the address).
- c. At least 0.007 inch thick, except under [4.2.1d](#).
- d. If more than 4-1/4 inches high or more than 6 inches long, must be at least 0.009 inch thick.
- e. Must have an aspect ratio (length divided by height) from 1.3 to 2.5, inclusive.

4.2.2 Addressing

The address for each item must be placed on a DAL, parallel to the longest dimension of the DAL, and may not appear on the item it accompanies. The DAL must contain the recipient's delivery address and the mailer's return address. In addition, if DALs accompany saturation mailings of Periodicals or Standard Mail flats, a correct delivery point POSTNET barcode or Intelligent Mail barcode with an 11-digit routing code must be included (see [708.4.0](#)) except when using a simplified address.

4.2.3 Ratio

Only one DAL may be prepared for each accompanying item, and only one item may be identified for delivery per DAL (a single DAL may not be prepared to deliver one each of different accompanying items or multiples of the same item).

4.2.4 Required Information

The following words must appear in bold type at least 1/8 inch high on the front of each DAL: "USPS regulations require that this address label be delivered with its accompanying postage-paid mail. If you should receive this label without its accompanying mail, please notify your local postmaster." The title or brand name of the item (which may include an illustration of the item) must also appear on the front or back of the DAL to associate it with the accompanying item.

4.2.5 Other Information

In addition to the information described in [4.2.2](#) and [4.2.4](#) and an indicium of postage payment, only the following may appear on the front of a DAL:

- a. Official pictures and data circulated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
- b. Advertising, under the following conditions:
 1. The DALs must be automation-compatible under [201.3.0](#) and have a correct delivery point barcode or an Intelligent Mail barcode with an 11-digit routing code (see [708.4.0](#)).
 2. The advertising must not obstruct or overlap any of the required elements that are placed on the front of a DAL.
 3. The advertising must be to the left of the delivery address and must be placed to maintain required clear spaces around the address and postage payment (see [202](#) and [1.0](#)).

4.3 Mail Preparation

4.3.1 Notice to Delivery Office

Each delivery office to receive a DAL mailing must be notified in writing at least 10 days before the requested delivery period. To ensure that the delivery office can readily relate the notice to the cartons containing the corresponding items, a copy of that letter must be enclosed with the DALs unless the initial notice and the cartons used for the DALs and items each conspicuously bears a mailing identification number. The letter must contain the following information:

- a. Name and telephone number of mailer or representative.
- b. Origin Post Office of mailing.
- c. Expected mailing date.
- d. Description of mailing.
- e. Number of addressees for each 5-digit ZIP Code.
- f. Number of DALs per carton or bundle.
- g. Number of items per carton or bundle.
- h. Expected delivery period (range of dates).
- i. Requested action for excess or undeliverable DALs or items (see [4.4](#)).

4.3.2 Basic Standards for DALs

The DALs must be presorted, counted, and packed by 5-digit ZIP Code delivery area. Only DALs for the same 5-digit area may be placed in the same carton. DAL mailings claimed at carrier route or walk-sequence prices must be further prepared under the corresponding standards. Different size cartons may be used in the same mailing, but each must be filled with dunnage as necessary to ensure that the DALs retain their integrity while in transit. Each carton of DALs must bear a label showing the information in 4.3.5 unless a mailing identification number is used (see 4.3.1). Multiple containers of DALs must be numbered sequentially ("1 of __," "2 of __," etc.).

4.3.3 Basic Standards for Items Distributed With DALs

The items to be distributed with the DALs must be placed in cartons or prepared in bundles placed in sacks, as appropriate for the type of item and subject to the standards for the price claimed. A label bearing the content description information in 4.3.5 must be affixed to each carton, sacked bundle, or pallet unless a mailing identification number is used (see 4.3.1). Cartons of items (including those on pallets) may be of different sizes but must be filled with dunnage as necessary to ensure the integrity of the items while in transit. The gross weight of each carton or sack must not be more than 40 pounds.

4.3.4 Combined Cartons

Both the DALs and the accompanying items may be enclosed in the same carton when sent to a small volume 5-digit ZIP Code area. If packed together, these standards apply:

- a. The DALs must be bundled and labeled under 4.3.2 and placed on top of the items.
- b. The carton must be packed with dunnage to ensure the integrity of the contents while in transit.
- c. The gross weight of the carton must not exceed 40 pounds.
- d. The exterior of the carton must be labeled under 4.3.5 and marked "DALs ENCLOSED" in letters not less than 1/2 inch high.

4.3.5 Container Labels

Sacks, cartons, and pallets of DAL mail must be labeled under the preparation standards for the price claimed. A second label must be affixed to each carton or sacked bundle to provide the following information (unless a mailing identification number is used under 4.3.1):

- a. Delivery Post Office name and 5-digit ZIP Code delivery area.
- b. Title, brand name, or other description of the items.
- c. Name and telephone number of the mailer or representative.
- d. Number of labels or items in the carton, as applicable.
- e. Instructions to open and distribute either the DALs with matching items or the items with matching DALs, as appropriate.

4.3.6 Use of Equipment

Cartons, bundles of flats, and sacks of items may be palletized under the applicable standards; cartons of DALs must be palletized with the corresponding items under the same standards. The USPS plant manager at whose facility a DAL mailing is deposited may authorize other types of equipment for the portion of the mailing to be delivered in that plant's service area.

4.4 Disposition of Excess or Undeliverable Material

4.4.1 Excess Material

The letter required under 4.3.1 must either request that the delivery office contact the mailer (or representative) about excess DALs or items, or provide instructions for their treatment. (If the mailer does not provide information about excess DALs or items, such material is disposed of as waste by the USPS.) The mailer must choose one of the following options for each DAL mailing and the items:

- a. Disposal of any excess material as waste.
- b. Return of the excess material to the mailer, postage due at the applicable single-piece price under [4.5](#).
- c. Holding of the excess material for pickup by the mailer (or representative). If pickup is not made within 15 calendar days of the notice to the mailer, the material is returned to the mailer postage due.
- d. Holding of the excess material while additional DALs or items are supplied (as applicable). If additional material is not supplied within 15 days of the notice to the mailer, the excess material is returned to the mailer postage due. Additional material must be sent prepaid to the delivery Post Office as First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, or Express Mail.

4.4.2 Undeliverable DAL

Ancillary service endorsements are not permitted. A DAL that is undeliverable as addressed is handled under [507.1.1](#) through [507.1.9](#) for the applicable class of mail. The accompanying item is treated as specified by the mailer under [4.4.1](#).

4.5 Postage

4.5.1 Prices

DAL mailings are not eligible for any automation price, but they may qualify for a carrier route price, subject to the applicable standards. For DALs used with Standard Mail ECR flats and ECR parcel mailings, mailers must pay a surcharge for each DAL. See [343.1.0](#) and [443.1.0](#).

4.5.2 Postage Computation and Payment

Postage is computed based on the weight of the entire mailpiece (the combined weight of the item and the accompanying DAL). If the number of DALs and items mailed is not identical, the number of pieces used to determine postage is the greater of the two. No postage refund is allowed in these situations. The total weight of the mailing excludes the weight of the cartons used to carry the DALs or items, dunnage, and carton labels. In addition, these methods of postage payment apply:

- a. Periodicals flats must be prepaid. A notice of entry must appear in the upper right corner of the DAL.
- b. Standard Mail flats and samples and Bound Printed Matter must be paid by permit imprint, which must appear on each DAL. Standard Mail postage is computed at the applicable nonletter prices.
- c. The DAL surcharge (see [343.1.0](#) and [443.1.0](#)) applies to each DAL used in a Standard Mail ECR flats or parcel mailing.

4.5.3 Returns

Postage for excess or undeliverable DALs that are properly endorsed or for items being returned is computed at the single-piece price (First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, or Package Services) applicable to the combined weight of the DAL and the accompanying item, regardless of whether both are returned. The total amount due for returned material, which includes the return postage and the applicable address correction fee for each DAL or item returned, is collected when the material is returned to the mailer.

4.5.4 Additional Items

Postage for additional material (DALs or items) mailed to the USPS under [4.4.1d](#) must be prepaid as First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, or Express Mail, subject to the eligibility standards for the price claimed and the conditions in [4.5.2](#).

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Direct Mail News & Resources



Database Marketing

Direct Mail

Industry News

Printing/Imaging

Seminars & Webinars

DMM Advisory: Published Federal Register Notices & Approaching DMM Revisions (0)

6/04/10 • The following four Federal Register notices have been published and are now posted on the Postal Explorer® website at pe.usps.com. All of these revisions will be incorporated into the July 6th update of the online DMM®, and the July 17 Postal Bulletin. We encourage you to check them out:

Business Reply Mail® Online Application Option — [...]

Featured Categories

DATABASE MARKETING»

5/12/10 • Predicting the future with marketing analytics

4/01/10 • 5 Tips for Creating Compelling B2B Direct Mail Campaigns

4/01/10 • Personalize the Fulfillment Process to Hold On to Leads

DIRECT MAIL»

6/04/10 • DMM Advisory: Published Federal Register Notices & Approaching DMM Revisions

6/03/10 • Direct mail volume up 16% in Q1 as insurance leads comeback

6/03/10 • Direct Mail on the Rise?

DMM ADVISORY»

6/04/10 • DMM Advisory: Published Federal Register Notices & Approaching DMM Revisions

6/02/10 • DMM Advisory: New MailPro Available

6/01/10 • DMM Advisory: Postal Explorer — Mailer's Tool Kit

FAST»

5/18/10 • FAST Webinar – Friday,

Recent Posts

Direct mail volume up 16% in Q1 as insurance leads comeback (0)

6/03/10 • by Frank Washkuch at DMNews.com

Direct mail volume increased 16% year-over-year in the first quarter of 2010 to 6.1 billion pieces in total, according to data from direct marketing intelligence firm Mintel Comperemedia.

The insurance and credit card industries were the strongest drivers of this growth. The volume of credit card-related direct mail increased 36% year-over-year, reaching [...]

Direct Mail on the Rise? (0)

6/03/10 • OvernightPrints has reported that "Despite the United States Postal Service's recent reports that general mail volumes being down, direct mail is on the rise, according to direct marketing intelligence firm Mintel Comperemedia. In the first quarter of 2010, the firm reports that more than six billion direct mail pieces were received by consumers. This number [...]"

USPS to Apply for Exigent Increase in Postal Prices (0)

6/03/10 • According to postal commentator Gene Del Polito, "next week, the management of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) will be placing before the Board of Governors a proposal to file with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) for an exigent increase in all postal prices. This is serious stuff. Just as nature abhors a vacuum and quickly seeks [...]"

Postmaster General Announces Acting President, Mailing & Shipping Services (0)

6/03/10 • WASHINGTON — Postmaster General John Potter today announced Susan M. Plonkey as acting president, Mailing and Shipping Services. Plonkey succeeds Robert F. Bernstock, who is leaving the Postal Service effective June 4 to pursue interests in the private sector. As acting president, Plonkey is responsible for all product management, product development, retail and commercial products and [...]"

Fight to Save Saturday Service Approaches Important Milestone (0)

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USPS

- SHEILA VALARDE: New stamp celebrates 100 years of scouting - San Angelo Standard Times
- USPS names interim official for mailing, shipping services - Federal Times
- Stamps.com Named as Finalist in 2010 American Business Awards(SM) - MarketWatch (press release)
- Hall and USPS Dedicate Chester Post Office in Honor of First Lieutenant Louis ... - BigNews.biz (press release)
- USPS office opening - Omaha World-Herald
- New postal annex facility opens in Maricopa - InMaricopa.com

Intelligent Mail Barcode Scanner/Verifier



Our custom USPS postal scanning kit includes: 4600G Intelligent Mail Scanner, USB Cable, Custom Intelligent Mail Firmware for scanning USPS postal barcodes, and our IMB Verification and Quality Assurance Software Package.

List Price: \$595.00

May 21

5/10/10 • FAST Webinar – Friday, May 14, 2010

4/23/10 • FAST Outage – Sunday, April 25th

INDUSTRY NEWS»

6/03/10 • USPS to Apply for Exigent Increase in Postal Prices

6/03/10 • Postmaster General Announces Acting President, Mailing & Shipping Services

6/03/10 • Fight to Save Saturday Service Approaches Important Milestone

INTELLIGENT MAIL»

5/27/10 • DMM Advisory: IMB Services Update

5/26/10 • Postal : Up to Code

5/05/10 • Can We Please Unlink IMB and Tracking?

PRINTING/IMAGING»

5/13/10 • Ink or Toner: Does It Really Matter?

5/13/10 • Xerox's iGen4 Press Drives Prints, Profits, and New Business Opportunities around the Globe

4/20/10 • Canon USA Expands imageRunner Advance Line With The Introduction of Two New Monochrome Series

USPS»

6/04/10 • DMM Advisory: Published Federal Register Notices & Approaching DMM Revisions

6/02/10 • DMM Advisory: New MailPro Available

6/01/10 • DMM Advisory: Postal Explorer — Mailer's Tool Kit

6/03/10 • from www.apwu.org

Postal employees and customers are approaching an important milestone in the fight to save Saturday service, as a House resolution supporting six-day mail delivery continues to gain momentum.

Close to 200 U.S. Representatives have signed on to co-sponsor House Resolution 173, which says "the U.S. Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation [...]"

Industry Leader CSG Direct Mail Launches Mobile Tracking App (0)

6/03/10 • CSG Direct Mail, created a groundbreaking new application for the iPhone and iPad expands that capability by offering customers tracking information wherever and whenever they need it.

Jun 03, 2010 – RENO, NEV. (May 19, 2010): In this digital age, direct mail — real, targeted, virus-free — still plays an important role in connecting companies with current [...]

NWF, DirectMail.com partner for renewal contract, oil spill fundraising (0)

6/03/10 • by Kevin McKeefery at DMNews.com

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) has signed DirectMail.com to a two-year contract to handle its Associates Membership Renewal Program, effective May 1. The marketing services company will manage data processing and packaging services for the nonprofit conservation organization.

"Renewal efforts are critical to maintaining a donor base, and properly managing that type of campaign [...]"

Alliance Data's Epsilon to Acquire Equifax's Direct Marketing Services Division (0)

6/02/10 • BY INMAN NEWS

DALLAS, June 2 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ — Alliance Data Systems Corporation (NYSE: ADS), a leading provider of loyalty and marketing solutions derived from transaction-rich data, today announced that it has reached a definitive agreement to acquire the Direct Marketing Services (DMS) division of Equifax, Inc. Equifax's DMS division provides proprietary data-driven, integrated marketing solutions through two complementary offerings: database [...]

A Comprehensive Marketing Plan that You Won't Find in Beginner Books (0)

6/02/10 • by Hello Mails at hellomails.com

If this is the first marketing article you are reading, go find some other more basic articles that I have written and then come back. This data is for the intermediate to advanced marketers.

I want to go over a three-step outline for your marketing which are:

- 1) Surveys
- 2) Getting Attention
- 3) Postage

Marketing surveys [...]

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DM News

- Sprint promotes 4G launch with direct mail
- Direct mail volume up 16% in Q1 as insurance leads comeback
- Prevent returned mail from foiling campaigns
- Prevent returned mail from foiling campaigns
- NWF, DirectMail.com partner for renewal contract, oil spill fundraising
- Use the Summer Sale to reactivate customers
- Use the Summer Sale to reactivate customers
- Postal Service reports \$382M April net loss

[CA Direct Mail Services](#)

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Direct Mail Links

- Address Verification
- Business Customer Gateway
- Business Customer Support
- Find a Mailhouse
- Find Direct Mail Related Vendors
- Mailing & Shipping Business Guidelines

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- [Postal Rates](#)
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welcome



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Welcome To

SantaCruzCountyRecycles.org

No More Junk Mail Guide

HOME

CONTACT

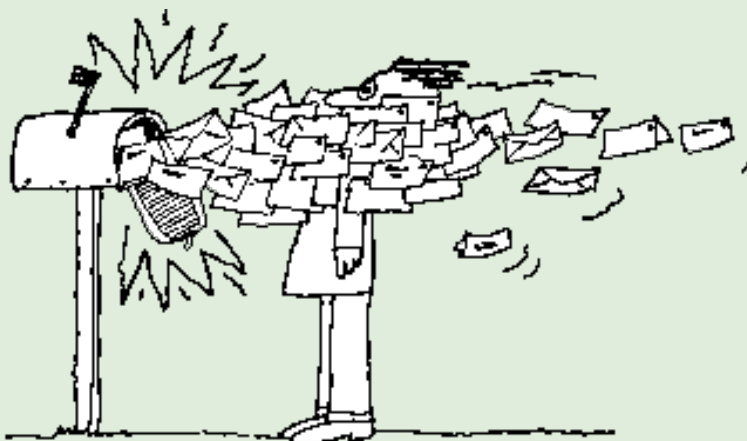
NEWS



As easy as 1, 2, 3...
Prevention, Deletion, Recycle

What's The Problem?

MANY PEOPLE find unsolicited advertising mail, or junk mail, irritating. Not only does junk mail invade our privacy and waste paper, the ceaseless promotions may tempt us to buy things we don't really want or need. Fed by advertising, our desire for acquisition of material goods results in excessive resource consumption in a finite world.



The US Environmental Protection Agency reported in 1999 that the quantity of catalogs and other advertising mail in the US was 5.56 million tons, which took 100 million trees to produce. Nearly half is discarded unread. Recycling junk mail does reduce garbage, but only 22% of this paper is recovered for recycling. Even when recycled, junk mail can only be used for low quality products because of the inks, glues, plastics, and variety of paper types, not to mention the occasional shampoo sample or CD ROM disc. Very little of it finds its way back into new junk mail, which is predominantly made from trees. Paper production, whether from recycled or virgin fibers, uses significant quantities of energy and water and produces waste sludge, which must be landfilled, not to mention the vehicle emissions from trucking all that paper around.

The most effective way to reduce the environmental impacts of junk mail is to reduce the quantity produced. Marketers will only stop producing so much junk mail when it is widely rejected by consumers.

Why Do I Get So Much Junk Mail?

There are numerous ways your junk mail can proliferate. When you enter a contest, write a check, subscribe to a magazine, sign up for a credit card, fill out a warranty card, join a professional association, make a donation, buy a house or car, or have a baby, your name may be sold or traded. Getting hold of your name and address is big business, as junk mail comprises 14% of advertising expenditures in this country and generates \$1.5 trillion in annual sales.

How Do I Get Rid of It?

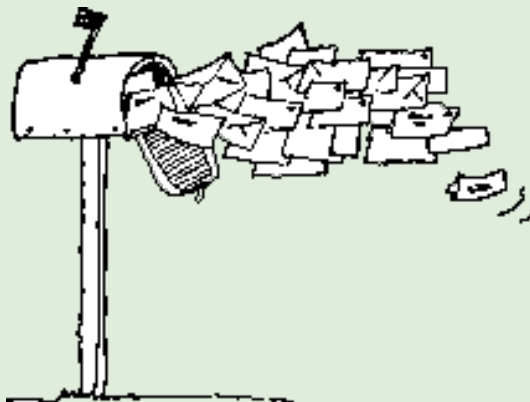
Believe it or not, not everyone's mailbox is overflowing. You, too, can limit access to your name and address so that it won't be traded, rented or sold to companies who send you unwanted mail. This guide offers you a three-step strategy to prevent new junk mail from finding its way to your doorstep, reduce your current flow of unwanted mail, and recycle the occasional piece that sneaks in.

This approach may seem time consuming at first, but it is ultimately the most effective. It may take several months for deletions to become effective. You must be persistent, and you might have to repeat some of the steps. You won't get rid of it all, but you can substantially reduce the amount of junk mail you receive. Whenever possible, tips are offered that make the company sending you the unwanted mail bear the cost of getting your name off their mailing list.

Direct marketers actually benefit when you get off their lists, as it saves them printing and postage costs and improves the targeting of their lists to potential customers.

STEP 1: PREVENTION — Stop Junk Mail Before it Starts

These preventative actions will keep junk mail from new sources out of your mailbox. If you do nothing else, register with the Mail Preference Service and the national credit bureau Opt-Out system (first two items below) to remove your name from many national mailing lists of companies who send you catalogs, sweepstakes entries, credit card offers, and other personally addressed advertising mail.



Mail Preference Service

The Direct Marketing Association (DMA) is the largest trade association in the direct marketing field with more than 3,600 member companies. Their Mail Preference Service (MPS) provides consumers with a way to opt out of receiving most personally addressed national advertising mail. When you register, include all variations in the spelling of your name that appear on mailings that you receive—even misspellings! For example, Linda Ann Brown might also receive mail as Linda Brown, L. Brown, or L A Brown. Register online at: www.dmachoice.org/consumerassistance.php

When you register with MPS, your name is placed on a “suppression list” which is made available to marketing companies four times a year. Conscientious direct mailers get the suppression list and merge it with their mailing lists to delete all those names. It may take several months to see an effect.

Registering with MPS will not end all advertising mail. You will continue to receive mail from companies with which you do business on a regular basis, or from charitable or commercial organizations that do not choose to use MPS. In addition, you may continue to receive mail from many local merchants, professional and alumni associations, political candidates and mail addressed to “occupant” or “resident.” Business mail is not affected by registration with MPS.

DMA's Privacy Promise requires its members to use the suppression lists and give customers clear and repeated notice that they have a choice not to have their contact information rented, sold or exchanged.

Opt-Out From Credit Card Solicitations

Credit card issuers jam the mailboxes of US consumers with over 5 billion solicitations annually, according to Market Research Portal, October 2007. Federal legislation that took effect in 1997 enables consumers to remove their names from the lists that credit bureaus provide to credit-card issuers. Consumers can get off these mailing lists by registering online at: www.optoutprescreen.com or by calling the toll-free number: 888-5-OPT-OUT (888-567-8688)

Consumers are asked to give their name, address and social security number in order to have their name removed. If you are reluctant to give out your social security number as a privacy concern, keep in mind that the credit reporting agency, which keeps tabs on your credit history, already has access to your social security number. They already compromised your privacy by selling your name to the financial institutions offering you

credit.

Calling the Opt-Out number or registering online will get you off all credit bureau marketing lists for five years. You can request a mail-in form that will allow you to take your name off these credit bureau lists permanently. The four big credit reporting agencies in the US that are participating in the Opt-Out system are Equifax, Experian, Innovis, and Trans Union.

Junk Mail You Want To Get

Almost by definition, “junk” mail is mail you don’t want. You probably do want to keep getting certain magazines, newsletters, and special catalogs, so there are some mailing lists you want to stay on. If you are not sure the organizations maintaining the lists you want to stay on know your privacy concerns, call or write their customer service departments and ask that your name be kept on an “in-house list” only. List exchange is common among non-profits as well as businesses. Be sure to contact your mail-order companies, membership organizations and magazines. Contact each institution issuing you a credit card, as there is no central customer service bureau for Visa or Master Card. Don’t forget your long distance telephone carrier, cable TV company, or airline frequent flyer programs.

Post Office Change-of-Address Cards

Filling out a change-of-address form when you move is voluntary, but the Post Office won’t forward your mail without it. The official Mail Forwarding Change of Address Form (Postal Form 3575) is now privately printed and packaged in a booklet of advertisements. Even the Post Office gets into the promotional spirit by sending you “valuable coupons” about your new neighborhood. The Postal Service sells names from change-of-address cards—some 40 million annually—to mailing list companies. Updates are theoretically provided only to those who already have your name and old address, but list brokers are under no such restrictions when they resell the lists.

As an alternative to filing the change of address form, send out your own postcards announcing your new address to those whose mail you want to receive. You can also ask your old post office to hold your mail for pick up until everyone knows your new address.

The Telephone Book

If you are listed in the White Pages of the telephone book, your name, address and phone number are, for all practical purposes, public record. Mailing list companies collect this information and sell it to marketing firms and also compile directories organized by address and phone number rather than by name. These “street address directories,” also known as “reverse directories” or “city directories,” are often used for marketing purposes. Such directories are also one of several sources of information used by emergency response agencies.

If you are concerned about keeping your name and address private, consider having an unlisted number. Or request that the local phone company publish just your name and phone number and omit your address. Ask the phone company to remove your listing from its “street address directory.” If your name is unlisted in the phone book, it will not be sold. Otherwise, call or write to the major independent directory companies and request that your listing be removed. As these companies compile many types of lists, specify that you want your name excluded from city directories. At the same time you can ask to be removed from their mailing and telemarketing lists.

- Haines & Company, Inc., publisher of Criss-Cross Directory: 800-731-1694 or mail address deletion request to: PO Box 2117, N. Canton, OH 44720.

Political Mail

During election season we all get lots of extra mail. While informing the electorate is a worthy goal, some campaigns carry on their mudslinging to voluminous extremes. The voter rolls are public records, and that’s

where the campaigns find your name. While failing to register would eliminate some junk mail, the consequence of giving up the vote would be counterproductive. Better to retain your constitutionally guaranteed voice in shaping public issues of concern to you such as reduction of junk mail. Note that listing your phone number on your voter registration form is optional.

Warranty Cards

The main purpose for warranty cards is to provide demographic and lifestyle information about you to marketers. Your warranty will still be valid if you keep proof of purchase, even if you don't fill out a warranty card. The only thing you might miss out on is news of a product recall. If you want to return the card for that reason, only provide your name, address and product serial number. Be sure to check the opt-out box on the card if there is one, or write a note saying you don't want your name used for marketing purposes. Demographic information is compiled by the Polk Company, a DMA member, so registering with the Mail Preference Service should eliminate mail from this source.

Supermarket Scanners

Supermarket "buyers club" cards do more than give you a discount. They allow the store to find out your buying preferences so they or other businesses can more effectively market you. To preserve your privacy, don't use the card and forego the discount.

Eternal Vigilance

The price of liberty from unwanted mail is being vigilant whenever you give out your name and address. Special cases to watch for are included in the Prevention section below. When signing up for a credit card, making a donation, ordering an item through the mail, joining an organization, or subscribing to a publication, tell the organization or company not to release your name to anyone else. However, they often ignore the initial request, so contact them again a few weeks later.

STEP 2: DELETION — Get Off Current Junk Mail Lists

As soon as you receive an unwanted piece of direct mail—especially if you have seen one like it before—contact the mailer to see that you don't get any more. Tips in this section offer help in getting off lists for specific types of mailings. If you continue to get the same mail for more than a few months, be persistent. Contact the company again and insist that they delete your name. If all else fails, file a Post Office Prohibitory Order (see below).



Mail Order Catalogs

Catalog mailing lists are perhaps the easiest to get off. Call their 800 number—many have 24-hour operators—and ask to be removed from their mailing list. Most companies courteously comply, and they pay for the call. Unfortunately, these are among the easiest lists to get back on.

If you are a customer of one mail order company, you are likely to receive offers from other companies, as firms commonly rent their mailing list to other businesses. So, if you subscribe to a cooking magazine, you may find yourself receiving mail order catalogs for kitchen supplies and food specialties. Registering with the DMA Mail Preference Service (see above) should stop the exchange of your name among DMA member companies.

Surveys

Issue oriented non-profit or political organizations sometimes mail out a survey that gives you the impression that you are registering your opinion with government decision makers. The survey is, of course, accompanied by a donation request. Even if you return the survey without a donation, the fact that you responded in any way makes your name a valuable commodity for trading.

Sweepstakes

Don't enter, and don't be tempted to buy their products. A contest that sounds too good to be true probably is. Sweepstakes mailings account for roughly one billion pieces of mail each year in the US. DMA studies show that 11 percent of Americans bought products or subscribed to magazines in response to sweepstakes promotions, believing, incorrectly, that the purchases would increase their chances of winning. The odds of winning are incredibly low (published odds of winning the \$1 million prize in the 1998 Reader's Digest sweepstakes: 600 million to 1). However, the odds of getting on other solicitation mailing lists are almost certain.

The major nationwide sweepstakes mailers are members of the DMA, so MPS registration should keep you from getting this type of mail. If you are receiving their sweepstakes mailings, call to have your name removed from their lists.

- Publishers Clearinghouse: 800-645-9242 or email address deletion request to: privacychoices@pchmail.com
- Readers Digest: 800-334-9599 or mail address deletion request to: PO Box 50005, Prescott, AZ 86301-5005

Refusing & Sending Back Mail

The Postal Service is required by law to deliver mail if proper postage is paid. However, you don't have to accept it.

Some unopened mail may be sent back. This works for all first class mail and any bulk mail marked "Address Correction Requested" or "Return Postage Guaranteed." Cross out your name and write "Return to Sender—Refused by addressee—Remove Name from Mailing List." The mailer pays the postage for the return trip, so they get the message.

If a postage-paid Business Reply envelope was included, send it back with the card that has your name and address printed on it. Write a note next to your name such as "Please remove my name from your mailing list." While you are at it, you can stuff all the paper they sent you back in the envelope, too. They pay the postage and get to deal with their waste. Business Reply postcards also let you contact the company at their expense.

Refusing bulk mail is also allowed by the Post Office. Write "REFUSED" on unopened junk mail and leave it in your mailbox, flagging your carrier for pickup. Unfortunately, all the Post Office will do is pick up and toss out refused mail (at best, recycle it), but the company that sent it will never know, and they will keep sending more until you communicate with them directly.

Dear Occupant

Advertisers can reach everyone in a town or neighborhood with a "saturation mailing" addressed to "Resident" or "Occupant" at a discounted postage rate. Advertisers buy mailing lists of street addresses from list brokers, who regularly obtain updated information from the Postal Service.

Here are opt-out options for some common "Occupant" mailings received locally:

- Red Plum, an advertising mailer, often with a picture of a missing child, that wraps a bundle of un-addressed ads similar to newspaper inserts. Call Consumer Assistance: 888-241-6760 or request deletion online: www.advo.com/consumersupport.html
- Santa Cruz Marketplace, a free home-delivered weekly newspaper. Call The Sentinel Circulation Department: 831-458-0111.

- AdWorks of the Central Coast local coupon mailing. Call 831-728-4355.
- Valpak Savings in a blue envelope. Cut out address block from mailing and send, with deletion request and a written statement you are the property owner or a long term resident at this address, to: Valpak of Santa Cruz County, PO Box 1333, Capitola, CA 95010, or submit your address for removal online: www.coxtarget.com./mailsuppression/s/DisplayMailSuppressionForm
- Quality Coupons, a local coupon book mailing. Send address label from mailing, with deletion request, to: Quality Coupons, 2901 Park Ave., Suite C-2, Soquel, CA 95073.

The last two companies will forward your label to their list supplier for deletion. Caution: this action will delete your address from all "Resident" lists the supplier prints for all clients, including city, county recycling, and water district newsletters. In spite of what they say, the deletion is probably not permanent, and you will have to repeat this step if the coupons return.

Rural Routes and Box Holders

Residents on rural routes or with P.O. Box addresses face a greater challenge than most in getting off lists addressed to "Occupant" or "Resident." Since the mailing label companies used by advertisers like Valpak and AdWorks are allowed to use a simplified address that only identifies the rural postal carrier route without the specific box numbers, the mailers cannot delete specific addresses. In this situation, after notifying the mailer, a resident must also call on the Post Office for assistance in stopping the offending mail. The Post Office complies by having the mail carrier put a notice on the inside of the mailbox specifying which mailing is not wanted, such as "No AdWorks." The Postal Service Prohibitory Order (see below) is available if your Post Office seems reluctant to assist you in stopping a mailing.

Too Many Phone Books?

To be removed from the delivery list for any of the several telephone directories dropped off annually at local homes, call the publisher:

- Santa Cruz County, AT&T Directory: 800-848-8000 option 1
- Santa Cruz County, Yellowbook Directory: 831-763-3900
- Pajaro Valley, Watsonville Register-Pajaronian: 831-761-7350

Prohibitory Order

As a last resort, if you cannot stop mail from a particular non-governmental mailer, the ultimate tool is to formally enlist the help of the Post Office by filing an Application for Prohibitory Order, Postal Service Form 1500, at any Post Office. While the Order, established by Federal law in 1968, was initially designed to stop sexually provocative advertising, court cases have held that the determination of what constitutes offensive material is at the sole discretion of the recipient. For example, if clear-cutting of virgin forests to produce glossy advertising strikes you as obscene, you can use the Prohibitory Order to stop the mailings if other methods have not been successful.

"Every man's mail today is made up overwhelmingly of material he did not seek from persons he does not know. And all too often it is matter he finds offensive," Chief Justice Warren Burger wrote for the majority in the 1970 US Supreme Court case, *Rowan v. US Post Office*. "A vendor does not have a constitutional right to send unwanted material into someone's home."

Form 1500 is free and only requires your name and address and the sender's. Turn in the form with a copy of the offensive mailing. If the mailing doesn't stop in 30 days, it is the Postmaster's responsibility to send a certified letter to the sender and enforce the law. The prohibition is for a specific mailer, so you can't say you find all junk mail offensive and want it stopped.

STEP 3: RECYCLE — What to Do With the Junk Mail You Get

Some unwanted mail will undoubtedly get through, so please recycle it. Junk mail can be recycled as “mixed waste paper.”

Curbside Pickup: Mixed paper is accepted in all curbside recycling programs in Santa Cruz County. Please contact your program operator for details:

- City of Santa Cruz: 831-420-5220
- Watsonville: 831-728-6133
- Capitola, Scotts Valley, Unincorporated County: 800-665-2209



Drop-Off: Junk mail may be dropped off at these recycling centers:

- Santa Cruz Municipal Resource Recovery Facility, North Coast
- California Grey Bears Recycling Center, Mid-County
- Ben Lomond Transfer Station Recycling Center, Newell Creek Road
- Valley Women’s Club Redemption/Recycling Centers, Felton & Boulder Creek
- Buena Vista Landfill Recycling Center, South County
- Watsonville Garbage & Recycling Drop-Off, Harvest Drive

For recycling center hours and locations, call the Recycling Information Line: 831-454-2333 or view the Where To Recycle Guide online: www.ecoact.org/PDF/WTR_res.pdf

Most Post Offices in the county offer mixed paper recycling to patrons in their lobby. Nationally, the Postal Service is making pencils out of undelivered mail.

Support Waste Prevention & Reuse

- Eliminate duplicate copies of catalogs or publications you want to receive by calling their office.
- Cancel some subscriptions if you find you don’t have the time to read all the magazines you are receiving.
- Patronize mail order catalogs which are printed on recycled paper, offer products made from recycled materials, or contribute a portion of their proceeds to environmental causes.
- Reuse paper printed on only one side for notes or scratch paper.
- Save envelopes included in junk mail for reuse. When reusing envelopes, be sure to cross out or cover the pre-printed address and bar code.

FUTURE STEPS

Why not a single toll-free number for opting-out of all lists? Better yet, an opt-in system in which you must consciously choose to be on a mailing list, with privacy of personal information as the default. There is a growing national groundswell—your individual action is adding to it—which has led to some legislative successes, primarily in the arena of privacy protection. Let your elected officials know you support legislation to stop unsolicited junk mail.

OTHER RESOURCES

More help with stopping junk mail and related topics—telemarketing, spam (junk email), and junk faxes.

Stop Junk Mail Forever—Telemarketing & Spam, Too. New edition of classic 28 page booklet from Good Advice Press. Order online: www.goodadvicepress.com/sjmf.htm or by phone: 845-657-8245

- EcoFuture. Internet site with tips & links on how to get rid of junk mail, spam, and telemarketers: www.ecofuture.org
- National Do Not Call Registry, established by the Federal Trade Commission. Reduce telemarketing calls permanently. Register online: www.donotcall.gov or by phone: 888-382-1222
- eMail Preference Service from the Direct Marketing Association. Helps reduce unsolicited commercial email. Register online: www.dmchoice.org/EMPS
- Catalog Choice is a free service that contacts catalog mailers to stop mail you don't want to receive. Sponsored by the Berkeley Ecology Center. Register online: www.catalogchoice.org (Not to be confused with www.catalogchoice.com, which helps you get *on* lists as well as off.)

No More Junk Mail Guide

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County of Santa Cruz
Department of Public Works
Waste Reduction Program
701 Ocean Street, Rm. 410
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
831-454-2160
email: recycle@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

Email A Question

Links



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Supreme Law Library

The Federal Zone: Cracking the Code of *Internal* Revenue

Electronic Eleventh Edition

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Last Update: January 29, 2010 A.D.

Two-cent postage

From e-mail:

Instructions for 2 cent mailings.

The United States Post Office, was sold to a French corporation, during the Nixon administration, and only operates in behalf of the US Gov. However the laws regarding the cost of postage may never be recinded, repealed or ammended, never.

The law requires that (all) one half oz. letters-be delivered anywhere in the Continental US for 2 cents.

1) in the upper right hand corner write:

First Class Non Domestic
Without Predjudice
USC-1-207
bk.12 Statutes At Large
Chapter 71 section 23
37th. Congress Session 111

2) do not use zip code

3) do not abbreviate states

An e-mail on using the above:

I do and when I used it got several HOT letters and threats from postal authorities. The problem with it is that DOMESTIC MAIL is sent through the UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE and the 2 cent rate doesn't apply to them. Not the same PO. I've done some checking on the International mail sequence since you forwarded that email on Domestic v/s International mail. I went to the local office of the UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE and requested an International mail, return receipt requested card. It is PS Form 2865 and MAGICALLY it is delivered by POSTAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA! SAYS SO, RIGHT ON THE CARD. That's why breaking the "sequence" as mentioned in the email, is important.

The law cite:

12 Stat 701, CHAP. LXXI:

CHAP. LXXI.--*An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Post-Office Department.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
That the Postmaster-General shall have the power to appoint and commission all postmasters whose salary or compensation for the preceding fiscal year shall at the time of such appointment have been ascertained to be less than one thousand dollars per year; and in all other cases the President shall appoint. The person appointed postmaster shall reside within the delivery of the office to which he shall be appointed.

[...]

[at 12 Stat. 705] SEC. 23. And be it further enacted, That the rate of postage on all letters not transmitted through the mails of the United States, but delivered through the post-office or its carriers, commonly described as local or drop

letters, and not exceeding one half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at two cents, and an additional rate for each half ounce or fraction thereof of additional weight, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamps affixed to the envelope of such letter, but no extra postage or carrier's fee shall hereafter be charged or collected upon letters delivered by carriers, nor upon letters collected by them for mailing or for delivery.



A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774 - 1875

Statutes at Large, 37th Congress, 3rd Session

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THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS. SESS. III. CH. 71. 1863.

705

vided into three classes, namely: first, letters; second, regular printed matter; third, miscellaneous matter.

SEC. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That the first class embraces all correspondence, wholly or partly in writing, except that mentioned in the third class. The second class embraces allailable matter exclusively in print, and regularly issued at stated periods, without addition by writing, mark, or sign. The third class embraces all other matter which is or may hereafter be by law declaredailable; embracing all pamphlets, occasional publications, books, book manuscripts, and proof sheets, whether corrected or not, maps, prints, engravings, blanks, flexible patterns, samples and sample cards, phonographic paper, letter envelopes, postal envelopes, or wrappers, cards, paper, plain or ornamental, photographic representations of different types, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and scions.

First class.

Second class.

Third class.

SEC. 21. *And be it further enacted*, That the maximum standard weight for the single rate of letter postage is one half ounce avoirdupois.

Weight and rate of single letter postage.

SEC. 22. *And be it further enacted*, That the rate of postage on all domestic letters transmitted in the mails of the United States, and not exceeding one half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at three cents; and for each half ounce, or fraction thereof of additional weight, there shall be charged an additional rate of three cents, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamps plainly affixed to such letter.

Prepayment.

SEC. 23. *And be it further enacted*, That the rate of postage on all letters not transmitted through the mails of the United States, but delivered through the post-office or its carriers, commonly described as local or drop letters, and not exceeding one half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at two cents, and an additional rate for each half ounce or fraction thereof of additional weight, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamps affixed to the envelope of such letter, but no extra postage or carrier's fee shall hereafter be charged or collected upon letters delivered by carriers, nor upon letters collected by them for mailing or for delivery.

Drop letters.

No carrier's fee.

SEC. 24. *And be it further enacted*, That the domestic letter rate of postage is established for allailable matter which is wholly or partly in writing, or is so marked as to convey any other or further intelligence or information than is conveyed by the original print in case of printed matter, or which is sent in violation of law or regulations of the department touching the enclosure of matter which may be sent at less than letter rates, and

Letter postage to include what.

ing the enclosure of matter which may be sent at less than letter rates, and for all matter introduced into the mails for which no different rate is provided by law: *Provided*, That book manuscripts and corrected proofs passing between authors and publishers may pass at the rate of printed matter: *And provided further*, That publishers of newspapers and periodicals may print or write upon their publications sent to regular subscribers the address of subscribers and the date when the subscription expires, and may enclose therewith receipts for payment and bills for subscription thereto.

Proofs.

Address of subscribers may be written or printed.

SEC. 25. *And be it further enacted*, That on all matter not enumerated asailable matter, and to which no specific rates of postage are assigned, and which shall nevertheless be mailed, the rate, if the same shall be forwarded, is established at the rate of letter postage.

Matter not enumerated to be treated as letter postage.

SEC. 26. *And be it further enacted*, That if any matter on which by law the postage is required to be prepaid at the mailing office shall reach its destination without such prepayment, double the prepaid rates shall be charged and collected on delivery.

Matter not prepaid to be charged double on delivery.

SEC. 27. *And be it further enacted*, That the Postmaster-General is authorized to provide by uniform regulation for transmitting unpaid and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors, and marines in the service of the United States to destination; and all other letters which from accident or neglect appear to have been deposited for mailing without prepayment of postage, where, in the latter class, the writer is not known, or cannot be promptly advised of his default; but in all cases of letters not prepaid,

Soldiers' letters, &c.

Letters not prepaid by accident.

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General Post Office

Richard Anthony

Origins and History

The definition of the word post originally meant "any of a number of riders or runners posted at intervals to carry mail or messages in relays along a route; postrider or courier" (*Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition, 1988, page 1054*). People, thousands of years ago, didn't write letters to one another like we do nowadays. They didn't even have paper, everything was done on clay tablets and papyrus (but that was a very expensive thing to engage in). And therefore, the posts were really set up for governmental purposes, between different rulers in their own country as well as neighboring countries. It was set up by the government originally.

But there was another entity, known as the general post-office, which was not for commercial purposes and it was strictly for fellowship between the brothers, and they did it amongst themselves. Paul's letters were not delivered by Caesar's men, but by brothers in Christ, and that is the general post-office. And throughout history, there's always been the general post-office and the governmental post office; and they're different. One's done strictly for fellowship, the other's done for commercial purposes.

The current postal system, which is known as the United States Postal Service, is commercial, but it still retains the non-commercial aspect. It's based on the original general post-office, It does not exist without tracing its root to the original general post-office. And as with everything, the created cannot do away with the creator. Therefore, that original creation by the brothers fellowshiping amongst each other is still in existence, they've never done away with it. In all their statutes, every time they come up with a new statutory entity, they never do away with the general post-office, therefore it is still there.

The general-post-office is not mentioned in the Domestic Mail Manual because the Domestic Mail Manual denotes commerce. If you've got a problem, that's what the postal service employees and managers will refer to, but that's because everyone's presumed to be in commerce. But it's only a presumption, and that's where you have to come in and rebut that presumption. You rebut it by not engaging in commercial activity and not receiving your mail at an address, etc. Most people don't realize that when you receive mail at an address, or even at a P.O. Box, you're receiving a free benefit from Caesar. The postage you put on the envelope only covers the cost to deliver it from post office to post office, it does not cover any delivery beyond the post office (and the price for a P.O. Box covers the cost to rent the box itself, not for the cost of delivery). That's called free delivery, which was instituted during the Civil War, on July 1st, 1863. It was basically an act of war by Abraham Lincoln. Even though they did have free mail delivery service prior to that, it was strictly for commercial businesses. But then, in 1863, they spread it to everyone. Up to that time, nobody had an address on their house. The numbers were brought in on the houses strictly so the postman would know where to deliver the mail. Before 1863, people would collect their mail by going to the local post office and asking for it.

The U.S. Postal Service was established in 1971. This was preceded by the Post Office Department, which was established in 1872. And before the Post Office Department, the general post-office preceded that. In the early 1800's, they started referring to the general post office as the Post Office Department. However, it did not officially become the Post Office Department until

1872. Previous to that it was known as the general post-office.

There was actually two different general post-offices. The Post Master General today wears about seven hats; there's about seven different entities to the postal system. He wears the original hat as a caretaker of the original general post-office. He's also the caretaker of the general post-office that was created on February 20, 1792, which was for governmental business. And then in 1872 they created the Post Office Department.

In 1639, the original foundation for the post office was given in Massachusetts to Richard Fairbanks, the owner of Fairbanks Tavern in Boston. He was the first Postal officer in the history of the United States.

The General Court of Massachusetts
November 5, 1639:

"For preventing the miscarriage of letters, it is ordered, that notice be given that Richard Fairbanks's house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters which are brought from beyond the seas, or are to be sent thither, to be brought unto; and he is to take care that they be delivered or sent according to their directions; and he is allowed for every such letter one penny, and must answer all miscarriages through his own neglect in this kind; provided that no man shall be compelled to bring his letters thither, except he please."

Following the adoption of the Constitution in May 1789, the Act of September 22, 1789 (1 Stat. 70), temporarily established a post office:

NINETEENTH ACT of CONGRESS

An ACT for the temporary establishment of the POST OFFICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be appointed a Post-Master General; his powers and salary and the compensation to the assistant or clerk and deputies which he may appoint, and the regulations of the Post-Office shall be the same as they last were under the resolutions and ordinances of the late Congress. The Post-Master General to be subject to the direction of the President of the United States in performing the duties of his office, and in forming contracts for the transportation of the mail. Be it further enacted, That this act shall continue in force until the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer.

Approved, September 22th, 1789.

The post office was temporarily continued by the Act of August 4, 1790 (1 Stat. 178), and the Act of March 3, 1791 (1 Stat. 218). The Act of February 20, 1792 made detailed provisions for the post office, and also established a separate general post office for governmental purposes:

Chapter VIII - An Act to establish the Post Office and Post Roads within the United States.

Section 3. *And it be further enacted*, That there shall be established, at the seat of the government of the United States, a general post-office.

Note that this one page statutory creation by Congress established that general post-office for governmental business at the seat of the government of the United States in Washington D.C. The general post-office, which already existed, was never designated as being repealed in this Act. Therefore, it still remains in existence, separate from the governmental business' set up by this Act. There's nothing in that whole act which repeals the original general post-office. There's

nothing in the act of 1872, when they created the Post Office Department, that did away with the original general post-office. So it's still there. There's nothing in the act of July 1, 1971, which created the Postal Service. The creation cannot do away with the creator, they cannot abolish the creator. Otherwise it has no foundation. And that's why the current Postmaster General wears about seven hats, because he has all of those different things that were created all the way through there.

In the early 1800's, the general post-office began to be referred to as "the Post-office department," but was not officially created until June 8, 1872:

Chapter CCCXXXV. - An Act to revise, consolidate, and amend the Statutes relating to the Post-office Department.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be established, at the seat of government of the United States of America, a department to be known as the Post-office Department.

And again, the general post-office was not repealed in this statute. It is for this cause that the re-organized service and its employees have no authority over the general post-office - it precedes their creation and has its Source and Origin in God through His Lawful assembly. The Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America was established on February 21, 1861, by an Act of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. The resumption of the federal mail service in the southern states took place gradually as the war came to an end.

Then the Post Office Department was replaced by the United States Postal Service on July 1, 1971. Title 39, the Postal Reorganization Act, details this change as well.

Scripture Passages

The general post office has its beginnings in scripture.

Jeremiah 51:31, "One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end..."

A "post" is another name for a courier:

2 Chronicles 30:6, "So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah,"

Esther 3:13, "And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces..."

Scripture records messages being sent "by the hands of messengers" (1 Samuel 11:7) from as far back as the book of Job, which is the oldest book in the bible:

Job 1:14, "And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them:"

These messages were delivered using the current means of movement at the time:

Esther 8:10,14, "And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels,

and young dromedaries: So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out..."

And sending messages refreshes the soul:

Proverbs 25:13, KJV, "As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters."

Proverbs 25:13, Septuagint, "As a fall of snow in the time of harvest is good against heat, so a faithful messenger refreshes those that sent him: for he helps the souls of his masters."

In times passed, people sent messages to others by posting their letters on a "post" in the middle of town, with the name of the one who it's intended for. People would go to this "post" and look for letters with their name on it, and if they saw their name on a letter they would take it down from the post and read it. However, due to theft of messages, an office was built around the post to prevent people from stealing messages. This office became known as the general post-office. People would then go to the general post-office to pick up their messages.

Today, the stamp on an envelope pays for delivery of that envelope from the sender's post-office to the receiver's post-office. It does not pay for the costs when that envelope leaves the area behind the clerk's desk and gets delivered to the receiver's address, mailbox, post office box, mail slot, etc. This is a "free" service. The alternative to free mail delivery is to receive all Postal Matter either in general delivery, or through the general post office.

Procedures

Be sure to take these measures when using the general post office:

1. Remove the mailbox from your home. Seal the mail slot in your door or apartment. Cancel your post office box.
2. All numbers should be removed from the house, and from around your land.
3. Always use stamps on envelopes. Avoid having your outgoing mail meter-stamped by the post office because this is a "free service" from the government. Besides, you must provide a zip code in order for them to weigh it and place the postage on it (which shows its commercial nature).
4. When sending mail matter, one should drop it off inside the Post Office itself if possible. The stamp on an envelope covers the cost to send it from one post office to another post office; it does not cover the cost to have it personally delivered from or to a mailbox or post-office box. If you drop out-going mail into mail boxes outside the Post Office (including mail boxes on the sidewalk and parking lot of the Post Office itself), the government must pick it up and delivery it for you, and it is a free benefit from the Postal Service.
5. Never accept mail that is not First-Class, mail that is addressed in all capital letters, mail that uses abbreviations, or mail that places a zip code in your mailing location (unless the zip code is contained in brackets).
6. Do not use a zip code. If you must use one, always put brackets around it. In man's law, this is considered extraneous, explanatory, and interpolated matter; meaning it's separate and

distinct from the rest of the document. Whether or not anybody recognizes that is another question, but in their own law that's how it's written. After the five-digit zip code, one should put the following four digit extension after it, "-9999". For example: [28715-9999]. This indicates the non-commercial side of the post office. The commercial side of the post office, through general delivery, is indicated by the extension "-9998".

7. Never allow the post office to forward mail to the general post office or from the general post office. It is a free service and benefit. You want to stay away from that. Inform people about the change in your mailing location yourself. Those you don't notify are most likely unsolicited mailers anyway.
8. Never receive commercial mail through the general post office. To avoid receiving bills through the US Postal Service, pay all bills in person before they send out the bill (phone bills, electric bills, etc.). You can contact the billing department to find out when you can go in person to pay the bill to avoid them sending it out. You may tell them, "I no longer have a place to receive mail, so I'll just go there and pay it in person." Or you can send them money in advance before the billing cycle starts.
9. The evidence of a mailbox on a house, in front of a house, or using a Post Office Box, prove military commercial residency as an 'enemy in the field.' A doorbell or door knocker is an 'invitation' under military and statutory law to break down the door, if necessary, within their own discretion, because it is presumed that the existence of such is to permit or allow anyone to enter for any reason once announcement has been made and without any further protocol necessary to gain entrance.

General Post Office

The only post-office in your town you may use to pick up postal mail matter is the main post office. Always bring a copy of the scripture with you. This shows who and what you are, and the Law you follow.

Bondmen of Christ should always pick up mail in the name of Christ, and not in their own name.

Colossians 3:17, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

One reason that general delivery is denied to so many is because they come in their own name to pick up their own mail, which denoted self-will. Another reason is because general delivery was created under the Post Office Department and Postal Service, which were both created by the government, and is under their jurisdiction. Therefore, they can deny it to whoever they wish since they created it. The general post-office, on the other hand, was created before these two departments, and precedes the legal memory of man. The general post-office is not regulated in the postal laws because they can only regulate what they have created. So they cannot lawfully deny it.

The general way to proceed to pick up mail matter at the general post-office, instead of general delivery, can be as follows: Send, or have others send, First-Class mail matter (do not send a 'signature requires' class) to the main post office within the area of the Lawful Assembly, directed to the Lawful assembly, such as:

the Christ's assembly

general post-office
Enka, North Carolina

Or, if you have many people in your assembly, you may write:

the Christ's assembly
for Richard
general post-office
Enka, North Carolina

So the assembly knows who that mail is personally for. Or, the simplest way is to just use:

the Christ's assembly
Enka, North Carolina

But the reason you may want to keep the "general post office" in the mailing location is to differentiate the general post office from general delivery service.

After three or four days, send two or three Brothers with a Letter of Appointment to call forth the mail matter that was sent. The initial verbal introduction can be, "Greetings, we were sent by the Christ's assembly at California to call forth their First-Class mail matter that was sent here to the general post-office. Here is their Letter of Appointment." The post-office may even offer to keep your letter of appointment in their files for their records.

Once the mail matter is handed to you, the general post-office is revived. Keep in mind that you may be told that you can only receive "general delivery," but once the mail matter is handed to you, the question is moot, for they have already born witness otherwise, because they handed over mail addressed to the general post-office, thus confirming they recognize the general post office (especially if they do not return it to the sender or junk it). So, you may say, "You acknowledge that this is the general post-office by handing this mail matter to me, otherwise you wouldn't have handed it to me."

Questions and Answers

The following is an overview of how one may speak to those in the Post Office concerning the general post-office.

Sojourner: Greetings! We were sent by the Christ's assembly at California to call forth their First-Class mail matter that was sent here to the general post-office. Here is their Letter of Appointment.

Post Office: Who are you?

Sojourner: I'm a messenger sent by the Christ's assembly at California.

Post Office: You must fill out a government form.

Sojourner: I'm sorry, I don't really fill out government forms.

Post Office: We must insist on you filling out this form.

Sojourner: This is a form for General Delivery Service. I am not requesting general delivery service, but am here to pick up First-Class mail matter sent through the general post-office. Those who get free mail delivery service at their homes don't fill

out any government forms.

Post Office: I need to see some I.D.

Sojourner: I do not have any I.D. But if you want to know who I am, I'll be happy to write it down on a piece of paper and leave you my signature so that when I come in to pick it up you can identify me that way.

Post Office: You can't pick up mail without I.D.

Sojourner: Would it help if those who sent the mail call you up and give their permission for me to pick it up? (If the answer is "yes," then have those people call up the post-office, and have them say that those who it is addressed to will pick it up. If the post office asks how they will know if the ones who pick it up are the ones who it is addressed to if they don't have I.D., have them say, "Whoever asks for that mail in Christ's Name may receive it".)

Post Office: You can only receive mail through general delivery.

Sojourner: We fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ around the country, and they only send First-Class mail matter through the general post-office. That's the only means we have of fellowshipping with one another. (Stress to the post office that you receive mail matter specifically for fellowship between yourself and the body of believers in Christ Jesus, and not for any commercial purposes).

Post Office: This mail must have a zip code on it.

Sojourner: I have no control over whether or not the sender uses a zip code. If they don't believe in zip codes, they won't use them. It's not up to me, but them.

Post Office: There is no room to keep your mail (this may be true, especially if you are part of a commune).

Sojourner: We'll build a box for you so you could have something to put our mail in. If this box is just on your side of the clerk's desk, we can pick up our mail without you having to get our mail for us.

Post Office: But anybody can take your mail if it's by the counter.

Sojourner: Well, we'll put that in the hands of the Lord. This mail is posted and moved by the Grace of God, and if it's His Will, we'll receive what he wants us to receive. Besides, those who receive free home delivery of their mail have mail boxes, and anybody can take the mail out of those boxes as well.

If the post office refuses to acknowledge the general post-office, and returns the mail back to the sender, then send a letter to the general post-office with a "delivery confirmation" on it. This way, if the post office returns that to the sender, they have to explain why it was returned. But they may be hesitant to send something back with a delivery confirmation on it, and if they hand it to you, then the general post-office is revitalized.

If the post master refuses the general post-office (or general delivery) to you, then go to a small town, preferably a town that does not have free mail delivery service. The post offices in these areas are very friendly and willing to serve you, and very rarely even ask for I.D. to pick up mail matter.

As a last resort, if the post office is giving you a hard time, you may request a "U.S. Postal Service Consumer Service Card" (PS Form 4314-C) from the post-office that is refusing you (or you may walk in the post-office with one already). This is an official complaint form that is sent to the

Postmaster in charge of the main distribution center that controls all the post-offices in their area. Tell them that since you have a vested right in the general post-office, you need to have their name and Employee Identification Number, so you can fill out that form so somebody can straighten them out. Nobody wants to have complaints on their personal work record, and they're really using their own discretion when they say "you can't receive it here" because there's no direction from the Post Master General stating they can do that. And therefore, if they think you're going to put in a complaint against them, those at the post-office may re-consider and allow you to go through the general post-office, without you even having to send this form in to their superiors. However, we do not recommend that you actually send this card to the area post-office, because then you'd be considered a consumer, and a 'consumer' is a commercial term. Just the threat of using a consumer complaint card may change their attitude.

Additional Comments

If the postal clerk is not sure what you are asking for, tell them the mail matter will probably be bundled near or with the general delivery items. They will then proceed to that area of the post office to look for the mail.

Unlike mail delivery service, if, after you mail a letter or package, it does not have enough postage on it and it's returned to you in the general post office, the stamps on it are still valid (as long as you don't leave the post office with it...just add more stamps to it right there and then if it has insufficient postage on it) and may be used again, because it never left the post-office! Once it leaves the post-office through home delivery, or a P.O. Box, then the stamps cannot be re-used.

Another advantage of receiving mail through the general post-office is that you will not receive any junk mail. They do not deliver mail without spelling everything in ALL CAPS, abbreviations, and zip codes. They only deliver to commercial addresses.

Also, if you get any mail that you cannot accept (such as an envelope having your name in all capital letters, or abbreviations, or zip codes, etc.), you may return it to the sender. If the clerk asks, "Why do you want to refuse it?" You may say, "I am not refusing that mail, it's not deliverable as addressed." If they ask, "But isn't your name RICHARD ANTHONY?" You may say, "My name is not spelled in all capital letters, therefore, that is not my name. If that's not my name, that mail is not addressed to me. I cannot accept somebody else's mail." If they ask what they should put on the envelope when they return it, make sure they stamp, "Not deliverable as addressed" on it.

As far as the issue of identification, if you get the mail on your own, and it's personally addressed to you, they're going to want identification. But if you're with the assembly, and go with one or two other brothers (or sisters) from the assembly, and have a letter of appointment from the assembly, you have an official duty to engage in, and therefore the post office has a very difficult time asking for I.D. So that is one of the advantages of receiving mail on behalf of the Christ's assembly, rather than in your own name.

Some may ask about the postage. The postage is the same for matters mailed from the general post-office as it is for everything else. They have their costs. And the Postage is not what makes it commercial, it's the free delivery that goes beyond the post office where the problem is.

Some may ask about parcels. They'll hold them there at the general post-office for you until you

pick it up. You don't have to have it sent to an address or anything like that.

We also recommend giving the clerk (who hands you the mail) a pre-1964 silver coin each time you pick up the mail. This separates you from the world's way of doing things. The clerk may say, "You don't have to give me that," but you may reply, "I know I don't have to, but the Lord is directing me to give it to you." Or you may also say, "It is better to give than to receive." If they ask why you are doing that, you may say, "I'm receiving something from you, so I'm giving in return. We give to those who help us."

Letter of Appointment

From the Christ's assembly at North Carolina, to all whom this matter does concern, Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus, the Christ, and ourselves in Lawful assembly in and through His Name.

On this _____ day of the _____ month in the _____ Year of Our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus, solely by the Grace of God, in His Blessed Name, by His Authority, and under Lawful Warrant in, of, and through Him, the Christ's assembly at North Carolina calls, appoints, and directs, our Brothers and Sisters in possession of this appointment, having shown and evidenced to us by the word of their Testimony, and the Witness of God our Father, to be of one Mind, Body, and Spirit with us in the Christ, to:

One; call forth our First-Class mail Matter from the general post-office located at Enka, North Carolina and return the same to us and each of us; and,

Two; to exercise due diligence, sound Wisdom and Judgment with which God our Father in the Christ has blessed them, in carrying out the duties appertaining to this appointment; and to continue to exercise the duties in and of this appointment until:

One; his or her recall by, and return to, our Blessed Sovereign Lord and Saviour Jesus, the Christ; or,

Two; this appointment is withdrawn by us in Lawful assembly in His Name for Cause.

Locus sigilli ecclesiae:

[place signature (black or blue ink) and right thumb print (red ink) here] , a bondservant of Jesus, the Christ

[place signature (black or blue ink) and right thumb print (red ink) here] , a bondservant of Jesus, the Christ

Sealed under Authority of the Christ, by His Direction of our own hands.

General Delivery

This is the way we formerly called for our First-Class Matter. We no longer use general delivery, because we have discovered this is a service created by man, and is under their

control since it's in their codes, rules and regulations. But for those who would rather receive general delivery, or for those who are not able to go through the general post-office because of an adamant Post Master, we have left this section in tact.

When going to the main post office for the first time to receive general delivery, these items should be brought with you.

1. Family Bible and Baptismal Certificate. This shows who and what you are, and the Law you follow.
2. Sections 776-797 from the Postal Laws and Regulations of 1932. This shows that a request for general delivery, if insisted upon, must be complied with.
3. Section D930 from the DMM (Domestic mail Manual). This is the law concerning general delivery. It states that it's for transients and customers, and then goes on to limit general delivery to customers only, but does not limit it to transients.
4. A copy of Postal Bulletin #21877, issued 9-29-94, page 7. This shows that those without identification may receive indefinite general delivery. It also shows that the 30 day limit in DMM 930.1.4 refers to how long mail is usually held in general delivery, not to how long one can receive general delivery.
5. A copy of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 410 (c). This states that the Postal Service shall not require the disclosure of identification from any postal patron.
6. A copy of section A010, section 1.2e, from the DMM. This shows that zip codes are voluntary under the law, for First-Class mail matter.

The following is an overview of how one may speak to those in the Post Office concerning general delivery.

Sojourner: I wanted to inform you that I'll be receiving postal matter in general delivery and I would like you to hold it for me.

Post Office: Fill out this form.

Sojourner: I'm sorry, I don't really fill out government forms. But if you want to know who I am, I'll be happy to write it down on a piece of paper and leave you my signature so that when I come in to pick it up, you can identify me that way.

Post Office: You must fill out this form.

Sojourner: This is a form for General Delivery Service. Since I'm not requesting General Delivery Service, it's impossible for me to fill out that application. Calling for my First-Class Matter in general delivery is not a 'service', but an extended government duty of the Post Office Department.

Post Office: Well, you'll need identification to pick it up.

Sojourner: I would like an interview with the Postmaster of the general post office. I am in general delivery specifically for fellowship between myself and the body of believers in Christ, Jesus, and not for any commercial purposes.

Post Office: I'll let you know my decision.

Sojourner: I'm not here seeking any permission, but to assert a traditionally vested right in general delivery, established for and by the church, which existed prior to the creation of the Postal Service, The Post Office Department, the general post office, and the Constitution. Thus, it isn't within your discretion to deny such rights.

Post Office: Mister so and so...

Sojourner: Being a Godly Man, I do not attach, or allow to be attached, commercial designations such as 'Mister' to my Godly Name, for to do so is an abomination to my Lord and Saviour, Jesus, the Christ. Since I am a Sojourner in Christ, on the land, homeless and transient, and not a commercial resident with a fixed address, I would draw your attention to Postal Bulletin 21877. Those that write your DMM are very careful not to restrict transients and Patrons from calling their postal matter from general delivery, because they say here that we may receive "indefinite" general delivery. The church uses general delivery to communicate with each other, not as residents but as sojourners.

Post Office: You need Identification.

Sojourner: Well, let's examine the law and see what it says regarding general delivery. In D930, please note that general delivery is intended primarily, not exclusively, as a temporary means of delivery. Section 1.1 says it's for transients and customers only. Sections 1.2 and thereafter restrict customers only, not transients. It appears to me that those learned men and women in the law who write your DMM would not differentiate between 'transients' and 'customers' at section 1.1 if the two terms conveyed the same meaning, and would not have dropped 'transients' after section 1.1 if the restrictions applied to transients. I pray that you will note the significance of these differences at law.

NOTE: An example of a mailing location in general delivery may be:

Richard Anthony
general delivery
Atlanta, Georgia



[Return to *Christ's Lawful Assembly*](#)

Translation

[Home](#)

[Greetings](#)

[Who We Are](#)

[Helpful Info](#)

[Rest Room](#)

[Search](#)

[Contact Us](#)



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United States Postal Service

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from [U.S. Postal Service](#))

This article is about the government agency. For individual post offices, see [U.S. Post Office \(disambiguation\)](#).

"USPS" redirects here. For the non-profit boating safety and education organization, see [United States Power Squadrons](#).

For the cycling team, see [Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team](#).

The United States Postal Service (USPS) is an [independent agency of the United States government](#) responsible for providing [postal service](#) in the [United States](#). It is one of the few government agencies [explicitly authorized by the United States Constitution](#). Within the United States, it is commonly referred to as the "Post Office", "Postal Service", or "U.S. Mail".

Though postal services have existed on American territory before the United States' establishment, the USPS's first incarnation was established by [Benjamin Franklin](#) in [Philadelphia](#) in 1775 by decree of the [Second Continental Congress](#). The [Post Office Department](#) was created from this in 1792 as part of the [United States Cabinet](#), then was transformed into its current form in 1983 under the [Postal Reorganization Act](#).

Since its reorganization into an independent organization, the USPS has become self-sufficient and has not directly received taxpayer-dollars since the early 1980s. However it is currently borrowing money from the U.S. Treasury to pay its deficits. ^[3] The decline of mail volume due to increased usage of e-mail has forced the postal service to look to other sources of revenue while cutting costs to maintain this financial balance. ^[4]

Employing 596,000 workers and over 218,000 vehicles, it is the second-largest civilian employer in the United States (after [Wal-Mart](#)) and the operator of the largest civilian [vehicle fleet](#) in the world. ^[5] The USPS is obligated to serve all Americans, regardless of geography, at uniform price and quality. Conversely, it has exclusive access to letterboxes marked "U.S. Mail." It competes against private [package delivery](#) services who cannot deliver to letterboxes and must leave packages by front doors if no one is available to receive them. More recently, the USPS has faced competition from [email](#).

United States Postal Service



Type	Government agency
Industry	Courier
Founded	1775 (see History)
Headquarters	475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington, D.C. 20260-2202
Key people	John E. Potter , Postmaster General
Products	First-class and domestic mail, logistics
Revenue	▼ US\$ 68.09 billion (2009) ^[1]
Operating income	▼ US\$ -3.74 billion (2009)
Net income	▼ US\$ -3.79 billion (2009)
Employees	596,000 (2010) ^[2]
Website	USPS.com



Full eagle logo, used in various versions from 1970 to 1994

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History

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Main article: [Postage stamps and postal history of the United States](#)

The first postal service in America arose in February of 1692 when a grant from [King William & Queen Mary](#) empowered [Thomas Neale](#) "to erect, settle and establish within the chief parts of their majesties' colonies and plantations in America, an office or offices for the receiving and dispatching letters and pacquets, and to receive, send and deliver the same under such rates and sums of money



Running pony logo used by the U.S. Post Office Department before the creation of the USPS

as the planters shall agree to give, and to hold and enjoy the same for the term of twenty-one years."^[*citation needed*]

The *United States Post Office* (U.S.P.O.) was created in Philadelphia under Benjamin Franklin on July 26, 1775 by decree of the **Second Continental Congress**. Based on the **Postal Clause** in **Article One of the United States Constitution**, empowering Congress "To establish post offices and post roads," it became the **Post Office Department** (U.S.P.O.D.) in 1792. It was part of the Presidential cabinet and the **Postmaster General** was the last person in the **United States presidential line of succession**. In 1971, the department was reorganized as a quasi-independent corporation of the federal government and acquired its present name. The Postmaster General is no longer in the presidential line of succession.^[6]

The Post Office Department was enlarged during the tenure of President **Andrew Jackson**. As the Post Office expanded, difficulties were experienced due to a lack of employees and transportation. The Post Office's employees at that time were still subject to the so-called 'spoils' system, where faithful political supporters of the executive branch were appointed to positions in the post office and other government corporations as a reward for their patronage. These appointees rarely had prior experience in postal service and mail delivery. This system of political patronage was replaced in 1883 after passage of the **Pendleton Act** (Civil Service Reform Act).^[7]

Ten years before waterways were declared post roads in 1823, the Post Office used steamboats to carry mail between post towns where no roads existed.^[8] Once it became clear that the postal system in the United States needed to expand across the entire country, the use of the railroad to transport the mail was instituted in 1832 on one line in Pennsylvania.^[9] All railroads in the United States were designated as post routes, after passage of the Act of July 7, 1838. Mail service by railroad increased rapidly thereafter.^[10]

Congress finally provided for the issuance of stamps by passing an act on March 3, 1847, and the Postmaster-General immediately let a contract to the New York City engraving firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson. The first stamp issue of the U.S. was offered for sale on July 1, 1847, in NYC, with Boston receiving stamps the following day and other cities thereafter. The 5 cent stamp paid for a letter weighing less than 1 oz and travelling less than 300 miles, the 10 cent stamp for deliveries to locations greater than 300 miles, or, twice the weight deliverable for the 5 cent stamp.

In 1847, the **U.S. Mail Steamship**



~ Benjamin Franklin ~ George Washington ~
The First US Postage Stamps
Issued 1847

The first stamp issues were authorized by an act of Congress and approved on March 3, 1847.^[11] The earliest known use of the Franklin 5c is July 7, 1847, while the earliest known use of the Washington 10c is

Company acquired the contract to carry the U. S. mails from **New York**, with stops in **New Orleans** and **Havana**, to the **Isthmus of Panama** for delivery in

California. The same year, **Pacific Mail Steamship Company** had acquired the right to transport mail under contract from the United States Government from the Isthmus of Panama to California. In 1855, **William Henry Aspinwall** completed the **Panama Railway**, the first transcontinental railroad, providing service from the east coast across the Isthmus to California in three weeks for the mails, passengers and goods and remained an important route until the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. Railroad companies greatly expanded mail transport service after 1862, and the **Railway Mail Service** was inaugurated in 1869.^[9] Rail cars designed to sort and distribute mail while rolling were soon introduced.^[9] RMS employees sorted mail 'on the fly' during the journey, and became some of the most skilled workers in the postal service. An RMS sorter had to be able to separate the mail quickly into compartments based on its final destination, before the first destination arrived, and work at the rate of 600 pieces of mail an hour. They were tested regularly for speed and accuracy.^[13] The advent of **rural free delivery** in the U.S. in 1896 and the inauguration of **parcel post** service in 1913 greatly increased the volume of mail shipped nationwide, and motivated the development of more efficient postal transportation systems.^[14]

On August 12, 1918, the Post Office Department took over **air mail** service from the **U.S. Army Air Service** (USAAS). Assistant Postmaster General Otto Praeger appointed Benjamin B. Lipsner to head the civilian-operated **Air Mail Service**. One of Lipsner's first acts was to hire four pilots, each with at least 1,000 hours flying experience, paying them an average of \$4,000 per year. The Post Office Department used mostly **World War I** military surplus **de Havilland DH-4** aircraft. During 1918, the Post Office hired an additional 36 pilots. In its first year of operation, the Post Office completed 1,208 airmail flights with 90 forced landings. Of those, 53 were due to weather and 37 to engine failure. By 1920, the Air Mail service had delivered 49 million letters.^[15] Domestic **air mail** became obsolete in 1975, and international air mail in 1995, when the USPS began transporting First Class mail by air on a routine basis.

The Post Office was one of the first government departments to regulate **obscene** materials on a national basis. When the U.S. Congress passed the **Comstock laws** of 1873, it became illegal to send through the U.S. mail any material considered obscene, **indecent** or which promoted **abortion** issues, **contraception**, or **alcohol** consumption.^[16]

The **Postal Reorganization Act** signed by President **Richard Nixon** on August 12, 1970, replaced the cabinet-level **Post Office Department** with the independent United States Postal Service. The Act took effect on July 1, 1971.

Current operations

[[edit](#)]



USPS service delivery truck

The United States Postal Service employs some 656,000 workers, making it the second-largest^[17] civilian employer in the United States (excluding the federal government) following only **Wal-Mart**.^[18] In a 2006 **U.S. Supreme Court** decision, the Court noted: "Each day, according to the Government's submissions here, the United States Postal Service delivers some 660 million pieces of mail to as many as 142 million delivery points."^[19] The USPS operates

32,741 post offices and locations in the US. In August 2009 the **Postal Regulatory Commission**(PRC) put forward a preliminary **list of about 1000** it is considering closing to save money.^[20] Its employees deliver mail at an average yearly cost of \$235 per residence as of 2009.^[21]

The USPS operates the largest civilian **vehicle fleet** in the world, with an estimated 260,000 vehicles,

the majority of which are the easily identified [Chevrolet/Grumman LLV](#) (Long-Life Vehicle), and the newer Ford/Utilimaster FFV (Flex-Fuel Vehicle), originally also referred to as the "CRV" (Carrier Route Vehicle), as shown in the pictures below. In an interview on NPR, a USPS official stated that for every penny increase in the national average price of [gasoline](#), the USPS spends an extra \$8 million to fuel its fleet.^[22] This implies that the fleet requires some 800 million gallons (3.03 billion liters) of fuel per year, and consumes an estimated fuel budget of \$2.4 billion, were the national gasoline price to average \$3.00. Some [Rural Letter Carriers](#) use personal vehicles. Standard postal-owned vehicles do not have [license plates](#). These vehicles are identified by a seven digit number displayed on the front and rear.

Competition from [e-mail](#)^[23] and private operations such as [United Parcel Service](#) and [FedEx](#)^[*citation needed*] has forced USPS to adjust its business strategy and to modernize its products and services. First Class mail volume (which is protected by legal monopoly) has declined 22% from 1998 to 2007, due to the increasing use of e-mail and the World Wide Web for correspondence and business transactions.^[24] In 2008, a general economic slowdown also affected mail volumes, especially advertising.^[25] Lower volume means lower revenues to support the fixed commitment to deliver to every address once a day, six days a week. In response, the USPS has increased productivity each year from 2000 to 2007,^[25] through increased automation, route re-optimization, and facility consolidation.^[24]

The domain *usps.com* attracted at least [159 million visitors](#) ↗ annually by 2008 according to a [Compete.com](#) survey.

The Department of Defense and the USPS jointly operate a postal system to deliver [mail for the military](#); this is known as the Army Post Office (for [Army](#) and [Air Force](#) postal facilities) and Fleet Post Office (for [Navy](#), [Marine Corps](#) and [Coast Guard](#) postal facilities).

Governance and organization

[[edit](#)]

The [Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service](#) sets policy, procedure, and postal rates for services rendered, and has a similar role to a corporate [board of directors](#). Of the eleven members of the Board, nine are appointed by the [President](#) and confirmed by the [United States Senate](#) (see [39 U.S.C. § 202](#) ↗). The nine appointed members then select the [United States Postmaster General](#), who serves as the board's tenth member, and who oversees the day to day activities of the service as [Chief Executive Officer](#) (see [39 U.S.C. § 202](#) ↗–[203](#) ↗). The ten-member board then nominates a Deputy Postmaster General, who acts as [Chief Operating Officer](#), to the eleventh and last remaining open seat.

The USPS is often mistaken for a government-owned [corporation](#) (e.g., [Amtrak](#)), but as noted above is legally defined as an "independent establishment of the executive branch of the Government of the United States," ([39 U.S.C. § 201](#) ↗) as it is wholly owned by the government and controlled by the Presidential appointees and the Postmaster General. As a [quasi-governmental agency](#), it has many special privileges, including [sovereign immunity](#), [eminent domain](#) powers, powers to negotiate [postal treaties](#) with foreign nations, and an exclusive legal right to deliver first-class and third-class mail. Indeed, in 2004, the [U.S. Supreme Court](#) ruled in a unanimous decision that the USPS was not a government-owned corporation, and therefore could not be sued under the [Sherman Antitrust Act](#).^[26] The U.S. Supreme Court has also upheld the USPS's statutory monopoly on access to



USPS headquarters at [L'Enfant Plaza](#) in ↗ Washington, D.C.

letterboxes against a [First Amendment freedom of speech](#) challenge; it thus remains illegal in the U.S. for *anyone* other than the employees and agents of the USPS to deliver mailpieces to letterboxes marked "U.S. Mail."^[27]

The Postal Service also has a Mailers' Technical Advisory Committee and local Postal Customer Councils, which are advisory and primarily involve business customers.^[28]

Universal Service Obligation and monopoly status

[\[edit\]](#)

[Article I, section 8, Clause 7](#) of the [United States Constitution](#) grants [U.S. Congress](#) the power to establish post offices and post roads. The Federal Government has interpreted this clause as granting a de facto Congressional [monopoly](#) over the delivery of mail. According to the government, no other system for delivering mail - public or private - can be established absent Congress's consent. Congress has delegated to the Postal Service the power to decide whether others may compete with it, and the Postal Service has carved out an exception to its monopoly for extremely urgent letters.

The mission of the Postal Service is to provide the American public with trusted universal postal service at affordable prices. While not explicitly defined, the Postal Service's [universal service obligation](#) (USO) is broadly outlined in statute and includes multiple dimensions: geographic scope, range of products, access to services and facilities, delivery frequency, affordable and uniform pricing, service quality, and security of the mail. While other carriers claim to voluntarily provide delivery on a universal basis, the Postal Service is the only carrier with the obligation to provide all the various aspects of universal service at affordable rates.

Proponents of postal service monopoly claim that since any obligation must be matched by the financial capability to meet that obligation, the postal monopoly was put in place as a funding mechanism for the USO, and it has been in place for over a hundred years. It consists of two parts: the [Private Express Statutes](#) (PES) and the mailbox access rule. The PES refers to the Postal Service's monopoly on the delivery of letters, and the mailbox rule refers to the Postal Service's exclusive access to customer mailboxes.

Proponents of postal service monopoly further claim that eliminating or reducing the PES or mailbox rule would have an impact on the ability of the Postal Service to provide affordable universal service. If, for example, the PES and the mailbox rule were to be eliminated, and the USO maintained, then either billions of dollars in tax revenues or some other source of funding would have to be found. As the operating environment of the Postal Service continues to change, additional flexibilities will likely be necessary to fulfill the USO.

However, several professional economists advocate the privatization of the mail delivery system, or at least a relaxation of the monopoly that currently exists.^[29] Rick Geddes argued in 2000:^[30]

- *First, basic economics implies that rural customers are unlikely to be without service under competition; they would simply have to pay the true cost of delivery to them, which may or may not be lower than under monopoly.*
- *Second, basic notions of fairness imply that the cross-subsidy should be eliminated. To the extent that people make choices about where they live, they should assume the costs of that decision.*
- *Third, there is no reason why the government monopoly is necessary to ensure service to sparsely populated areas. The government could easily award competitive contracts to private firms for that service.*
- *Fourth, early concerns that rural residents of the United States would somehow become isolated without federally subsidized mail delivery today are simply unfounded. ... Once both sender and receiver have access to a computer, the marginal cost of sending an electronic message is close to zero.*

However, as the recent notice of a termination of mail service to residents of the [Frank Church-River](#)

of [No Return Wilderness](#) indicates, mail service has been contracted to private firms such as Arnold Aviation for many decades. KTVB-TV reported:^[31]

"We cannot go out every week and pick up our mail....it's impossible," said Heinz Sippel. "Everyone gets their mail. Why can't we?" said Sue Anderson. Getting mail delivered, once a week, by airplane is not a luxury, it's a necessity for those who live in Idaho's vast wilderness -- those along the Salmon and Selway rivers. It's a service that's been provided to them for more than half a century -- mostly by Ray Arnold of Arnold Aviation.

The decision was reversed; U.S. Postmaster General John Potter indicated that acceptable service to backcountry customers could not be achieved in any other fashion than continuing an air mail contract with Arnold Aviation to deliver the mail.^[32]

The Postal Act of 2006 required the PRC to submit a report to the President and Congress on universal postal service and the postal monopoly in December 2008. The report must include any recommended changes. The Postal Service report supports the requirement that the PRC is to consult with and solicit written comments from the Postal Service. In addition, the Government Accountability Office is required to evaluate broader business model issues by 2011.

On October 15, 2008, the Postal Service submitted a report^[33] to the [Postal Regulatory Commission](#) (PRC) on its position related to the Universal Service Obligation (USO). It said no changes to the USO and restriction on mailbox access were necessary at this time, but increased regulatory flexibility was required to ensure affordable universal service in the future.

Obligations of the USO include uniform prices, quality of service, access to services, and six-day delivery to every part of the country. To assure financial support for these obligations, the postal monopoly provides the Postal Service the exclusive right to deliver letters and restricts mailbox access solely for mail. The report argued that eliminating or reducing either aspect of the monopoly "would have a devastating impact on the ability...to provide the affordable universal service that the country values so highly." Relaxing access to the mailbox would also pose security concerns, increase delivery costs, and hurt customer service, according to the Post Office. The report notes:

It is somewhat misleading to characterize the mailbox rule as a "monopoly," because the enforcement of [18 U.S.C. § 1725](#) leaves customers with ample alternative means of delivering their messages. Customers can deliver their messages either by paying postage, by placing messages on or under a door or a doormat, by using newspaper or nonpostal boxes, by telephoning or emailing, by engaging in person-to-person delivery in public areas, by tacking or taping their notices on a door post, or by placing advertisements in local newspapers. These methods are comparable in efficacy to communication via the mailbox.

The Postal Service said that the USO should continue to be broadly defined and there should be no changes to the postal monopoly. Any changes would have far-reaching effects on customers and the trillion dollar mailing industry. "A more rigidly defined USO would ... ultimately harm the American public and businesses," according to the report, which cautions that any potential change must be studied carefully and the effects fully understood.

During hearings held earlier this year, the PRC also heard from mailers, mailing associations, and postal unions and management associations. Comments generally indicated that changes are not currently needed.

Competitors

[\[edit\]](#)

[FedEx](#) and [United Parcel Service](#) (UPS) directly compete with USPS express mail and package delivery services, making nationwide deliveries of urgent letters and packages. Due to the postal monopoly, they are not allowed to deliver non-urgent letters and may not use U.S. Mail boxes at residential and commercial destinations. These services also deliver packages which are larger and heavier than what the USPS will accept. [DHL Express](#) was the third major competitor until February

2009, when it ceased domestic delivery operations in the United States.

A variety of other [transportation companies in the United States](#) move cargo around the country, but either have limited geographic scope for delivery points, or specialize in items too large to be mailed. Many of the thousands of [courier](#) companies focus on same-day delivery, for example by [bicycle messenger](#).

Alternative transmission methods

[[edit](#)]

The Post Office Department owned and operated the first public [telegraph](#) lines in the United States, starting in 1844 from Washington to Baltimore, and eventually extending to New York, Boston, Buffalo, and Philadelphia. In 1847, the telegraph system was privatized, except for a period during [World War I](#) when it was used to accelerate the delivery of letters arriving at night.^[34]

Between 1942 and 1945, "[V-Mail](#)" (for "Victory Mail") service was available for [military mail](#). Letters were converted into [microfilm](#) and reprinted near the destination, to save room on transport vehicles for military cargo.^[35]

From 1982 to 1985, Electronic Computer Originated Mail was accepted for bulk mailings. Text was transmitted electronically to one of 25 post offices nationwide. The Postal Service would print the mail, and put it in special envelopes bearing a blue ECOM logo. Delivery was assured within 2 days.^[36]

Plans

[[edit](#)]

In October 2008, the Postal Service released *Vision 2013*,^[37] a five-year plan required by law starting in 1993.^[38]

One planned improvement is the introduction of the [Intelligent Mail Barcode](#), which will allow pieces of mail to be tracked through the delivery system, as competitors like UPS and FedEx currently do.

On May 11, 2009, the price of a First-Class Mail stamp rose to 44 cents. [3]

2010 census

[[edit](#)]

On July 10, 2009, Rep. [Jason Chaffetz](#) (R-Utah) introduced H.R. 3167^[39] with the direct support of Chairman [Stephen Lynch](#) (D-Massachusetts). H.R. 3167 which if passed into law would require the [2010 United States Census](#) to be conducted in partnership with the United States Postal Service. The bill has been in committee since the date of its introduction.

As a potential solution to this issue, it was observed that the United States Postal Service employs a staff of 760,000, just over the estimated labor force requirement. Chaffetz argued that Letter Carriers would be the most qualified individuals to carry out this task and that the plan would provide an additional revenue stream for the USPS during difficult financial times. Chaffetz explained, "It is imperative the American People have the utmost confidence in the collection of Census data. We should not rely upon [ACORN](#) to gather Census data. I don't trust ACORN and neither do the American people. We already have a trusted workforce. This is a common sense business approach. Rather than hire 750,000 new, unknown people, let's use people and assets already in place. This should save money, help the Post Office in a time of financial need, and give confidence and credibility to the collection of personal information. Postal carriers know the people on their routes, they know how to find them and how to count them."^[40]

Law enforcement agencies

[[edit](#)]

Postal Inspection Service

[[edit](#)]

The [United States Postal Inspection Service](#) (USPIS) is one of the oldest [law enforcement agencies](#) in the U.S. Founded by [Benjamin Franklin](#), its mission is to protect the Postal Service, its employees,

and its customers from [crime](#) and protect the nation's mail system from criminal misuse.^[41]

Postal Inspectors enforce over 200 federal laws providing for the protection of mail in [investigations of crimes](#) that may adversely affect or fraudulently use the U.S. Mail, the postal system or postal employees.

The USPIS has the power to enforce the USPS monopoly by conducting search and seizure raids on entities they suspect of sending non-urgent mail through overnight delivery competitors. According to the [American Enterprise Institute](#), a private conservative [think tank](#), the USPIS raided [Equifax](#) offices in 1993 to ascertain if the mail they were sending through [Federal Express](#) was truly "extremely urgent." It was found that the mail was not, and Equifax was fined \$30,000.^[42]

Office of Inspector General

[\[edit\]](#)

The [United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General](#) (OIG) was authorized by law in 1996. Prior to the 1996 legislation, the Postal Inspection Service performed the duties of the OIG. The Inspector General, who is independent of postal management, is appointed by and reports directly to the nine [presidentially-appointed](#), [Senate-confirmed](#) members of the [Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service](#).

The primary purpose of the OIG is to prevent, detect and report fraud, waste and program abuse, and promote efficiency in the operations of the Postal Service. The OIG has "oversight" responsibility for all activities of the Postal Inspection Service.

Addressing envelopes

[\[edit\]](#)

For any letter addressed within the United States, the USPS requires two pieces of information on the envelope.

1. Address of the recipient: Placed on the front (non opening) side of the envelope in the center. Generally, the name of the addressee should be included above the [address](#) itself. A [ZIP+4 code](#) will facilitate delivery.^[43]
2. Postage indication: All parcels must include an indication that postage has been paid. In most cases, this is a [stamp](#), though metered labels are also common. Members of the U.S. Congress, among others, have [franking privileges](#), which only require a signature.

Domestic first-class mail costs 44¢ for [envelopes](#) (28¢ for [post cards](#)) and upwards, depending on the weight and dimensions of the letter and the class, and the [indicia](#) is supposed to be placed in the upper-right corner.

A third, and optional (but strongly suggested) addition is a [return address](#). This is the address that the recipient may respond to, and, if necessary, the letter can be returned to if delivery fails. It is usually placed in the upper-left corner or occasionally on the back (though the latter is standard in some countries). Undeliverable mails that cannot be readily returned, including those without return addresses, are treated as [dead mails](#) at a Mail Recovery Center in [Atlanta, Georgia](#) or [Saint Paul, Minnesota](#).

The formatting of the address is as follows

- Line 1: Name of recipient
- Line 2: Street address or [P.O. Box](#)
- Line 3: [City State](#) ([ISO 3166-2:US code](#) or [APO/FPO code](#)) and [ZIP+4 code](#)

Example

[John Q. Public](#)
789 UNIVERSAL DR
PORTLAND OR 97086-1234



Sticker promoting ZIP code use.



The USPS maintains a list of proper abbreviations.^[44]

The formatting of a return address is identical. Though some [style manuals](#) do recommend using a comma between the city and state name when typesetting addresses in other contexts, for optimal automatic character recognition, the Post Office does not recommend this when addressing mail. The official recommendation is to use all upper case block letters with appropriate formats and abbreviations, and leave out all punctuation except for the [hyphen](#) in the ZIP+4 code. If the address is unusually formatted or illegible enough, it will require hand-processing, delaying that particular item. The USPS publishes the entirety of their postal addressing standards.^[45]

Customers can look up ZIP codes on [usps.com](#), and purchase postage if they have an account.

Paying postage

[[edit](#)]

The actual postage can be paid via:^[46]

- Stamps purchased online, at a Post Office, from a stamp vending machine or "Automated Postal Center" which can also handle packages, or from a third party (such as a grocery store)
- [Pre-cancelled stamps](#) for bulk mailings ^[47]
- Postal meter
- Prepaid envelope
- Shipping label purchased online and printed by the customer on standard paper (e.g. with [Click-n-Ship](#))

All unused [U.S. postage stamps](#) issued since 1861 are still valid as postage at their indicated value. Stamps with no value shown or denominated by a letter are also still valid at their purchase price.

The cost of mailing a 1 oz First Class letter increased to 44 cents on May 11, 2009, but since April 2007, the Post Office has offered a "[forever stamp](#)". This stamp is sold at the first class mail postage rate at the time of purchase, but will always be valid for 1st class mail (1 oz and under), no matter how rates rise in the future.^{[48][49]} Britain has had a similar stamp since 1989. However, one of the tenets of the [Universal Postal Union](#) is having a single flat rate to mail a letter anywhere in the world, which is true for Britain (since 1995), but not the U.S.

Postage meters

[[edit](#)]

Main article: [Postage meter](#)

PC postage

[[edit](#)]

In addition to using standard stamps, postage can now be printed from a [personal computer](#) using a system called [Information Based Indicia](#). Authorized providers of PC Postage are:

- [Stamps.com](#)
- [Pitney Bowes](#)
- [Endicia](#) Internet Postage
- USPS [Click-N-Ship](#)

Endicia provides the technology that allows Click-N-Ship to print postage and Endicia licenses this technology to individual shippers through software applications. Through Pitney Bowes, [PayPal](#) account holders can print postage on the site and have the costs deducted from their PayPal account (with no surcharge) or a linked bank account. With either service, the sender may then drop off the parcel at a location accepting parcels or request pick-up at the address of origin.^[*citation needed*]

Other electronic postage payment methods

[[edit](#)]

Electronic Verification System (eVS) ^[50] is the Postal Service's integrated mail management technology that centralizes payment processing and electronic postage reports. Part of an evolving

suite of USPS electronic payment services called PostalOne! ^[51], eVS allows mailers shipping large volumes of parcels through the Postal Service a way to circumvent use of hard-copy manifests, postage statements and drop-shipment verification forms. Instead, mailers can pay postage automatically through a centralized account and track payments online.

Beginning August 2007, the Postal Service began requiring mailers shipping Parcel Select packages using a permit imprint to use eVS for manifesting their packages.

Stamp copyright and reproduction

[edit]

All U.S. postage stamps issued under the former [United States Post Office Department](#) and other postage items that were released before 1978 are not subject to copyright, but stamp designs since 1978 are copyrighted.^[52] Following the creation of the United States Postal Service, the [United States Copyright Office](#) in section 206.02(b) of the [Compendium II: Copyright Office Practices](#) holds that "Works of the U.S. Postal Service, as now constituted, are not considered U.S. Government works."^[53] Here, the U.S. Copyright Office has clarified that works of the [U.S. Postal Service](#), of the government of the [District of Columbia](#), or of the government of [Puerto Rico](#) are *not* "works of the U.S. government" and thus *are* subject to copyright. Thus, postal service holds copyright to such materials released since 1978 under Title 17 of the [United States Code](#). Written permission is required for use of copyrighted postage stamp images.^[54]

Service level choices

[edit]

General domestic services

[edit]

Domestic postage includes Monday through Saturday delivery (excepting federal holidays) to any address, Post Office Box, or general delivery Post Office in the United States, or any U.S. [military mail](#) destination.

The Post Office will not deliver packages heavier than 70 lb or if the two largest dimensions (length and width) are greater than 108 inches combined. Other carriers handle packages that do not meet these conditions. Mail sent at a level below First Class will not be forwarded or returned to sender, unless an additional fee is paid; "return service requested" may need to appear on the outside of the item. Deliveries outside the [contiguous United States](#) may take longer.



Tyvek envelope for Express Mail

As of May 2007, domestic postage levels for low-volume mailers include:

- [Express Mail](#) - "Overnight Guaranteed" to most locations^[55]
 - Sunday and holiday delivery available for additional charge
 - \$100 insurance included
 - Flat rate envelope available. Otherwise, variable pricing by weight, size, and ZIP code.
- [Priority Mail](#) - 2 or 3-day service (not guaranteed)^[55]
 - Flat rate envelope and boxes (various sizes) available. Otherwise, variable pricing by weight, size, and ZIP code.
- [First Class Mail](#)
 - Fast service (2–3 days)^[55] for letters and small packages
 - Flat rate depending on size and weight
 - Cards (up to 5" x 3.5" x 0.007"): 28¢
 - Letters (up to 11.5" x 6.125" x 0.25", 3.5 oz): 44¢ + 17¢ each additional ounce

- Large Envelope or Flat (up to 15" x 12" x 0.75", 13 oz): 88¢ + 17¢ each add'l ounce. Must be rectangular, uniformly thick, and not too rigid.
- Package/Parcel (Up to 108" length + width, 13 oz): \$1.13 + 17¢ each add'l ounce
- **Parcel Post**
 - Slowest but cheapest service for packages - uses **surface transport**
 - 2-9-day service to contiguous U.S., 4–14 days internal to AK/HI/territories, 3–6 weeks between mainland and outlying areas (travels by ship)^[55]
 - Variable pricing by weight and ZIP code
 - Free forwarding if recipient has filed change-of-address form, or return if the item is undeliverable
- Media Mail (formerly "Book Rate")
 - Books and recorded media only
 - No advertising
 - Flat rate pricing by weight only
 - Transit time similar to Parcel Post
 - Cheaper than Parcel Post but only due to increased restrictions on package contents.
- Library Mail
 - Similar to Media Mail, but cheaper and restricted to academic institutions, public libraries, museums, etc.

Bulk mail

[\[edit\]](#)

Discounts are available for large volumes of mail. Depending on the postage level, certain conditions might be required or optional for an additional discount:

- Minimum number of pieces
- Weight limits
- Ability for the USPS to process by machine
- Addresses formatting standardized
- USPS-readable barcode
- Sorted by 3-digit ZIP code prefix, 5-digit ZIP code, ZIP+4, or 11-digit delivery point
- Delivered in trays, bundles, or pallets partitioned by destination
- Delivered directly to a regional Bulk Mail Center, destination SCF, or destination Post Office
- Certification of mailing list accuracy and freshness (e.g. correct ZIP codes, purging of stale addresses, processing of change-of-address notifications)

In addition to bulk discounts on Express, Priority, and First Class Mail, the following postage levels are available for bulk mailers:

- Periodicals
- Standard Mail (A)
 - Automation
 - Enhanced Carrier Route
 - Regular
- Standard Mail (B)
 - Parcel Post
 - Bound **Printed Matter** - Cheaper than Media Mail, for advertising catalogs, phone books, etc. up to 15 lb^[56]



USPS [Dodge Caravan](#) used for residential delivery in [Omaha, Nebraska](#)



- Special Standard Mail
- Library Mail
- [Nonprofit](#)

Further information: Bulk mail

Add-on services [[edit](#)]

Depending on the type of mail, additional services are available for an additional fee:^[57]

- Certificate of Mailing - Proof of the date a package was mailed.
- Delivery Confirmation - Provides proof of delivery to a particular zip code, but no signature is required. Really a misnomer, as this service only confirms arrival to the local post office, not the actual delivery address.
- Signature Confirmation - Delivery requires a signature, which is kept on file. The online tracking system displays the first initial and last name of the signatory.
- Return Receipt - Actively sends Signature Confirmation information back to the sender by postcard or emailed PDF (as opposed to merely putting this information into the online tracking system).
- [Insurance](#) against loss or damage, for the value of the goods mailed. Amount of coverage can be specified, up to \$5000.
- Certified Mail - Provides proof of mailing, and a delivery record. Used for serving legal documents and for sending [U.S. Government classified information](#), up to the "confidential" level.
- Restricted Delivery - Requires delivery to a specific person or their authorized agent, not just to a mailbox.
- Collect On Delivery (C.O.D.) - Allows merchants to offer customers an option to pay upon delivery, up to \$1000. Includes insurance.
- Special Handling - For unusual items, like live animals.
- Registered Mail - Used for highly valuable or irreplaceable items, and [classified information](#) up to the "secret" level.^[58] Registered mail is transported separately from other mail, in locked containers. Tracking is included and insurance up to \$25,000 is available.^[59]



A [Long Life Vehicle](#) or LLV used in suburban areas, seen in [Guam](#). [[copy](#)]

Postal money orders [[edit](#)]

Postal money orders provide a safe alternative to sending [cash](#) through the mail, and are available in any amount up to \$1000. [Money orders](#) are cashable only by the recipient, just like a [bank check](#). Unlike a personal bank check, they are pre-paid and therefore cannot bounce.^[60] Money orders are a declining business for the USPS, as companies like [PayPal](#) and [PaidByCash](#) and others are offering electronic replacements through the [MasterCard](#) and [Visa](#) systems.^[*citation needed*]

From 1911 to 1966, the Postal Service also operated a savings program, not unlike a [savings and loan](#) with the amount of the deposit limited.^[61]

International services [[edit](#)]

Formerly, [USPS International services](#) [[icon\]](#) were categorized as Airmail (Letter Post), Economy (Surface) Parcel Post, Airmail Parcel Post, Global Priority, Global Express, and Global Express Guaranteed Mail. In May 2007, USPS restructured international service names to correspond with domestic shipping options. Letter post is now First Class Mail International,^{[62][63]} Airmail Parcel Post was discontinued and replaced by Priority Mail International. Global Express is now Express Mail International. Global Express Guaranteed is unchanged, and Economy Parcel Post was discontinued

for international service. The only mailing classes with a tracking ability are Express and Express Guaranteed. One of the major changes in the new naming and services definitions is that USPS-supplied mailing boxes for Priority and Express mail are now allowed for international use. Also, a Priority Mail International Flat-Rate has been introduced, with the same conditions of service previously used for Global Priority. These services are offered to ship letters and packages to almost every country and territory on the globe. Ironically, the USPS provides much of this service by contracting with a private parcel service, [FedEx](#).^[64]

On May 14, 2007, the United States Postal Service canceled all outgoing international surface mail (sometimes known as "sea mail") from the United States, citing increased costs and reduced demand due to competition from airmail services such as FedEx and UPS.^[65] The decision has been criticized by the Peace Corps and military personnel overseas, as well as independent booksellers and other small businesses who rely on international deliveries.

Military mail is billed at domestic rates when being sent from the United States to a military outpost, and is free when sent by deployed military personnel. The overseas logistics are handled by the **Military Postal Service Agency** in the Department of Defense.^[66] Outside of forward areas and active operations, military mail First Class takes 7–10 days, Priority 10–15 days, and Parcel Post about 24 days.^[55]

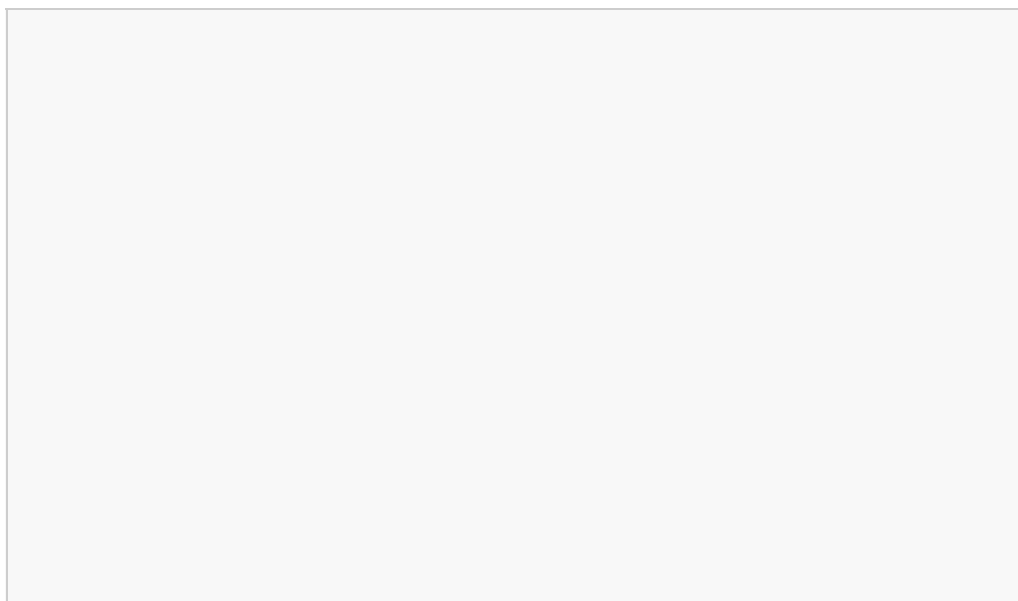
Airline and rail division [edit]

The United States Postal Service does not directly own or operate any aircraft or trains. The mail and packages are flown on airlines with which the Postal Service has a contractual agreement. The contracts change periodically. Depending on the contract, aircraft may be painted with the USPS paint scheme.^[citation needed] Contract airlines have included: [UPS](#), [Emery Worldwide](#), [Ryan International Airlines](#), [FedEx Express](#), [Rhoades Aviation](#), [American Airlines](#) and [Express One International](#). The Postal Service also contracts with [Amtrak](#) to carry some mail between certain cities such as [Chicago](#) and [Minneapolis-St. Paul](#).

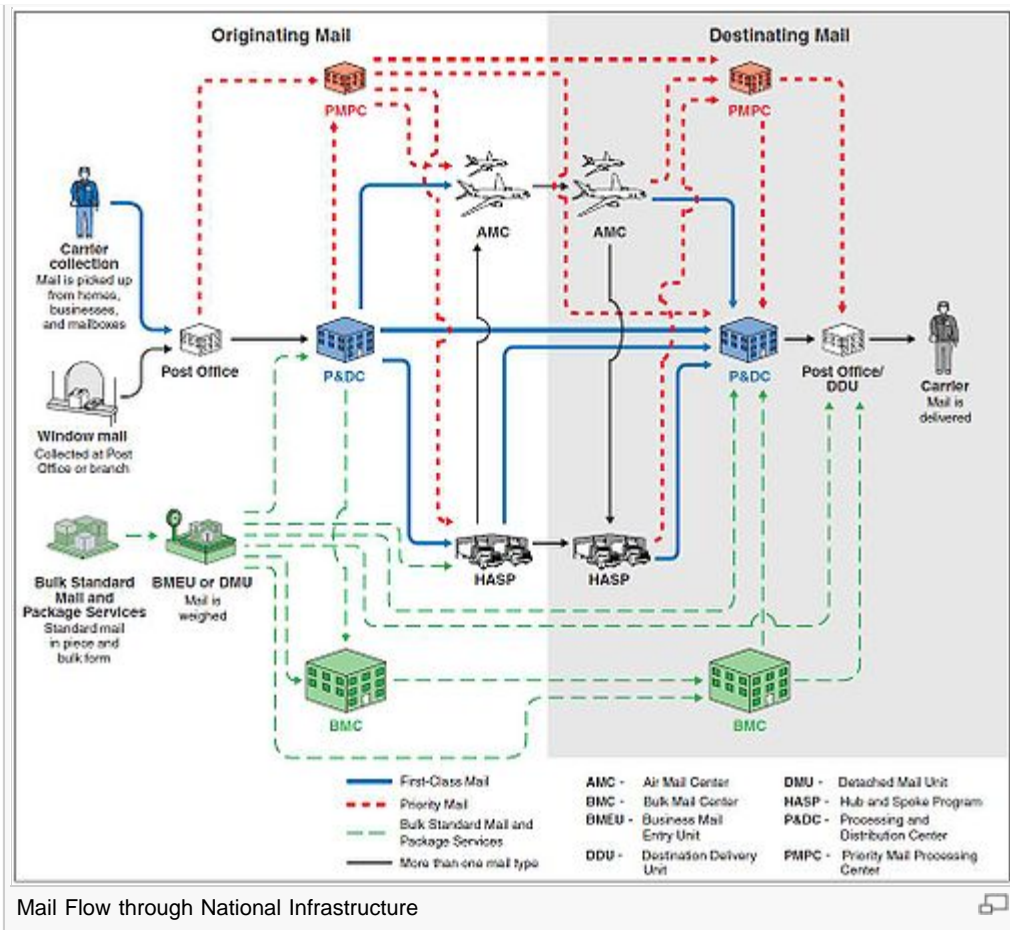
The last air delivery route in the continental U.S., to residents in the [Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness](#), was scheduled to be ended in June 2009. The weekly [bush plane](#) route, contracted out to an [air taxi](#) company, had in its final year an annual cost of \$46,000, or \$2400/year per residence, over ten times the average cost of delivering mail to a residence in the United States.^[21] This decision has been reversed by the U.S. Postmaster General.^[67]

Sorting and delivery process [edit]

Processing of standard sized envelopes and cards is highly automated, including reading of handwritten addresses. Mail from individual customers and public postboxes



is collected by mail carriers into plastic tubs. The tubs are taken to a



Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). There are approximately 275 such centers across the United States, which sort mail for a given region (typically a radius of around 200 miles) and connect with the national network for interregional mail.^[68]

At the P&DC, mail is emptied into hampers which are then automatically dumped into a Dual Pass Rough Cull System (DPRCS). As mail travels through the DPRCS, large items, such as packages and mail bundles, are removed from the stream. As the remaining mail enters the first machine for processing standard mail, the **Advanced Facer-Canceler System (AFCS)**, pieces that passed through the DPRCS but do not conform to physical dimensions for processing in the AFCS (i.e. large envelopes or overstuffed standard envelopes) are automatically diverted from the stream. Mail removed from the DPRCS and AFCS is manually processed or sent to parcel sorting machines.

In contrast to the previous system, which merely canceled and postmarked the upper right corner of the envelope, thereby missing any stamps which were inappropriately placed, the AFCS locates **indicia** (stamp or metered postage mark), regardless of the orientation of the mail as it enters the machine, and cancels it by applying a **postmark**. Detection of indicia enables the AFCS to determine the orientation of each mailpiece and sort it accordingly, rotating pieces as necessary so all mail is sorted right-side up and faced in the same direction in each output bin. Mail is output by the machine into three categories: mail already affixed with a **bar code** and addressed (such as business reply envelopes and cards), mail with machine printed (typed) addresses, and mail with handwritten addresses. Additionally, machines with a recent **Optical Character Recognition (OCR)** upgrade have the capability to read the address information, including handwritten, and sort the mail based on local or outgoing ZIP codes.

Mail with typed addresses goes to a **Multiline Optical Character Reader (MLOCR)** which reads the ZIP Code and address information and prints the appropriate bar code onto the envelope. Mail (actually the scanned image of the mail) with handwritten addresses (and machine-printed ones that aren't easily recognized) goes to the **Remote Bar Coding System**. It also corrects spelling errors and,

where there is an error, omission, or conflict in the written address, identifies the most likely correct address. When it has decided on a correct address, it prints the appropriate bar code onto the envelopes, similarly to the MLOCR system. RBCS also has facilities in place, called [Remote Encoding Centers](#), that have humans look at images of mail pieces and enter the address data. The address data is associated with the image via an ID Tag, a [fluorescent Barcode](#) printed by mail processing equipment on the back of mail pieces.

If a customer has filed a change of address card and his or her mail is detected in the mailstream with the old address, the mailpiece is sent to a machine that automatically connects to a Computerized Forwarding System database to determine the new address. If this address is found, the machine will paste a label over the former address with the current address. The mail is returned to the mailstream to forward to the new location.

Mail with addresses that cannot be resolved by the automated system are separated for human intervention. If a local postal worker can read the address, he or she manually sorts it out according to the ZIP code on the article. If the address cannot be read, mail is either returned to the sender (first class mail with a valid return address) or is sent to the Mail Recovery Center in Atlanta, Georgia (formerly known as Dead Letter Offices, originated by Benjamin Franklin in the 1770s^[*citation needed*]) where it receives more intense scrutiny, including being opened to determine if any of the contents are a clue. If no valid address can be determined, the items are held for 90 days in case of inquiry by the customer; and if they are not claimed then they are either destroyed or auctioned off at the annual Postal Service Unclaimed Parcel auction to raise money for the service.

Once the mail is bar coded, it is automatically sorted by a [Delivery Bar Code System](#) that reads the bar code and determines the destination of the mailpiece to postal stations.

Regional mail is trucked to the appropriate local post office or kept in the building for carrier routes served directly from the P&DC. Out-of-region mail is trucked to the airport and then flown, usually as baggage on commercial [airlines](#), to the airport nearest the destination station. At the destination P&DC, mail is once again read by a [Delivery Bar Code System](#) which sorts the items into their local destinations, including grouping them by individual mail carrier.

At the carrier route level, 95% of letters arrive pre-sorted;^[68] the remaining mail must be sorted by hand. The Post Office is working to increase the percentage of automatically sorted mail, including a pilot program to sort "flats".^[69]


Types of postal facilities

[\[edit\]](#)

Although its customer service centers are called post offices in regular speech, the USPS recognizes several types of postal facilities, including the following:

- A main post office (formerly known as a general post office) is the primary postal facility in a community.
- A station or post office station, a postal facility that is not the main post office, but that is within the corporate limits of the community.
- A branch or post office branch, a postal facility that is not the main post office and that is outside the corporate limits of the community.
- A classified unit, a station or branch operated by USPS employees in a facility owned or leased by the USPS.
- A contract postal unit (or CPU), a station or branch operated by a contractor, typically in a store or



Historic main post office in [Tomah, Wisconsin](#). 

other place of business.^[70]

- A community post office (or CPO), a contract postal unit providing services in a small community in which other types of post office facilities have been discontinued.
- A finance unit, a station or branch that provides window services and accepts mail, but does not provide delivery.
- A processing and distribution center (P&DC, or processing and distribution facility, formerly known as a General Mail Facility), a central mail facility that processes and dispatches incoming and outgoing mail to and from a designated service area. (275 nationwide.)^[68]
- An international service center (ISC), an international mail processing facility. There are only five such USPS facilities in the United States, located in Chicago, New York, Miami, Los Angeles and San Francisco.^[71]
- A [sectional center facility \(SCF\)](#), a P&DC for a designated geographical area defined by one or more three-digit [ZIP code](#) prefixes.
- A [bulk mail center \(BMC\)](#), a central mail facility that processes bulk rate parcels as the hub in a [hub and spoke network](#).
- An auxiliary sorting facility (ASF), a central mail facility that processes bulk rate parcels as spokes in a hub and spoke network.
- A remote encoding center (REC), a facility at which clerks receive images of problem mail pieces (those with hard-to-read addresses, etc.) via secure Internet-type feeds and manually type the addresses they can decipher, using a special encoding protocol. The mail pieces are then sprayed with the correct addresses or are sorted for further handling according to the instructions given via encoding. The total number of RECs is down from 55 in 1998 to just 5 centers in April 2009. In 2010, there will be just two remaining RECs open, in Salt Lake City, Utah and Wichita, Kansas. More closures will occur as computer software becomes more able to read most addresses, but a few centers are expected to remain open (see Evolutionary Network Development below).



A typical post office station in the [Spring Branch](#) area of [Houston, Texas](#)



Combined [Post Office, Customs House,](#) and [Federal Court House](#) in [Galveston, Texas](#).

While common usage refers to all types of postal facilities as "substations," the USPS Glossary of Postal Terms does not define or even list that word.^[70] Post Offices often share facilities with other governmental organizations located within a city's [central business district](#). In those locations, often Courthouses and Federal Buildings, the building is owned by the [General Services Administration](#) while the U.S. Postal Services operates as a [tenant](#).^{[72][73]} There are approximately 36,000 post offices, stations, and branches in the USPS retail system.^[74] Temporary stations are also set up for applying [pictorial cancellations](#).



A 24-hour Automated Postal Center kiosk inside the Webster, Texas Main Post Office

Automated Postal Centers

[[edit](#)]

In 2004 the USPS began deploying Automated Postal Centers (APC)^[75]. APCs are unattended kiosks that are capable of weighing, **franking**, and storing packages for later pickup as well as selling domestic and international postage stamps. Similarly, traditional **vending machines** are available at many post offices to purchase stamps, though these are being phased out in many areas.^[76] Due to increasing use of Internet services, as of June, 2009, no retail post office windows are open 24 hours; overnight services are limited to those provided by an Automated Postal Center.^[77]

Evolutionary Network Development (END) program

[[edit](#)]



This section does not **cite** any **references or sources**. Please help **improve this article** by adding citations to **reliable sources**. Unsourced material may be **challenged** and **removed**. *(April 2009)*

In February, 2006, the USPS announced that they plan to replace the nine existing facility-types with five processing facility-types:^[78]

- Regional Distribution Centers (RDCs), which will process all classes of parcels and bundles and serve as Surface Transfer Centers;
- Local Processing Centers (LPCs), which will process single-piece letters and flats and cancel mail;
- Destination Processing Centers (DPC), sort the mail for individual mail carriers;
- Airport Transfer Centers (ATCs), which will serve as transfer points only; and
- Remote Encoding Centers (RECs).

Over a period of years, these facilities are expected to replace Processing & Distribution Centers, Customer Service Facilities, Bulk Mail Centers, Logistic and Distribution Centers, annexes, the Hub and Spoke Program, Air Mail Centers, and International Service Centers.

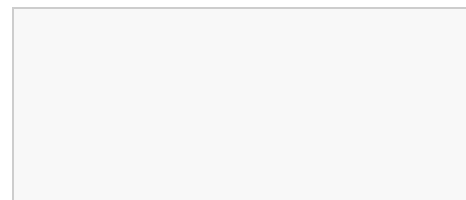
The changes are a result of the declining volumes of single-piece first-class mail, population shifts, the increase in drop shipments by advertising mailers at destinating postal facilities, advancements in equipment and technology, redundancies in the existing network, and the need for operational flexibility.

Final delivery

[[edit](#)]

Delivery days

Until 1912, mail was delivered 7 days a week. As the postal service grew in popularity and usage in the 1800s, local religious leaders were noticing a decline in Sunday



morning church attendance due to local post offices doubling as gathering places. These leaders appealed to the government to intervene and close post offices on Sundays.^{[79][80]}

As a result of this intervention by the government, U.S. Mail (with the exception of Express Mail^[81]) is not delivered on Sunday, with the exception of a few towns in which the local religion has had an effect on the policy, for example, [Loma Linda, California](#), which has a significant [Seventh-day Adventist](#) population.^[79] U.S. Mail is delivered Sunday through Friday, with the exception of observed federal holidays.

Saturday delivery was temporarily suspended in April 1957, due to lack of funds, but quickly restored.^[82] On January 28, 2009, [Postmaster General John E. Potter](#) testified before the Senate^[83] that if the Postal Service is not able to readjust their payment toward the pre-funding of retiree health benefits, as mandated by the Postal Accountability & Enhancement Act of 2006,^[84] the USPS would be forced to consider cutting delivery to five days per week during the summer months of June, July, and August.

H.R. 22, addressing this issue, passed the House of Representatives and Senate and was signed into law on September 30, 2009. However, PMG Potter has continued to unveiled a plan to eliminate Saturday mail delivery. The universal service obligation^[85] and six day delivery are upheld by Congressional language within Appropriations legislation, so a reduction in service would require action from the House and Senate.^[86]

On June 10, 2009, the NRLCA was contacted for its input on the USPS's current study of the impact of five-day delivery along with developing an implementation plan for a five-day service plan. A team of postal service headquarters executives and staff has been given a time frame of sixty days to complete the study. The current concept examines the impact of five-day delivery with no business or collections on Saturday, with Post Offices with current Saturday hours remaining open.

Chairman [Jose Serrano \(D-NY\)](#), of the House Appropriations subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, which oversees language mandating six day service, said "While I understand the seriousness of the Postal Service's fiscal issues, I remain supportive of a six day delivery schedule. I will be in conversations in coming weeks with the senior postal leadership and the postal unions in an effort to avoid service cuts."

On Thursday, April 15, 2010, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held a hearing to examine the status of the Postal Service and recent reports on short and long term strategies for the financial viability and stability of the USPS entitled "Continuing to Deliver: An Examination of the Postal Service's Current Financial Crisis and its Future Viability." At which, PMG Potter testified that by the year 2020, the USPS cumulative losses could exceed \$238 billion, and that mail volume could drop 15% from 2009.^[87]

Direct delivery vs. customer pickup

[[edit](#)]

Originally, mail was not delivered to homes and businesses, but to post offices. In 1863, "city



USPS contractor-driven semi-trailer truck seen near [Mendota, California](#)



USPS [Ford Windstar](#) used for residential delivery in [Olympia, Washington](#)

delivery" began in urban areas with enough customers to make this economical. This required streets to be named, houses to be numbered, with sidewalks and lighting provided, and these street addresses to be added to envelopes.^[88] The number of routes served expanded over time. In 1891, the first experiments with [Rural Free Delivery](#) began in less densely populated areas.

To compensate for high mail volume and slow long-distance transportation which saw mail arrive at post offices throughout the day, deliveries were made multiple times a day. This ranged from twice for residential areas to up to seven times for the central business district of [Brooklyn, New York](#).^[89] In the late 1800s, mail boxes were encouraged, saving carriers the time it took to deliver directly to the addressee in person; in the 1910s and 1920s, they were phased in as a requirement for service.^[88] In the 1940s, multiple daily deliveries began to be reduced, especially on Saturdays. By 1990, the last twice-daily deliveries in New York City were eliminated.

Today, mail is delivered once a day on-site to most private homes and businesses. The USPS still distinguishes between city delivery (where carriers generally walk and deliver to mailboxes hung on exterior walls or porches, or to commercial reception areas) and rural delivery (where carriers generally drive).^[90] With "curbside delivery", mailboxes are at the ends of driveways, on the nearest convenient road. "Central point delivery" is used in some locations, where several nearby residences share a "cluster" of individual mailboxes in a single housing.

Some customers choose to use [post office boxes](#) for an additional fee, for privacy or convenience. This provides a locked box at the post office to which mail is addressed and delivered (usually earlier in the day than home delivery). Customers in less densely populated areas where there is no city delivery and who do not qualify for rural delivery may only receive mail through post office boxes. High-volume business customers can also arrange for special pick-up.^{[91][92]}

Another option is the old-style [general delivery](#), for people who have neither post office boxes nor street addresses. Mail is held at the post office until they present identification and pick it up.

Some customers receive free post office boxes if the USPS declines to provide door-to-door delivery to their location or a nearby box.^[93] People with medical problems can request door-to-door delivery.^[94] [Homeless](#) people are also eligible for post office boxes at the discretion of the local postmaster, or can use general delivery.^[95]

Special Delivery

[\[edit\]](#)

From 1885 to 2001, a service called [special delivery](#) was available, which caused a separate delivery to the final location earlier in the day than the usual daily rounds.

Forwarding and holds

[\[edit\]](#)

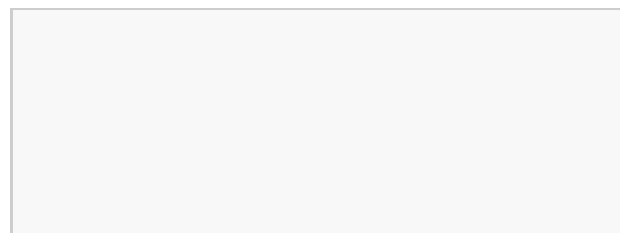
Residential customers can fill out a form to forward mail to a new address, and can also send pre-printed forms to any of their frequent correspondents. They can also put their mail on "hold", for example, while on vacation. The Post Office will store mail during the hold, instead of letting it overflow in the mailbox. These services are not available to large buildings and customers of a [commercial mail receiving agency](#),^[96] where mail is subsorted by non-Post Office employees into individual mailboxes.

Employment in the USPS

[\[edit\]](#)

The USPS employs more people than any company in the United States except [Wal-Mart](#).^[*citation needed*] It employed 790,000 personnel in 2003, divided into offices, processing centers, and actual post offices.

[Labor unions](#) representing USPS employees



include the [National Association of Letter Carriers](#) (NALC), which represents city letter carriers, the [National Rural Letter Carriers' Association](#) (NRLCA), which represents rural letter carriers, the [National Postal Mail Handlers Union](#) (NPMHU), which represents mail handlers, and the [American Postal Workers Union](#) (APWU), which represents clerks, maintenance employees, and motor vehicle service workers. While union membership is voluntary, city carriers are organized near 90% nationally.



A Rural Letter Carrier from [Fort Myers, Florida](#)

USPS employees are divided into three major crafts according to the work they engage in:

- **Mail carriers**, also referred to as mailmen are divided into two categories: City Letter Carriers, who are represented by the NALC, and [Rural Letter Carriers](#), who are represented by the NRLCA. City carriers are paid hourly with the potential for overtime. City Carriers are also subject to "undertime" on a daily basis. Pivoting (when a Carrier's assigned route will take less than 8 hours to complete, management may "pivot" said Carrier to work on another route to fill that Carrier up to 8 hours.) is a tool postal management uses to redistribute and eliminate overtime costs, based on consultation with the Carrier about his/her estimated workload for the day and mail volume projections from the DOIS (Delivery Operations Information System) computer program. City Carrier routes are adjusted and/ or eliminated based on information (length, time, and overall workload) also controlled by this program, consultations with the Carrier assigned to the route, and a current PS Form 3999 (street observation by a Postal supervisor to determine accurate times spent on actual delivery of mail). Many Carriers object to the fact that average mail volumes used for route adjustments come from DOIS as it is not an actual count of the mail by a person and instead by a machine, leading Carriers to question the accuracy of the count.
- Rural carriers are under a form of [salary](#) called "evaluated hours", usually with overtime built in to their pay. The evaluated hours are created by having all mail counted for a period of two or four weeks, and a formula used to create the set dollar amount they will be paid for each day worked until the next time the route is counted.
- Mail handlers and processors, who prepare mail and parcels for delivery.
- Clerks, who directly handle customer needs and sort standard and bulk-rate mail. Data Conversion Operators, who encode address information at Remote Encoding Centers, are also members of the clerk craft.

Other non-managerial positions in the USPS include:

- Maintenance and custodians, who see to the overall operation and cleaning of mail sorting machines, work areas, public parking and general facility operations.
- Transitional employees (TEs), who are hired for terms of 360 days (with the option of appointment to another 360 day term after a 5 day break), are given the same hourly base pay as a Part Time Flexible carrier, but receive no benefits other than annual leave. Transitional employees may be released by the USPS upon completion of their 360 day term, lack of work, or for "just cause" and can be represented by the NALC.
- Career, Part Time Flexible and Transitional employees (Career, PTF & TE DCOs) at a remote encoding center are still under clerks category but under a different contract than a plant

worker or mail carrier and, therefore, are also under a different union (APWU) than the above mentioned Career, TEs and PTFs. There are several differences between working as a carrier or plant worker VS. working at a REC. Even pay is different.

Though the USPS employs many individuals, as more Americans send information via [e-mail](#), fewer postal workers are needed to work dwindling amounts of mail. Post offices and mail facilities are constantly downsizing, replacing craft positions with new machines and consolidating mail routes through the MIARAP(Modified Interim Alternate Route Adjustment Process) agreement. A major round of job cuts, early retirements, and a construction freeze were announced on March 20, 2009.^[97]

Environmental stewardship

[[edit](#)]



This article has been nominated to be checked for its [neutrality](#). Discussion of this nomination can be found on the [talk page](#). *(March 2009)*



It has been suggested that this article or section be [merged](#) with *Post Office Box Lobby Recycling program*. ([Discuss](#))

The United States Postal Service has a long record of environmental stewardship, and has integrated sustainability throughout the organization.^[98]

For almost a decade, the Postal Service has been a partner in EPA's WasteWise Program, which helps USPS reduce the amount of waste produced. Last year was the ninth straight year that the Postal Service has been recognized as EPA's WasteWise Partner of the Year.^[99]

USPS is also the only shipping/mailing company in the United States that has achieved the Silver level of Cradle to CradleSM certification from McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry, LLC (MBDC) for the 500 million Priority Mail and Express Mail envelopes and packages distributed to customers each year.^[100] They received this certification in 2007.^[101] In order to receive this certification, the company's products undergo intense reviews in many areas including: the use of renewable energy and efficient water use during production, and strategies for social responsibility, among others.^[102]

The USPS is taking more than 500 old postal trucks off of the road and replacing them with newer, larger trucks, which will result in numerous benefits for the environment: (1) decreasing the amount of CO2 emissions by replacing the vintage vehicles with cleaner, more fuel efficient vehicles, (2) the use of larger vehicles will reduce the number of miles that USPS vehicles travel.^[103] The average fuel economy of the Post Office fleet in 2008 was 10.30 miles per gallon.^[104]

In addition to this environmental initiative, about 274,000 tons of wastepaper, cardboard, cans, plastics, and other materials were recycled in 2008 through the Postal Service's nationwide recycling and waste prevention programs.^[105]

Violence as "going postal"

[[edit](#)]

In the early 1990s, widely publicized workplace shootings by disgruntled employees at USPS facilities led to a postal regulation that prohibits the possession of firearms in all postal facilities. Due to media coverage, postal employees gained a reputation among the general public as being [mentally ill](#). The USPS Commission on a Safe and Secure Workplace found that "Postal workers are only a third as likely as those in the national workforce to be victims of homicide at work."^[106]



USPS vehicle advertising [E85 alcohol fuel](#), Saint Paul, Minnesota



This stereotype in turn has influenced American culture, as seen in the slang term "[going postal](#)" (see [Patrick Sherrill](#) for information on his August 20, 1986, rampage) and the computer game *Postal*. Also, in the opening sequence of *Naked Gun 33½: The Final Insult*, a yell of "Disgruntled postal workers" is heard, followed by the arrival of postal workers with machine guns. In an episode of *Seinfeld*, the character [Newman](#), who is a mailman, explained in a dramatic monologue that postal workers "go crazy and kill everyone" because the mail never stops. In *The Simpsons* episode *Sunday, Cruddy Sunday*, [Nelson Muntz](#) asks Postmaster Bill if he has "ever gone on a killing spree", with a reply of, "The day of the disgruntled postman went out with the [Macarena](#)".

There have been over 30 acts of postal mass shootings, resulting in death, recorded and investigated by authorities since 1983.^[*citation needed*] The last postal shooting incident occurred in 2006.

In fiction

[[edit](#)]

- In the 1947 film *Miracle on 34th Street*, the identity of Kris Kringle (played by [Edmund Gwenn](#)) as the one and only "Santa Claus" was validated by a state court, based on the delivery of 21 bags of mail (famously carried into the courtroom) to the character in question. The contention was that it would have been illegal for the United States Post Office to deliver mail that was addressed to "Santa Claus" to the character "Kris Kringle" unless he was, in fact, the one and only Santa Claus. Judge Henry X. Harper (played by [Gene Lockhart](#)) ruled that since the US Government had demonstrated through the delivery of the bags of mail that Kris Kringle was Santa Claus, the State of New York did not have the authority to overrule that decision.
- In the TV series *Seinfeld*, [Newman](#) is an employee at the USPS, which is portrayed in the series as a powerful, nefarious organization. He claims that [ZIP codes](#) are meaningless; no mail carrier has successfully delivered more than 50% of their mail (a feat he compares to the 3-minute mile); and that several postal workers go on killing sprees because, as he puts it, "the mail never stops". In one episode, [Cosmo Kramer](#) is abducted by Post Office security men for running an anti-mail campaign after he realizes the Postal Service has become obsolete.
- The TV series *Cheers* featured [John Ratzenberger](#) as [Cliff Clavin](#), a USPS worker and a regular in the bar. Ratzenberger, along with the rest of the show's cast, appears in an induction video for U.S. Postal Services staff.
- [Charles Bukowski](#) published a novel in 1971 about his decade-long employment as a postal worker in Los Angeles. Though it is couched as a "novel", his book *Post Office* is, like all of his fiction and verse, written almost entirely from his own experiences. It does for the Post Office what Ben Hamper did for the automobile industry in his book *Rivethhead*, offering a behind-the-scenes glimpse of life on the line.
- The 1997 movie *The Postman* portrays the United States Postal Service and its returned services in a post-apocalyptic world.

See also

[[edit](#)]

- Unions of the U.S. Postal Service:
 - [American Postal Workers Union](#)
 - [National Association of Letter Carriers](#)
 - [National Postal Mail Handlers Union](#)
 - [National Rural Letter Carriers Association](#)
- [History of United States postage rates](#)
- [Postage stamps and postal history of the United States](#)
- [U.S. Post Offices](#)
- [U.S. Postal Exams](#)
- [United States postal abbreviations](#)

- [United States Postal Inspection Service](#)
- [United States Postal Service creed](#)
- [Military mail](#)
- [Package delivery](#)
- [Philately](#) (Stamp collecting)
- [Section of Painting and Sculpture](#) - WPA post-office murals
- [American Letter Mail Company](#)
- [Private Express Statutes](#)
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- *America's Post Office Challenges The Digital Age*  An argument in support of ending the government monopoly
- *Time for the Mail Monopoly to Go* 
- *Postal Service Privatization*  Dr. Edward L. Hudgins, of the Cato Institute, speaks to Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government
- *Postal Service Meeting Notices and Rule Changes*  from The Federal Register [RSS Feed](#) 

External links

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- [USPS Priority Mail Official website](#) 
- [USPS Glossary of Postal Terms \(Publication 32\)](#)  PDF (519 KB)
- [U.S. Postal Inspection Service Official website](#) 
- [USPS Office of the Inspector General Official website](#) 
- [Postal Regulatory Commission](#) 
- [USPS Broadcast Video Center](#) 
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Coordinates:  38°53′42.4″N 77°02′12.0″W﻿ / ﻿

For the novel by Gore Vidal, see [Washington, D.C. \(novel\)](#).

Washington, D.C. (pronounced /ˈwɑːʃɪnɡtən ˌdiːˈsiː/, *WOSH-ing-tən DEE-SEE*), formally the District of Columbia and commonly referred to as Washington, the District, or simply D.C., is the capital of the [United States](#), founded on July 16, 1790. The City of Washington was originally a separate municipality within the Territory of Columbia until an [act of Congress in 1871](#) effectively merged the City and the Territory into a single entity called the District of Columbia. It is for this reason that the city, while legally named the District of Columbia, is known as Washington, D.C. The city shares its name with the U.S. state of [Washington](#), which is located on the country's Pacific coast.

The city is located on the north bank of the [Potomac River](#) and is bordered by the states of [Virginia](#) to the southwest and [Maryland](#) to the other sides. The District has a resident population of 599,657; because of commuters from the surrounding suburbs, its population rises to over one million during the workweek. The [Washington Metropolitan Area](#), of which the District is a part, has a population of 5.3 million, the [ninth-largest metropolitan area](#) in the country.

Article [One of the United States Constitution](#) provides for a [federal district](#), distinct from the states, to serve as the permanent national capital. The centers of all three branches of the [federal government of the United States](#) are located in the District, as are many of the nation's monuments and museums. Washington, D.C. hosts 174 [foreign embassies](#) as well as the headquarters of the [World Bank](#), the [International Monetary Fund](#) (IMF), the [Organization of American States](#) (OAS), the [Inter-American Development Bank](#), and the [Pan American Health Organization](#) (PAHO). The headquarters of other institutions such as trade unions, [lobbying](#) groups, and professional associations are also located in the District.

District of Columbia



Top left: [Georgetown University](#); top right: [U.S. Capitol](#); middle: [Washington Monument](#); bottom left: [African American Civil War Memorial](#); bottom right: [National Shrine](#)



Flag



Seal

Motto: *Justitia Omnibus* (Justice for All)

The city is governed by a [mayor](#) and a 13-member [city council](#). However, the [United States Congress](#) has supreme authority over Washington, D.C., and may overturn local laws. Residents of the District therefore have less self-governance than residents of the states. The District has a non-voting, at-large Congressional [delegate](#), but no senators. D.C. residents could not vote in [presidential elections](#) until the ratification of the [Twenty-third Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) in 1961.

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History

Main article: [History of Washington, D.C.](#)

An [Algonquian](#) people known as the [Nacotchtank](#) inhabited the area around the [Anacostia River](#) ^[3]



Location of Washington, D.C. in the United States and in relation to the states of [Maryland](#) and [Virginia](#).

Coordinates: 38°53′42.4″N 77°02′12.0″W﻿ / ﻿﻿ / ﻿

Country	United States
Federal district	District of Columbia
Government	
- Mayor	Adrian Fenty (D)
- D.C. Council	Chairman: Vincent Gray (D)
Area	
- City	68.3 sq mi (177.0 km ²)
- Land	61.4 sq mi (159.0 km ²)
- Water	6.9 sq mi (18.0 km ²)
Elevation	0–409 ft (0–125 m)
Population (2009) ^{[1][2]}	
- City	599,657
- Density	9,776.4/sq mi (3,771.4/km ²)
- Metro	5.3 million
- Demonym	Washingtonian
Time zone	EST (UTC-5)
- Summer (DST)	EDT (UTC-4)
Website	www.dc.gov

where Washington now lies when the first Europeans arrived in the 17th century; however, [Native American](#) people had largely relocated from the area by the early 18th century.^[4] [Georgetown](#) was chartered by the [Province of Maryland](#) on the north bank of the Potomac River in 1751. The town would be included within the new federal territory established nearly 40 years later.^[5] The City of [Alexandria, Virginia](#), founded in 1749, was also originally included within the District.^[6]

[James Madison](#) expounded the need for a federal district on January 23, 1788, in his "[Federalist No. 43](#)", arguing that the national capital needed to be distinct from the states in order to provide for its own maintenance and safety.^[7] An attack on the Congress at [Philadelphia](#) by a mob of angry soldiers, known as the [Pennsylvania Mutiny of 1783](#), had emphasized the need for the government to see to its own security.^[8] Therefore, the authority to establish a federal capital was provided in Article One, Section Eight, of the [United States Constitution](#), which permits a "District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States".^[9] The Constitution does not, however, specify a location for the new capital. In what later became known as the [Compromise of 1790](#), Madison, [Alexander Hamilton](#), and [Thomas Jefferson](#) came to an agreement that the federal government would assume war debt carried by the states, on the condition that the new national capital would be located in the [Southern United States](#).^[a]



The [United States Capitol](#) after the burning of Washington, D.C. in the [War of 1812](#).

On July 16, 1790, the [Residence Act](#) provided for a new permanent capital to be located on the [Potomac River](#), the exact area to be selected by President [Washington](#).^[b] As permitted by the U.S. Constitution, the initial shape of the federal district was a square, measuring 10 miles (16 km) on each side, totaling 100 square miles (260 km²). During 1791–92, [Andrew Ellicott](#) and several assistants, including [Benjamin Banneker](#), surveyed the border of the District with both Maryland and Virginia, placing [boundary stones](#) at every mile point; many of the stones are still standing.^[10] A new "federal city" was then constructed on

the north bank of the Potomac, to the east of the established settlement at Georgetown. On September 9, 1791, the federal city was named in honor of [George Washington](#), and the district was named the Territory of Columbia, [Columbia](#) being a poetic name for the United States in use at that time.^[c] Congress held its first session in Washington on November 17, 1800.^[11]

The [Organic Act of 1801](#) officially organized the District of Columbia and placed the entire federal territory, including the cities of Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria, under the exclusive control of Congress. Further, the unincorporated territory within the District was organized into two counties: the [County of Washington](#) to the east of the Potomac and the [County of Alexandria](#) to the west.^[12] Following this Act, citizens located in the District were no longer considered residents of Maryland or Virginia, thus ending their representation in Congress.^[13]

On August 24–25, 1814, in a raid known as the [Burning of Washington](#), British forces invaded the capital during the [War of 1812](#), following the [sacking and burning of York](#) (modern-day [Toronto](#)). The [Capitol](#), [Treasury](#), and [White House](#) were burned and gutted during the attack.^[14] Most government buildings were quickly repaired, but the Capitol, which was at the time largely under construction, was not completed in its current form until 1868.^[15]

Since 1800, the District's residents have protested their lack of [voting representation](#) in Congress. To correct this, various proposals have been offered to return the land



[Ford's Theatre](#) in the 19th century, site of the 1865 [assassination](#) of [President Lincoln](#)

ceded to form the District back to Maryland and Virginia. This process is known as [retrocession](#).^[16] However, such efforts failed to earn enough support until the 1830s when the District's southern county of Alexandria went into economic decline due to neglect by Congress.^[16] Alexandria was also a major market in the [American slave trade](#), and rumors circulated that [abolitionists](#) in Congress were attempting to end slavery in the District; such an action would have further depressed Alexandria's economy.^[17] Unhappy with [Congressional authority](#) over Alexandria, in 1840 the people began to petition for the retrocession of the District's southern territory back to Virginia. The state legislature complied in February 1846, partly because the return of Alexandria provided two additional pro-slavery delegates to the [Virginia General Assembly](#).^[16] On July 9, 1846, Congress agreed to return all the District's territory south of the Potomac River to the Commonwealth of Virginia.^[16]

Confirming the fears of pro-slavery Alexandrians, the [Compromise of 1850](#) outlawed the slave trade in the District, though not slavery itself.^[18] By 1860, approximately 80% of the city's African American residents were [free blacks](#). The outbreak of the [American Civil War](#) in 1861 led to notable growth in the District's population due to the expansion of the federal government and a large influx of freed slaves.^[19] In 1862, President [Abraham Lincoln](#) signed the [Compensated Emancipation Act](#), which ended slavery in the District of Columbia and freed about 3,100 enslaved persons, nine months prior to the [Emancipation Proclamation](#).^[20] By 1870, the District's population had grown to nearly 132,000.^[21] Despite the city's growth, Washington still had dirt roads and lacked basic sanitation; the situation was so bad that some members of Congress proposed moving the capital elsewhere.^[22]



Crowds surrounding the [Reflecting Pool](#) during the 1963 [March on Washington](#)

With the [Organic Act of 1871](#), Congress created a new government for the entire federal territory. This Act effectively combined the City of Washington, Georgetown, and Washington County into a single municipality officially named the District of Columbia.^[23] Even though the City of Washington legally ceased to exist after 1871, the name continued in use and the whole city became commonly known as Washington, D.C. In the same Organic Act, Congress also appointed a Board of Public Works charged with modernizing the city.^[24] In 1873, [President Grant](#) appointed the board's most influential member, [Alexander Shepherd](#), to the new post of governor. That year, Shepherd spent \$20 million on public works (\$357 million in 2007),^[25] which modernized Washington but also bankrupted the city. In 1874, Congress abolished Shepherd's office in favor of direct rule.^[22] Additional projects to renovate the city were not executed until the [McMillan Plan](#) in 1901.^[26]

The District's population remained relatively stable until the [Great Depression](#) in the 1930s when President Franklin D. Roosevelt's [New Deal](#) legislation expanded the bureaucracy in Washington. World War II further increased government activity, adding to the number of federal employees in the capital;^[27] by 1950, the District's population had reached a peak of 802,178 residents.^[28] The [Twenty-third Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) was ratified in 1961, granting the District three votes in the [Electoral College](#).

After the [assassination](#) of civil rights leader Dr. [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), on April 4, 1968, [riots](#) broke out in the District, primarily in the [U Street](#), [14th Street](#), [7th Street](#), and [H Street](#) corridors, centers of black residential and commercial areas. The riots raged for three days until over 13,000 federal and [national guard](#) troops managed to quell the violence. Many stores and other buildings were burned; rebuilding was not complete until the late 1990s.^[29]

In 1973, Congress enacted the [District of Columbia Home Rule Act](#), providing for an elected [mayor](#)^[30]

and **city council** for the District. In 1975, **Walter Washington** became the first elected and first black mayor of the District.^[31] However, during the later 1980s and 1990s, city administrations were criticized for mismanagement and waste. In 1995, Congress created the **District of Columbia Financial Control Board** to oversee all municipal spending and rehabilitate the city government.^[32] The District regained control over its finances in September 2001 and the oversight board's operations were suspended.^[33]

On **September 11, 2001**, terrorists hijacked **American Airlines Flight 77** and deliberately crashed the plane into **the Pentagon** in nearby **Arlington, Virginia**. **United Airlines Flight 93**, believed to be destined for Washington, D.C., crashed in **Pennsylvania** when passengers tried to recover control of the plane from hijackers.^{[34][35]}

Geography

Main article: [Geography of Washington, D.C.](#)

The District has a total area of 68.3 square miles (177 km²), of which 61.4 square miles (159 km²) is land and 6.9 square miles (18 km²) (10.16%) is water.^[36] The District is no longer 100 square miles (260 km²) due to the **retrocession** of the southern portion of the District back to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1846. The District's current area consists only of territory ceded by the state of Maryland. Washington is therefore surrounded by the states of Maryland to the southeast, northeast, and northwest and Virginia to the southwest. The District has three major natural flowing streams: the **Potomac River** and its tributaries the **Anacostia River** and **Rock Creek**.^[37] **Tiber Creek**, a watercourse that once passed through the **National Mall**, was fully enclosed underground during the 1870s.^[38]

Contrary to the urban legend, Washington was not built on reclaimed swampland.^[39] While **wetlands** did cover areas along the two rivers and other natural streams, the majority of the District's territory consisted of farmland and tree-covered hills.^[40] The highest natural point in the District of Columbia is Point Reno, located in **Fort Reno Park** in the **Tenleytown** neighborhood, at 409 feet (125 m) above sea level.^[41] The lowest point is **sea level** at the Potomac River. The geographic center of Washington is located near the intersection of 4th and L Streets NW.^[42]

Approximately 19.4% of Washington, D.C. is parkland, which ties New York City for largest percentage of parkland among high-density U.S. cities.^[43] The high percentage of park area in the District contributes to **urban tree canopy** coverage of 35%, as of 2010.^[44] The U.S. **National Park Service** manages most of the natural habitat in Washington, D.C., including **Rock Creek Park**, the **Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park**, the **National Mall**, **Theodore Roosevelt Island**, the **Constitution Gardens**, **Meridian Hill Park**, and **Anacostia Park**.^[45] The only significant area of natural habitat not managed by the National Park Service is the **U.S. National Arboretum**, which is operated by the **U.S. Department of Agriculture**.^[46] The **Great Falls** of the Potomac River are located upstream (northwest) of Washington. During the 19th century, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, which starts in Georgetown, was used to allow barge traffic to bypass the falls.^[47]

Climate

See also: [List of Maryland and Washington, D.C. hurricanes \(1980–present\)](#) and [List of District of Columbia tornadoes](#)

Washington is located in the **humid subtropical climate** zone (Köppen climate classification: *Cfa*),



The **Chesapeake and Ohio Canal** passes through the **Georgetown** neighborhood.

exhibiting four distinct seasons.^[48] Its climate is typical of Mid-Atlantic U.S. areas removed from bodies of water. The District is located in plant **hardiness zone** 8a near downtown, and zone 7b elsewhere in the city, indicating a temperate climate.^[49] Spring and fall are warm, with low humidity, while winter is cool, with annual snowfall averaging 14.7 inches (37 cm).^[50] Average winter lows tend to be around 30 °F (−1 °C) from mid-December to mid-February. Blizzards affect Washington on average once every four to six years. The most violent storms are called "**nor'easters**", which typically feature high winds, heavy rains, and occasional snow. These storms often affect large sections of the U.S. East Coast.^[51]

Summers are hot and humid, with the July high and low averaging 88 °F (31 °C) and 70 °F (21 °C), though the high will surpass 95 °F (35 °C), accompanied by high dew points.^[52] The combination of heat and humidity in the summer brings very frequent thunderstorms, some of which occasionally produce tornadoes in the area. While hurricanes (or their remnants) occasionally track through the area in late summer and early fall, they have often weakened by the time they reach Washington, partly due to the city's inland location. Flooding of the Potomac River, however, caused by a combination of high tide, **storm surge**, and runoff, has been known to cause extensive property damage in Georgetown.^[53]

The highest recorded temperature was 106 °F (41 °C) on July 20, 1930, and August 6, 1918, while the lowest recorded temperature was −15 °F (−26 °C) on February 11, 1899, during the **Great Blizzard of 1899**.^{[51][52]} Over the year, the city averages 36.7 days hotter than 90 °F (32 °C) and 64.4 nights below freezing.^[50]

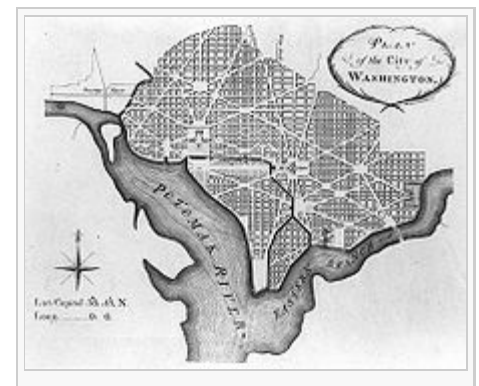
Climate data for Washington, DC (Reagan National)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average high °F (°C)	42.5 (5.8)	46.5 (8.1)	55.7 (13.2)	66.3 (19.1)	75.4 (24.1)	83.9 (28.8)	88.3 (31.3)	86.3 (30.2)	79.3 (26.3)	68 (20)	57.3 (14.1)	47 (8.3)	66.4 (19.1)
Average low °F (°C)	27.3 (−2.6)	29.7 (−1.3)	37.4 (3)	45.9 (7.7)	55.8 (13.2)	65 (18.3)	70.1 (21.2)	68.6 (20.3)	61.8 (16.6)	49.6 (9.8)	40 (4.4)	32 (0)	48.6 (9.2)
Precipitation inches (mm)	3.21 (81.5)	2.63 (66.8)	3.60 (91.4)	2.77 (70.4)	3.82 (97)	3.13 (79.5)	3.66 (93)	3.44 (87.4)	3.79 (96.3)	3.22 (81.8)	3.03 (77)	3.05 (77.5)	39.35 (999.5)
Snowfall inches (cm)	5.9 (15)	5.1 (13)	1.6 (4.1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.7 (1.8)	1.4 (3.6)	14.7 (37.3)
Sunshine hours	145.7	152.6	204.6	228	260.4	282	279	263.5	225	204.6	150	133.3	2,526.7
Avg. snowy days	3.1	2.2	1.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	1.1	8.1
Avg. precipitation days	10.5	9.3	10.6	9.6	11.2	10.2	10.4	8.6	8.1	7.8	8.5	9.5	114.3
Source #1: <i>The Weather Channel</i> ^[52] , NOAA ^[50] February 2010													
Source #2: HKO ^[54] 2010-05-11													

Cityscape

*See also: **Streets and highways of Washington, D.C.**, **List of neighborhoods of the District of Columbia by ward**, and **List of tallest buildings in Washington, D.C.***

Washington, D.C. is a **planned city**. The design for the City of Washington was largely the work of **Pierre (Peter) Charles L'Enfant**, a French-born architect, engineer, and city planner who first arrived in the colonies as a **military engineer** with **Major General Lafayette** during the **American Revolutionary War**.^[d] In 1791, President Washington commissioned L'Enfant to plan the layout of the new capital city. L'Enfant's plan was modeled in the **Baroque** style and incorporated avenues radiating out from rectangles, providing room for open space and landscaping.^[26] His



design also envisioned a garden-lined "grand avenue" approximately 1 mile (1.6 km) in length and 400 feet (120 m) wide in the area that is now the [National Mall](#).^[55]

L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C., as revised by [Andrew Ellicott](#) (1792)

In March 1792, President Washington dismissed L'Enfant due to his insistence on micromanaging the city's planning, which had resulted in conflicts with the three commissioners appointed by Washington to supervise the capital's construction. [Andrew Ellicott](#), who had worked with L'Enfant surveying the city, was then commissioned to complete the plans. Though Ellicott made revisions to the original plans, including changes to some street patterns, L'Enfant is still credited with the overall design of the city.^[56] The City of Washington was bounded by what is now [Florida Avenue](#) to the north, Rock Creek to the west, and the Anacostia River to the east.^[26]

By the start of the 20th century, L'Enfant's vision of a capital with open parks and grand national monuments had become marred by slums and randomly placed buildings, including a railroad station on the National Mall.^[26] In 1900, Congress formed a [joint committee](#), headed by Senator [James McMillan](#), charged with beautifying Washington's ceremonial core. What became known as the [McMillan Plan](#) was finalized in 1901. It included the re-landscaping of the Capitol grounds and the Mall, constructing new Federal buildings and monuments, clearing slums, and establishing a new citywide park system. Architects recruited by the committee kept much of the city's original layout, and their work is thought to be largely in keeping with L'Enfant's intended design.^[26]



Washington, D.C. is divided into four [quadrants](#).

After the construction of the twelve-story [Cairo Apartment Building](#) in 1894, Congress passed the [Heights of Buildings Act](#), which limited building heights in the city. The Act was amended in 1910 to restrict building height to the width of the adjacent street plus 20 feet (6.1 m).^[57] Despite popular belief, no law has ever limited buildings to the height of the United States Capitol or the [Washington Monument](#).^{[58][59]} Today the skyline remains low and sprawling, in keeping with Thomas Jefferson's wishes to make Washington an "American Paris" with "low and convenient" buildings on "light and airy" streets.^[57] As a result, the Washington Monument remains the District's tallest structure.^[60] However, Washington's height restriction has been assailed as a primary reason why the city has limited affordable housing and traffic problems as a result of [urban sprawl](#).^[57] Not subject to the

District's height restriction, a number of taller buildings close to downtown have been constructed across the Potomac River in [Rosslyn, Virginia](#).^[61]

The District is divided into four [quadrants](#) of unequal area: [Northwest \(NW\)](#), [Northeast \(NE\)](#), [Southeast \(SE\)](#), and [Southwest \(SW\)](#). The axes bounding the quadrants radiate from the U.S. Capitol building.^[62] All road names include the quadrant abbreviation to indicate their location. In most of the city, the streets are set out in a grid pattern with east–west streets named with letters (e.g., C Street SW) and north–south streets with numbers (e.g., 4th Street NW).^[62] Some Washington streets are particularly noteworthy, such as [Pennsylvania Avenue](#), which connects the White House with the U.S. Capitol, and [K Street](#), which houses the offices of many lobbying groups.^[63] Washington hosts 174 [foreign embassies](#), 59 of which are located on a section of [Massachusetts Avenue](#) informally known as [Embassy Row](#).^[64]

Architecture

The architecture of Washington varies greatly. Six of the top 10 buildings in the [American Institute of Architects'](#) 2007 ranking of "[America's Favorite Architecture](#)" are located in the District of Columbia:^[65] the [White House](#);

the [Washington National Cathedral](#); the [Thomas Jefferson Memorial](#); the [United States Capitol](#); the [Lincoln Memorial](#); and the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#). The [neoclassical](#), [Georgian](#), [gothic](#), and [modern](#) architectural styles are all reflected among those six structures and many other prominent edifices in Washington. Notable exceptions include buildings constructed in the French [Second Empire](#) style such as the [Old Executive Office Building](#).^[66]

Outside downtown Washington, architectural styles are even more varied. Historic buildings are designed primarily in the [Queen Anne](#), [Châteauesque](#), [Richardsonian Romanesque](#), Georgian revival, [Beaux-Arts](#), and a variety of [Victorian](#) styles. Rowhouses are especially prominent in areas developed after the Civil War and typically follow [Federalist](#) and late Victorian designs.^[67] Since Georgetown was established before the city of Washington, the neighborhood features the District's oldest architecture. Georgetown's [Old Stone House](#) was built in 1765, making it the oldest-standing original building in the city.^[68] The majority of current homes in the neighborhood, however, were not built until the 1870s and reflect late Victorian designs of the period. Founded in 1789, [Georgetown University](#) is more distinct from the neighborhood and features a mix of Romanesque and [Gothic Revival architecture](#).^[66] The [Ronald Reagan Building](#) is the largest building in the District with a total area of approximately 3.1 million square feet (288,000 m²).^[69]

Demographics

Main article: [Demographics of Washington, D.C.](#)

In 2009, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the District's population at 599,657 residents,^[1] continuing a trend of population growth in the city since the [2000 Census](#), which recorded 572,059 residents.^[70] During the workweek, however, the number of commuters from the suburbs into the city swells the District's population by an estimated 71.8% in 2005, to a daytime population of over one million people.^[71] The Washington Metropolitan Area, which includes the surrounding counties in Maryland and Virginia, is the ninth-largest in the United States with more than five million residents.^[2] When combined with [Baltimore](#) and its suburbs, the [Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area](#) has a population exceeding eight million residents, the fourth-largest in the country.^[72]

According to the 2007 [American Community Survey](#) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, the population distribution of Washington, D.C. is 55.6% [Black or African American](#), 36.3% [White](#), 3.1% [Asian](#), and 0.2% [American Indian](#). Individuals from some other race made up 4.8% of the District's population while individuals from [two or more races](#) made up 1.6%. In addition, [Hispanics](#) of any race made up 8.3% of the District's population. There were also an estimated 74,000 foreign immigrants living in Washington, D.C. in 2007.^[73] Major sources of immigration include individuals from [El Salvador](#),



The [White House](#) ranked second on the [AIA's "List of America's Favorite Architecture"](#) in 2007.

Year	Population	Change
1800	8,144	–
1810	15,471	90.0%
1820	23,336	50.8%
1830	30,261	29.7%
1840	33,745	11.5%
1850	51,687	53.2%
1860	75,080	45.3%
1870	131,700	75.4%
1880	177,624	34.9%
1890	230,392	29.7%
1900	278,718	21.0%
1910	331,069	18.8%
1920	437,571	32.2%
1930	486,869	11.3%
1940	663,091	36.2%
1950	802,178	21.0%

Vietnam, and **Ethiopia**, with some concentration of Salvadorans in the **Mount Pleasant** neighborhood.^[74]



The Friendship Arch is at the center of Chinatown.

Unique among cities with a **high percentage of African Americans**, Washington has had a significant black population since the city's creation. This is a result

1960	763,956	−4.8%
1970	756,510	−1.0%
1980	638,333	−15.6%
1990	606,900	−4.9%
2000	572,059	−5.7%
2009	599,657 ^[1]	4.8%

of the **manumission** of slaves in the **Upper South** after the **American Revolutionary War**. The free black population in the region climbed from an estimated 1% before the war to 10% by 1810.^[75] In the District, black residents composed about 30% of the population between 1800 and 1940.^[76]

Washington's black population reached a peak of 70% of the city's residents by 1970. Since then, however, the District's black population has steadily declined due to many blacks leaving the city for the surrounding suburbs.^[77] Some older residents have returned South because of family ties and lower housing costs.^[78] At the same time, the city's white population has steadily increased, in part due to effects of gentrification in many of Washington's traditionally black neighborhoods.^[77] This is evident in a 7.3% decrease in the black population and a 17.8% increase in the white population since 2000.^[70] However, some blacks, particularly college graduates and young professionals, are moving from northern and Midwestern states in a **New Great Migration**. Washington, D.C. is a top destination for such blacks because of increased job opportunities.^[78]

The 2000 census revealed that an estimated 33,000 adults in the District of Columbia identify as gay, lesbian, or bisexual, about 8.1% of the city's adult population.^[79] Given the city's sizable **LGBT** population and liberal political climate, a **same-sex marriage** bill passed the Council of the District of Columbia and was signed by the mayor in December 2009. The District began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples in March 2010.^[80]

A report in the year 2007 found that about one-third of District residents are **functionally illiterate**, compared to a national rate of about one in five. This is attributed in part to immigrants who are not proficient in English.^[81] A 2005 study shows that 85.16% of Washington, D.C.'s residents age five and older speak only English at home and 8.78% speak Spanish. French is the third-most-spoken language at 1.35%.^[82] In contrast to the high rate of functional illiteracy, nearly 46% of D.C.'s residents have at least a four-year college degree.^[83] According to data from 2000, more than half of District residents were identified as Christian: 28% of residents are **Roman Catholic**, 9.1% are **American Baptist**, 6.8% are **Southern Baptist**, 1.3% are **Eastern** or **Oriental Orthodox**, and 13% are members of other Christian denominations. Residents who practice **Islam** make up 10.6% of the population, followers of **Judaism** compose 4.5%, and 26.8% of residents adhere to other faiths or do not practice a religion.^[84]

Crime

Main article: [Crime in Washington, D.C.](#)

See also: [Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia](#)

During the **violent crime** wave of the early 1990s, Washington, D.C. was known as the murder capital of the United States and often rivaled **New Orleans** in the number of homicides.^[85] The number of murders peaked in 1991 at 479, but the level of violence declined drastically in the 1990s. By 2009, the annual murder count in the city had declined to 143, the lowest number since 1966.^[86] In total, violent crime declined nearly 47% between 1995 and 2007. Property crime, including thefts and ^{[87][88]}

robberies, declined by roughly 48% during the same period.

Like most large cities, crime is highest in areas associated with illegal drugs and gangs. The more affluent neighborhoods of Northwest Washington experience low levels of crime, but the incidence of crime increases as one goes further east. Once plagued with violent crime, many D.C. neighborhoods such as [Columbia Heights](#) and [Logan Circle](#) are becoming safe and vibrant areas due to the effects of [gentrification](#). As a result, crime in the District is being displaced further east and across the border into [Prince George's County, Maryland](#).^[89]

On June 26, 2008, the [Supreme Court of the United States](#) held in *[District of Columbia v. Heller](#)* that the city's 1976 [handgun ban](#) violated the [Second Amendment](#) right to gun ownership.^[90] However, the ruling does not prohibit all forms of gun control; laws requiring firearm registration remain in place, as does the city's assault weapon ban.^[91]

Economy

See also: [Category:Companies based in Washington, D.C.](#)

Washington has a growing, diversified economy with an increasing percentage of professional and business service jobs.^[92] The gross state product of the District in 2008 was \$97.2 billion, which would rank it No. 35 compared to the 50 U.S. states.^[93] In 2008, the federal government accounted for about 27% of the jobs in Washington, D.C.^[94] This is thought to immunize Washington to national economic downturns because the federal government continues operations even during recessions.^[95] However, as of January 2007, federal employees in the Washington area comprised only 14% of the total U.S. government workforce.^[96] Many

organizations such as [law firms](#), [independent contractors](#) (both defense and civilian), non-profit organizations, [lobbying firms](#), [trade unions](#), [industry trade groups](#), and [professional associations](#) have their headquarters in or near D.C. to be close to the federal government.^[63]

As of January 2010, the Washington Metropolitan Area had an unemployment rate of 6.9%; the second-lowest rate among the 49 [largest metro areas](#) in the nation.^[97] The District of Columbia itself had an unemployment rate of 12% during the same time period.^[98]

The District has growing industries not directly related to government, especially in the areas of education, finance, public policy, and scientific research. [George Washington University](#), [Georgetown University](#), [Washington Hospital Center](#), [Howard University](#), and [Fannie Mae](#) are the top five non-government-related employers in the city.^[99] There are five [Fortune 1000](#) companies based in Washington, of which two are also [Fortune 500](#) companies.^[100]

Washington became the leader in foreign real estate investment in 2009, ahead of both London and New York City, in a survey of the top 200 global development companies.^[101] In 2006, *Expansion Magazine* ranked D.C. among the top ten areas in the nation favorable to business expansion.^[102] Washington has the third-largest downtown in the United States in terms of commercial office space, directly behind New York City and Chicago.^[103] Despite the national economic crisis and housing price downturn, Washington ranked second on the *Forbes* list of the best long-term housing markets in the country.^[104]

Gentrification efforts are taking hold in Washington, D.C., notably in the neighborhoods of Logan Circle, [Shaw](#), Columbia Heights, the U Street Corridor, and the 14th Street Corridor.^[105]

Development was fostered in some neighborhoods by the late-1990s construction of the [Green Line](#)



Professors Gate at [George Washington University](#), the largest private employer in the District

on [Metrorail](#), Washington's subway system, which linked them to the downtown area.^[106] In March 2008, a new shopping mall in Columbia Heights became the first new major retail center in the District in 40 years.^[107] As in many cities, gentrification is revitalizing Washington's economy, but its benefits are unevenly distributed throughout the city and it is not directly helping poor people.^[105] In 2006, D.C. residents had a [personal income per capita](#) of \$55,755, higher than any of the 50 U.S. states.^[108] However, 19% of residents were below the poverty level in 2005, higher than any state except [Mississippi](#), which highlights the economic disparities in the city's population.^[109]

Culture

Historic sites and museums

See also: [List of National Historic Landmarks in Washington, D.C.](#), [National Register of Historic Places listings in Washington, D.C.](#), and [List of museums in Washington, D.C.](#)

The [National Mall](#) is a large, open park area in the center of the city. Located in the center of the Mall are the [Washington Monument](#) and the [Jefferson Pier](#). Also located on the mall are the [Lincoln Memorial](#), the [National World War II Memorial](#) at the east end of the [Reflecting Pool](#), the [Korean War Veterans Memorial](#), and the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#).^[110] The [National Archives](#) houses thousands of documents important to American history including the [Declaration of Independence](#), the United States Constitution, and the [Bill of Rights](#).^[111]

Located directly south of the mall, the [Tidal Basin](#) features rows of [Japanese cherry](#) blossom trees that were presented as gifts from the nation of Japan. The [Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial](#), [Jefferson Memorial](#), and the [District of Columbia War Memorial](#) are located around the Tidal Basin.^[112]

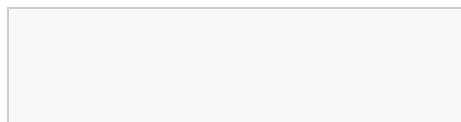
The [Smithsonian Institution](#) is an educational foundation chartered by Congress in 1846 that maintains most of the nation's official museums and galleries in Washington, D.C. The U.S. government partially funds the Smithsonian, thus making its collections open to the public free of charge.^[113] The most visited of the Smithsonian museums in 2007 was the [National Museum of Natural History](#) located on the National Mall.^[114] Other Smithsonian Institution museums and galleries located on the mall are: the [National Air and Space Museum](#); the [National Museum of African Art](#); the [National Museum of American History](#); the [National Museum of the American Indian](#); the [Sackler](#) and [Freer](#) galleries, which both focus on Asian art and culture; the [Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden](#); the [Arts and Industries Building](#); the [S. Dillon Ripley Center](#); and the [Smithsonian Institution Building](#) (also known as "The Castle"), which serves as the institution's headquarters.^[115]

The [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#) (formerly known as the National Museum of American Art) and the [National Portrait Gallery](#) are located in the same building, the [Donald W. Reynolds Center](#), near Washington's [Chinatown](#).^[116] The Reynolds Center is also known as the [Old Patent Office Building](#).^[117] The [Renwick Gallery](#) is officially part of the Smithsonian American Art Museum but is located in a separate building near the White House. Other Smithsonian museums and galleries include: the [Anacostia Community Museum](#) in Southeast Washington; the [National Postal Museum](#) near [Union Station](#); and the [National Zoo](#) in [Woodley Park](#).



The [National Museum of the American Indian](#) opened in 2004.

The [National Gallery of Art](#) is located on the National Mall near the Capitol, but is not a part of the Smithsonian Institution. It is instead wholly owned by the U.S.





The East Building of the [National Gallery of Art](#) houses the modern art collection.

government; thus admission to the gallery is free. The gallery's West Building features the nation's collection of American and European art through the 19th century.^[118] The East Building, designed by architect [I. M. Pei](#), features works of modern art.^[119] The Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Portrait Gallery are often confused with the National Gallery of Art when they are in fact entirely separate institutions. The [National Building Museum](#) occupies the former Pension Building located near [Judiciary Square](#), and was chartered by Congress as a private institution to host exhibits on architecture, urban planning, and design.^[120]

There are many private art museums in the District of Columbia, which house major collections and exhibits open to the public such as: the [National Museum of Women in the Arts](#); the [Corcoran Gallery of Art](#), the largest private museum in Washington; and [The Phillips Collection](#) in [Dupont Circle](#), the first museum of modern art in the United States.^[121] Other private museums in Washington include the [Newseum](#), the [International Spy Museum](#), the [National Geographic Society Museum](#), and the [Marian Koshland Science Museum](#). The [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#) located near the National Mall maintains exhibits, documentation, and artifacts related to [The Holocaust](#).^[122]

Performing arts and music

Main articles: [Theater in Washington, D.C.](#) and [Music of Washington, D.C.](#)

Washington, D.C. is a national center for the arts. The [John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#) is home to the [National Symphony Orchestra](#), the [Washington National Opera](#), and the [Washington Ballet](#). The [Kennedy Center Honors](#) are awarded each year to those in the performing arts who have contributed greatly to the cultural life of the United States.^[123] The President and [First Lady](#) typically attend the Honors ceremony, as the First Lady is the honorary chair of the [Kennedy Center Board of Trustees](#).^[124] Washington also has a local independent theater tradition. Institutions such as [Arena Stage](#), the [Shakespeare Theatre Company](#), and the Studio Theatre feature classic works and new American plays.



The [John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#) is located along the Potomac River.

The [U Street Corridor](#) in Northwest D.C., known as "Washington's Black Broadway", is home to institutions like [Bohemian Caverns](#) and the [Lincoln Theatre](#), which hosted music legends such as Washington-native [Duke Ellington](#), [John Coltrane](#), and [Miles Davis](#).^[125] Other jazz venues feature modern blues such as [Madam's Organ](#) in [Adams Morgan](#) and [Blues Alley](#) in Georgetown. D.C. has its own native music genre called [go-go](#); a post-funk, percussion-driven flavor of R&B that blends live sets with relentless dance rhythms. The most accomplished practitioner was D.C. band leader [Chuck Brown](#), who brought go-go to the brink of national recognition with his 1979 LP *Bustin' Loose*.^[126]

Washington is also an important center for [indie culture](#) and music in the United States. The label [Dischord Records](#), formed by [Ian MacKaye](#), was one of the most crucial independent labels in the genesis of 1980s punk and eventually [indie rock](#) in the 1990s.^[127] Washington's [indie label](#) history also includes [TeenBeat](#), [Simple Machines](#), and [ESL Music](#) among others. Modern [alternative](#) and

indie music venues like [The Black Cat](#) and the [9:30 Club](#) near U Street bring popular acts to smaller more-intimate venues.^[128]

Media

Main article: [Media in Washington, D.C.](#)

See also: [List of newspapers in Washington, D.C.](#) and [List of television shows set in Washington, D.C.](#)

Washington, D.C. is a prominent center for national and international media. *The Washington Post*, founded in 1877, is the oldest and most-read local daily newspaper in Washington.^{[129][130]} It is probably most notable for its coverage of national and international politics as well as for exposing the [Watergate scandal](#).^[131] "The Post", as it is popularly called, continues to print only three main editions; one each for the District, Maryland, and Virginia. Even without expanded national editions, the newspaper has the sixth-highest [circulation](#) of all news dailies in the country as of September 2008.^[132] *USA Today*, the nation's largest daily newspaper by circulation, is headquartered in nearby [McLean, Virginia](#).^[133]



Washington's Newspaper Row on [Pennsylvania Avenue](#) in 1874

[The Washington Post Company](#) has a daily free commuter newspaper called the *Express*, which summarizes events, sports and entertainment, as well as the Spanish-language paper *El Tiempo Latino*. Local dailies *The Washington Times* and *The Washington Examiner*, the *alternative Washington City Paper*, and the weekly *Washington Business Journal* have substantial readership in the Washington area as well.^{[134][135]} A number of community and specialty papers focus on neighborhood and cultural issues including: the weekly *Washington Blade* and *Metro Weekly*, which focus on LGBT issues; the *Washington Informer* and *The Washington Afro American*, which highlight topics of interest to the black community; and neighborhood newspapers published by [The Current Newspapers](#). *The Hill* and *Roll Call* newspapers focus exclusively on issues related to Congress and the federal government.

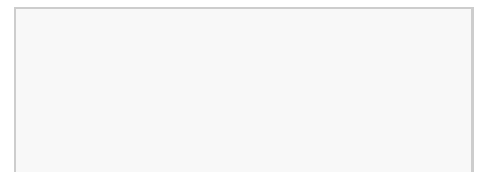
The Washington Metropolitan Area is the ninth-largest television [media market](#) in the U.S. with two million homes (approximately 2% of the U.S. population).^[136] Several media companies and cable television channels have their headquarters in the area, including: [C-SPAN](#); [Black Entertainment Television](#) (BET); the [National Geographic Channel](#); [Smithsonian Networks](#); [XM Satellite Radio](#); [National Public Radio](#) (NPR); [Travel Channel](#) (in [Chevy Chase, Maryland](#)); [Discovery Communications](#) (in [Silver Spring, Maryland](#)); and the [Public Broadcasting Service](#) (PBS) (in [Arlington, Virginia](#)). The headquarters of [Voice of America](#), the U.S. government's international news service, is located near the Capitol in Southwest Washington. The D.C. area is also home to [Radio One](#), the nation's largest African American television and radio conglomerate, founded by media mogul [Cathy Hughes](#).^[137]

Sports

Main article: [Sports in Washington, D.C.](#)

See also: [U.S. cities with teams from four major sports](#)

Washington, D.C. is home to five major professional men's teams. The [Washington Wizards](#) ([National Basketball Association](#)) and the [Washington Capitals](#) ([National Hockey League](#)) both play at the [Verizon Center](#) (right) in



Chinatown. [Nationals Park](#), which opened in Southeast D.C. in 2008, is home to the [Washington Nationals](#) ([Major League Baseball](#)). [D.C. United](#) ([Major League Soccer](#)) plays at [RFK Stadium](#). The [Washington Redskins](#) ([National Football League](#)) play at nearby [FedExField](#) in [Landover, Maryland](#).

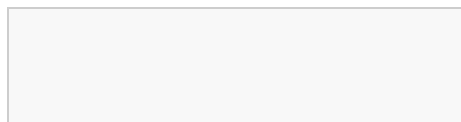
The Washington area is also home to two women's professional sports teams. The [Washington Mystics](#) ([WNBA](#)) play at the [Verizon Center](#), and the [Washington Freedom](#) ([Women's Professional Soccer](#)) play in nearby [Germantown, Maryland](#) and at [RFK Stadium](#).^[138] Other professional and semi-professional teams in Washington include: the [Washington Kastles](#) ([World TeamTennis](#)); the [Washington D.C. Slayers](#) ([American National Rugby League](#)); the [Baltimore Washington Eagles](#) ([USAFL](#)); the [D.C. Divas](#) ([Independent Women's Football League](#)); the [D.C. Explosion](#) ([NAFL](#)); and the [Potomac Athletic Club RFC](#) ([Rugby Super League](#)).

Washington is one of only 13 cities in the United States with teams from all four [major men's sports](#): [football](#), [basketball](#), [baseball](#), and [ice hockey](#). When soccer is included, Washington is one of only eight cities to have all five professional men's sports. D.C. teams have won a combined 9 professional league championships: [D.C. United](#) has won four (the most in [MLS history](#));^[139] the [Washington Redskins](#) have won three;^[140] and the [Washington Wizards](#) and the [Washington Glory](#) have each won a single championship.^{[141][142]} The [William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center](#) in [Rock Creek Park](#) hosts the [Legg Mason Tennis Classic](#). The [Marine Corps Marathon](#) and the [National Marathon](#) are both held annually in Washington. The D.C. area is home to one regional sports television network, [Comcast SportsNet](#) ([CSN](#)), based in [Bethesda, Maryland](#).

Government

See also: [District of Columbia home rule](#) and [List of mayors of Washington, D.C.](#)

[Article One, Section Eight of the United States Constitution](#) grants the U.S. Congress ultimate authority over Washington, D.C. The District of Columbia did not have an elected city government until the passage of the [1973 Home Rule Act](#). The Act devolved certain Congressional powers over the District to a local government administered by an elected mayor, currently [Adrian Fenty](#), and the thirteen-member [Council of the District of Columbia](#). However, Congress retains the right to review and overturn laws created by the city council and intervene in local affairs.^[143] Each of the city's eight [wards](#) elects a single member of the council and five members, including the chairman, are elected at large.^[144] There are 37 [Advisory Neighborhood Commissions](#) (ANCs) elected by small neighborhood districts. ANC's traditionally wield a great deal of influence and the city government routinely takes their suggestions into careful consideration.^[145]



The mayor and council adopt a local budget, which must be approved by Congress. Local [income](#), [sales](#), and [property taxes](#) provide about 67% of the revenue to fund



The [Verizon Center](#) is home to the [NHL's Capitals](#), the [NBA's Wizards](#), the [WNBA's Mystics](#), and the [Georgetown Hoyas men's basketball team](#).



The [John A. Wilson Building](#) houses the offices of the mayor and council of the District of Columbia.



The [United States Congress](#) has ultimate authority over the District.

city government agencies and services. Like the 50 states, D.C. receives [federal grants](#) for assistance programs such as [Medicare](#), accounting for approximately 26% of the city's total revenue. Congress also appropriates money to the District's government to help offset some of the city's security costs; these funds totaled \$38 million in 2007, approximately 0.5% of the District's budget.^[146] The Federal government operates the [District's court system](#),^[147] and all [federal law enforcement agencies](#), most visibly the [U.S. Park Police](#), have jurisdiction in the city and help provide security as well.^[148] All local [felony](#) charges are prosecuted by the [United States Attorney](#) for the District of Columbia.^[149] U.S. Attorneys are appointed by the President and funded by the [United States Department of Justice](#).^[150] In total, the federal government provided about 33% of the District's general revenue.^[151] On average, federal funds formed about 30% the states' general revenues in 2007.^[152]

The city's local government, particularly during the mayoralty of [Marion Barry](#), was criticized for mismanagement and waste.^[153] Barry was elected mayor in 1978, serving three successive four-year terms. During his administration in 1989, *The Washington Monthly* magazine claimed that the District had "the worst city government in America".^[154] After being imprisoned for six months on misdemeanor drug charges in 1990, Barry did not run for reelection.^[155] In 1991, [Sharon Pratt Kelly](#) became the first black woman to lead a major U.S. city.^[156] Barry was elected again in 1994, and by the next year the city had become nearly insolvent.^[155] Mayor [Anthony Williams](#) won election in 1998. His administration oversaw a period of greater prosperity, [urban renewal](#), and budget surpluses.^[157] Since his election in 2006, Mayor Adrian Fenty has primarily focused on improving education. Shortly upon taking office, he won approval from the city council to directly manage and overhaul the city's under-performing public school system.^[158]

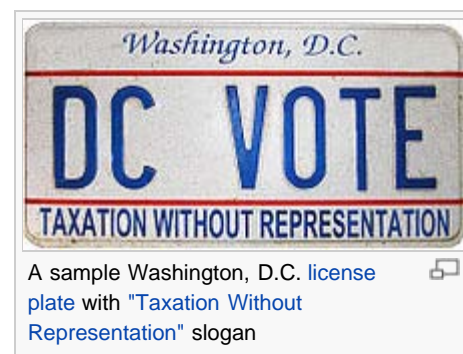
Washington, D.C. observes all [federal holidays](#). The District also celebrates [Emancipation Day](#) on April 16, which commemorates the signing of the [Compensated Emancipation Act](#) by President [Abraham Lincoln](#) in 1862.^[20]

Federal representation and taxation

See also: [District of Columbia voting rights](#) and [Political party strength in Washington, D.C.](#)

Citizens of the District of Columbia have no voting representation in Congress. They are represented in the [House of Representatives](#) by a [non-voting delegate](#), [Eleanor Holmes Norton](#) (D-D.C. *At-Large*), who may sit on [committees](#), participate in debate, and introduce legislation, but cannot vote on the House floor. D.C. has no representation in the [United States Senate](#). Unlike residents of [U.S. territories](#) such as [Puerto Rico](#) or [Guam](#), which also have non-voting delegates, citizens of the District of Columbia are subject to all U.S. federal taxes.^[159] In the financial year 2007, D.C. residents and businesses paid \$20.4 billion in federal taxes; more than the taxes collected from 19 states and the highest [federal taxes per capita](#).^[160]

A 2005 poll found that 78% of Americans did not know that residents of the District of Columbia have



A sample Washington, D.C. [license plate](#) with "Taxation Without Representation" slogan

less representation in Congress than residents of the 50 states.^[161] Efforts to raise awareness about the issue have included campaigns by [grassroots](#) organizations as well as featuring the city's unofficial motto, "[Taxation Without Representation](#)", on [D.C. vehicle license plates](#).^[162] There is evidence of nationwide approval for DC voting rights; various polls indicate that 61 to 82% of Americans believe that D.C. should have voting representation in Congress.^{[161][163]} Despite public support, attempts to grant the District voting representation, including the [D.C. statehood movement](#) and the proposed [District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment](#), have been unsuccessful.

Opponents of D.C. voting rights propose that the [Founding Fathers](#) never intended for District residents to have a vote in Congress since the Constitution makes clear that representation must come from the states. Those opposed to making D.C. a state claim that such a move would destroy the notion of a separate national capital and that statehood would unfairly grant Senate representation to a single city.^[164]

Education and health care

See also: [List of colleges and universities in Washington, D.C.](#), [List of parochial and private schools in Washington, D.C.](#), and [Healthcare in Washington, D.C.](#)

[District of Columbia Public Schools](#) (DCPS) operates the city's public school system, which consists of 167 schools and learning centers.^[165] The number of students in DCPS has steadily decreased since 1999. In the 2008–09 school year, 46,208 students were enrolled in the public school system.^[166] DCPS has one of the highest-cost yet lowest-performing school systems in the country, both in terms of infrastructure and student achievement.^[167] Mayor Adrian Fenty's new superintendent of DCPS, Chancellor [Michelle Rhee](#), has made sweeping changes to the system by closing schools, replacing teachers, firing principals, and using private education firms to aid curriculum development.^[168]

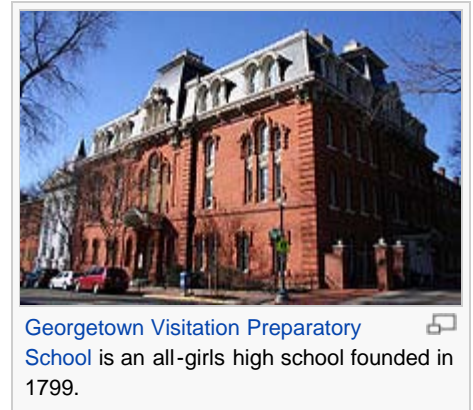
Due to the problems with the D.C. public school system, enrollment in public [charter schools](#) has increased 13% each year since 2001.^[169] The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board monitors the 60 public charter schools in the city. As of fall 2008, D.C. charter schools had a total enrollment of 26,494.^[170] The District is also home to some of the nation's top private schools. In 2006, approximately 18,000 students were enrolled in the city's 83 private schools.^[171]



Founders Library at [Howard University](#), a [historically black university](#)

Many notable private universities are located in Washington, including [George Washington University](#) (GW), [Georgetown University](#) (GU), [American University](#) (AU), the [Catholic University of America](#) (CUA), [Howard University](#), [Gallaudet University](#), and the [Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies](#) (SAIS). The [Corcoran College of Art and Design](#) provides specialized arts instruction and other higher-education institutions offer continuing, distance and adult education. The [University of the District of Columbia](#) (UDC) is a public university providing undergraduate and graduate education.

The District's 16 medical centers and hospitals make it a national center for patient care and medical research.^[172] The [National Institutes of Health](#) is located in nearby Bethesda, Maryland. [Washington Hospital Center](#) (WHC), the largest hospital campus in the District, is both the largest private and the



[Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School](#) is an all-girls high school founded in 1799.

largest non-profit hospital in the Washington area. Immediately adjacent to the WHC is the [Children's National Medical Center](#). Children's is among the highest ranked pediatric hospitals in the country according to *U.S. News & World Report*.^[173] Many of the city's prominent universities, including George Washington, Georgetown, and Howard have medical schools and associated teaching hospitals. [Walter Reed Army Medical Center](#) is located in Northwest Washington and provides care for active-duty and retired personnel and their dependents.

A 2009 report found that at least 3% of District residents have [HIV](#) or [AIDS](#), which the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) characterizes as a "generalized and severe" epidemic. City officials claim that the rate of HIV infection is higher in D.C. than some countries in [West Africa](#).^[174]

Transportation

Main articles: [Transportation in Washington, D.C.](#) and [Streets and highways of Washington, D.C.](#)

The Washington Metropolitan Area is often cited as having some of the nation's worst traffic and congestion. In 2007, Washington commuters spent 60 hours a year in traffic delays, which tied for having the worst traffic in the country after Los Angeles.^[175] However, 37.7% of Washington commuters take public transportation to work, also the second-highest rate in the country.^[176]

The [Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority](#) (WMATA) operates the city's [rapid transit](#) system, [Metrorail](#) (most often referred to as the Metro), as well as [Metrobus](#).

The subway and bus systems serve both the District of Columbia and the immediate Maryland and Virginia suburbs. Metrorail opened on March 27, 1976 and presently consists of 86 stations and 106.3 miles (171.1 km) of track.^[177] With an average of one million trips each weekday in 2009, Metrorail is the nation's [second-busiest rapid transit](#) system in the country, after the [New York City Subway](#).^[178]

WMATA expects an average one million Metrorail riders daily by 2030. The need to increase capacity has renewed plans to add 220 subway cars to the system and reroute trains to alleviate congestion at the busiest stations.^[179] Population growth in the region has revived efforts to construct two additional suburban [Metro lines](#),^{[180][181]} as well as a new [streetcar](#) system to interconnect the city's neighborhoods.^[182] The surrounding jurisdictions in the Washington area have local bus systems, such as [Montgomery County's Ride On](#), which complement service provided by WMATA. Metrorail, Metrobus and all local public bus systems accept [SmarTrip](#), a reloadable transit pass.^[183]



Interior of terminals B and C at [Reagan National Airport](#), the closest commercial airport to downtown Washington



[Metro Center](#) is the transfer station for the [Red](#), [Orange](#), and [Blue Metrorail](#) lines.

[Union Station](#) is the second-busiest train station in the United States, after [Penn Station](#) in New York, and serves as the southern terminus of [Amtrak's Northeast Corridor](#) and [Acela Express](#) service. Maryland's [MARC](#) and Virginia's [VRE](#) commuter trains and the Metrorail [Red Line](#) also provide service into Union Station.^[184] Intercity bus service is provided by [Greyhound](#), [Peter Pan](#), [BoltBus](#), [Megabus](#), and many other [Chinatown bus lines](#).

Three major airports, one in Maryland and two in Virginia, serve Washington, D.C. [Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport](#), located just across the Potomac River from downtown D.C. in [Arlington County, Virginia](#), is the only Washington-area airport that has its own Metrorail

station. Given its proximity to the city, Reagan National has extra security precautions required by the

[Washington Air Defense Identification Zone](#),^[185] as well as additional noise restrictions.^[186] Reagan National does not have [U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#) and therefore can only provide international service to airports that permit [United States border preclearance](#), which includes destinations in Canada and the Caribbean.^[187]

Major international flights arrive and depart from [Washington Dulles International Airport](#), located 26.3 miles (42.3 km) west of the District in [Fairfax](#) and [Loudoun](#) counties in Virginia. [Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](#) is located 31.7 miles (51.0 km) northeast of the District in [Anne Arundel County, Maryland](#).

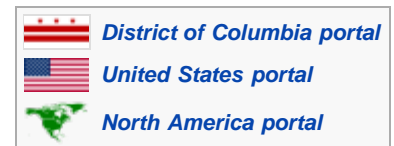
Sister cities

Washington, D.C. has ten official [sister city](#) agreements.^[188] Paris is a "Partner City" due to the one Sister City policy of that [commune](#).^[189]

City	Country	Year
Bangkok	 Thailand	1962, renewed 2002
Dakar	 Senegal	1980, renewed 2006
Beijing	 China	1984, renewed 2004
Brussels	 Belgium	1985, renewed 2002
Athens	 Greece	2000
Paris	 France	2000, renewed 2005
Pretoria	 South Africa	2002, renewed 2008
Seoul	 South Korea	2006
Accra	 Ghana	2006
Sunderland	 United Kingdom	2006

See also

- [Outline of the District of Columbia](#)
- [Index of District of Columbia-related articles](#)



Notes



^[a] By 1790, the Southern states had largely repaid their overseas debts from the Revolutionary War. The Northern states had not, and wanted the new federal government to take over their outstanding liabilities. As this would effectively mean that the Southern states would assume a share of the Northern debt, in return, the South lobbied for a federal capital located closer to their own agricultural and slave-holding interests. See: Crew, Harvey W.; William Bensing Webb, John Wooldridge (1892). *Centennial History of the City of Washington, D. C.* . Dayton, Ohio: United Brethren Publishing House. p. 124.

^[b] The Residence Act allowed the President to select a location within Maryland as far east as the Anacostia River. However, Washington shifted the federal territory's borders to the southeast in order to include the city of Alexandria at the District's southern tip. In 1791, Congress amended the Residence Act to approve the new site, including territory ceded by Virginia. See: Crew, Harvey W.; William Bensing Webb, John Wooldridge (1892). *Centennial History of the City of Washington, D. C.* . Dayton, Ohio: United Brethren Publishing House. pp. 89–92.

^[c] The terms "territory" and "district" were used interchangeably throughout the 19th century until the territory was officially renamed the District of Columbia in 1871. See: "[Get to know D.C.](#)" . The Historical

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^[d] L'Enfant identified himself as "Peter Charles L'Enfant" during most of his life, while residing in the United States. See: Bowling, Kenneth R. (2002). *Peter Charles L'Enfant: Vision, Honor, and Male Friendship in the Early American Republic*. Washington, D.C.: The George Washington University.








^[e] Data provided by "District of Columbia – Race and Hispanic Origin: 1800 to 1990"  (PDF). United States Census Bureau. 2002-09-13. Retrieved 2008-07-29. Until 1890, the U.S. Census Bureau counted the City of Washington, Georgetown, and unincorporated portions of Washington County as three separate areas. The data provided in this article from before 1890 are calculated as if the District of Columbia were a single municipality as it is today. Population data for each specific area prior to 1890 are available. See: Gibson, Campbell (June 1998). "Population of the 100 Largest Cities and Other Urban Places in the United States: 1790 to 1990" . United States Census Bureau. Retrieved 2008-07-29.

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Neighborhoods of the District of Columbia

Adams Morgan · American University Park · Anacostia · Arboretum · Barnaby Woods · Barney Circle · Barry Farm · Bellevue · Benning Heights · Benning Ridge · Benning · Berkley · Bloomingdale · Brentwood · Brightwood · Brightwood Park · Brookland · Buena Vista · Burleith · Burrville · Capitol Hill · Capitol View · Carver Langston · Cathedral Heights · Central Northeast/Mahaning Heights · Chevy Chase · Chinatown · Civic Betterment · Cleveland Park · Colonial Village · Colony Hill · Columbia Heights · Congress Heights · Crestwood · Deanwood · Douglass · Downtown · Dupont Circle · Dupont Park · Eastland Gardens · Eckington · Edgewood · Embassy Row · Fairfax Village · Fairlawn · Foggy Bottom · Forest Hills · Fort Davis · Fort Dupont · Fort Lincoln · Fort Stevens Ridge · Fort Totten · Foxhall · Friendship Heights · Garfield Heights · Gateway · Georgetown · Glover Park · Golden Triangle · Good Hope · Greenway · Hawthorne · Hillbrook · Hillcrest · Ivy City · Judiciary Square · Kalorama · Kenilworth · Kent · Kingman Park · Knox Hill · Langdon · Lanier Heights · LeDroit Park · Lincoln Heights · Logan Circle · Manor Park · Marshall Heights · Massachusetts Heights · Mayfair · McLean Gardens · Michigan Park · Mount Pleasant · Mount Vernon Square · Navy Yard/Near Southeast · Naylor Gardens · Near Northeast · NoMa · North Cleveland Park · North Michigan Park · North Portal Estates · Northeast Boundary · Observatory Circle · The Palisades · Park Naylor · Park View · Penn Branch · Penn Quarter · Petworth · Pleasant Hill · Pleasant Plains · Potomac Heights · Queens Chapel · Randle Highlands · Reed-Cooke · Riggs Park · River Terrace ·



Rock Creek Gardens · Shaw · Shepherd Park · Shipley Terrace · Sixteenth Street Heights · Skyland · Southwest Federal Center · Southwest Waterfront · Spring Valley · Stronghold/Metropolis View · Sursum Corda · Swampoodle · Takoma · Tenleytown · Trinidad · Truxton Circle · Twining · University Heights · Wakefield · Washington Highlands · Wesley Heights · West End · Woodland · Woodland-Normanstone Terrace · Woodley Park · Woodridge

v • d • e Location of the capital of the United States and predecessors	
Colonies	New Amsterdam (New Netherland) · Boston (Massachusetts Bay Colony)
1774 First Continental Congress	Philadelphia
1775 – 1781 Second Continental Congress	Philadelphia → Baltimore → Lancaster → York → Philadelphia
1781 – 1789 Congress of the Confederation	Philadelphia → Princeton → Annapolis → Trenton → New York City
1789 – present Federal government of the United States	New York City → Philadelphia → Washington, D.C.

v • d • e Political divisions of the United States	
States	Alabama · Alaska · Arizona · Arkansas · California · Colorado · Connecticut · Delaware · Florida · Georgia · Hawaii · Idaho · Illinois · Indiana · Iowa · Kansas · Kentucky · Louisiana · Maine · Maryland · Massachusetts · Michigan · Minnesota · Mississippi · Missouri · Montana · Nebraska · Nevada · New Hampshire · New Jersey · New Mexico · New York · North Carolina · North Dakota · Ohio · Oklahoma · Oregon · Pennsylvania · Rhode Island · South Carolina · South Dakota · Tennessee · Texas · Utah · Vermont · Virginia · Washington · West Virginia · Wisconsin · Wyoming
Federal district	Washington, D.C. (District of Columbia)
Insular areas	American Samoa · Guam · Northern Mariana Islands · Puerto Rico · U.S. Virgin Islands
Outlying islands	Bajo Nuevo Bank · Baker Island · Howland Island · Jarvis Island · Johnston Atoll · Kingman Reef · Midway Atoll · Navassa Island · Palmyra Atoll · Serranilla Bank · Wake Island

v • d • e 50 most populous cities of the United States				
1. New York	11. Detroit	21. Boston	31. Oklahoma City	41. Cleveland
2. Los Angeles	12. San Francisco	22. El Paso	32. Tucson	42. Virginia Beach
3. Chicago	13. Jacksonville	23. Milwaukee	33. Atlanta	43. Miami
4. Houston	14. Indianapolis	24. Denver	34. Albuquerque	44. Oakland
5. Phoenix	15. Austin	25. Seattle	35. Fresno	45. Raleigh
6. Philadelphia	16. Columbus	26. Nashville	36. Sacramento	46. Tulsa
7. San Antonio	17. Fort Worth	27. Washington	37. Long Beach	47. Minneapolis
8. Dallas	18. Charlotte	28. Las Vegas	38. Mesa	48. Colorado Springs
9. San Diego	19. Memphis	29. Portland	39. Kansas City	49. Honolulu
10. San Jose	20. Baltimore	30. Louisville	40. Omaha	50. Arlington

v • d • e 50 largest metropolitan statistical areas in the United States by population
New York · Los Angeles · Chicago · Dallas-Fort Worth · Philadelphia · Houston · Miami · Washington · Atlanta · Boston · Detroit · Phoenix · San Francisco-Oakland · Riverside-San Bernardino · Seattle · Minneapolis-St. Paul · San Diego · St. Louis · Tampa-St. Petersburg · Baltimore · Denver · Pittsburgh · Portland · Cincinnati · Sacramento · Cleveland · Orlando · San Antonio · Kansas City · Las Vegas · San Jose · Columbus · Charlotte · Indianapolis · Austin · Virginia Beach-Norfolk · Providence · Nashville · Milwaukee · Jacksonville · Memphis · Louisville · Richmond · Oklahoma City · Hartford · New Orleans · Birmingham · Salt Lake City · Raleigh · Buffalo

v • d • e Capitals of North America		
Basse-Terre, <i>Guadeloupe</i> ²	Kingston, <i>Jamaica</i>	Road Town, <i>British Virgin Islands</i> ¹
Basseterre, <i>Saint Kitts and Nevis</i>	Kingstown,	Roseau, <i>Dominica</i>

Belmopan, <i>Belize</i>	<i>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</i>	Saint-Pierre,
Bridgetown, <i>Barbados</i>	Managua, <i>Nicaragua</i>	<i>Saint Pierre and Miquelon</i> ²
Castries, <i>Saint Lucia</i>	Marigot, <i>Saint Martin</i> ²	San José, <i>Costa Rica</i>
Charlotte Amalie,	Mexico City, <i>Mexico</i>	San Juan, <i>Puerto Rico</i> ³
<i>United States Virgin Islands</i> ³	Nassau, <i>The Bahamas</i>	San Salvador, <i>El Salvador</i>
Cockburn Town,	Nuuk, <i>Greenland</i> ⁵	Santo Domingo, <i>Dominican Republic</i>
<i>Turks and Caicos Islands</i> ¹	Oranjestad, <i>Aruba</i> ⁴	St. George's, <i>Grenada</i>
Fort-de-France, <i>Martinique</i> ²	Ottawa, <i>Canada</i>	St. John's, <i>Antigua and Barbuda</i>
George Town, <i>Cayman Islands</i> ¹	Panama City, <i>Panama</i>	Tegucigalpa, <i>Honduras</i>
Guatemala City, <i>Guatemala</i>	Brades (<i>de facto</i>), Plymouth (<i>de jure</i>),	The Valley, <i>Anguilla</i> ¹
Gustavia, <i>Saint Barthélemy</i> ²	<i>Montserrat</i> ¹	Washington, D.C., <i>United States</i>
Hamilton, <i>Bermuda</i> ¹	Port of Spain, <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	Willemstad, <i>Netherlands Antilles</i> ⁴
Havana, <i>Cuba</i>	Port-au-Prince, <i>Haiti</i>	

¹ Overseas Territory of the United Kingdom. ² Overseas Collectivity or Overseas Department of France.

³ Insular area of the United States. ⁴ Autonomous region within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

⁵ Autonomous region within the Kingdom of Denmark.

v • d • e

Landmarks of Washington, D.C.

Memorials	<p>Adams Memorial · African American Civil War Memorial · Albert Einstein Memorial · Daniel Webster Memorial · District of Columbia War Memorial · Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial · George Mason Memorial · James A. Garfield Monument · Jefferson Memorial · John Ericsson National Memorial · John Paul Jones Memorial · Korean War Veterans Memorial · Lincoln Memorial · Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Grove on the Potomac · National Japanese American Memorial To Patriotism During World War II · National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial · National World War II Memorial · Navy–Merchant Marine Memorial · Oscar Straus Memorial · Peace Monument · Robert A. Taft Memorial · The Extra Mile · The Three Soldiers · Theodore Roosevelt Island · Titanic Memorial · Ulysses S. Grant Memorial · United States Navy Memorial · Victims of Communism Memorial · Vietnam Veterans Memorial · Vietnam Women's Memorial · Washington Monument</p>
Planned Memorials	<p>Adams Memorial · Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial · Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial</p>
Former	<p>Rainbow Pool</p>
Other	<p>Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception · Healy Hall · Islamic Center of Washington · Jefferson Pier · John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts · Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool · Outdoor sculpture in Washington, D.C. · President Lincoln's Cottage at the Soldiers' Home · Smithsonian Institution · United States Capitol · United States Supreme Court Building · Washington National Cathedral · White House · Zero Milestone</p>



Categories: [Washington, D.C.](#) | [Washington metropolitan area](#) | [Settlements established in 1790](#) | [Capitals in North America](#) | [Capital districts and territories](#) | [Settlements on the Potomac River](#) | [Planned cities in the United States](#) | [United States communities with African American majority populations](#) | [States and territories established in 1790](#) | [Proposed states and territories of the United States](#)

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Puerto Rico

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. For other uses, see [Puerto Rico \(disambiguation\)](#).

Puerto Rico (pronounced /ˌpwɛərtə ˈriːkoʊ/ or /ˌpɔːrtə ˈriːkoʊ/), officially the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Spanish: *Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico*) — literally *Associated Free State of Puerto Rico*), is a self-governing, unincorporated territory of the United States, located in the northeastern Caribbean Sea, east of the Dominican Republic and west of the Virgin Islands.

Puerto Rico (Spanish for "rich port") is composed of an archipelago that includes the main island of Puerto Rico and a number of smaller islands, the largest of which are Vieques, Culebra, and Mona. The main island of Puerto Rico is the smallest by land area and second smallest by population among the four Greater Antilles, which also include Cuba, Hispaniola, and Jamaica.

Puerto Ricans often call the island *Borinquen*, from *Borikén*, its indigenous Taino name.^{[7][8]} The terms *boricua* and *borincano* derive from *Borikén* and *Borinquen* respectively, and are commonly used to identify someone of Puerto Rican heritage. The island is also popularly known in Spanish as "*La Isla del Encanto*" which means "The Island of Enchantment" in English.

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Commonwealth of Puerto Rico *Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico*

(Spanish)



Flag



Coat of arms

Motto:

Latin: *Joannes Est Nomen Eius*
 Spanish: *Juan es su nombre*
 English: *John is his name*

Anthem: *La Borinqueña*



Capital (and largest city)	San Juan 18°27′N 66°6′W﻿ / ﻿18°27′N 66°6′W﻿ /
Official language(s)	Spanish and English ^[1]
Ethnic groups	White (mostly Spanish origin) 76.2%, Black 6.9%, Asian 0.3%, Amerindian 0.2%, Mixed 4.4%, other 12%. (2007) ^[2]
Demonym	Puerto Rican

- [6.1 Population and racial makeup](#)
- [6.2 Immigration](#)
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History

Main article: [History of Puerto Rico](#)

Pre-Columbian era

The history of the archipelago of Puerto Rico before the arrival of [Christopher Columbus](#) is not well known. What is known today comes from archaeological findings and early [Spanish](#) accounts. The first comprehensive book on the history of Puerto Rico was written by [Fray Iñigo Abbad y Lasierra](#) in 1786, about 293 years after the first Spaniards arrived on the island.^[9]



Taíno Village at the [Tibes Ceremonial Center](#)

The first settlers were the [Ortoiroid people](#), an [Archaic Period](#) culture of [Amerindian](#) hunters and

fishermen. An archaeological dig in the island of Vieques in 1990 found the remains of what is believed to be an *Arcaico* (Archaic) man (named Puerto Ferro man) dated to around 2000 BC. Between AD 120 and 400 arrived the

[Igneri](#), a tribe from the South American [Orinoco](#) region. Between the 4th and 10th centuries, the Arcaicos and Igneri co-existed (and perhaps clashed) on the island. Between the 7th and 11th centuries the [Taíno](#) culture developed on the island, and by approximately 1000 AD had become dominant. This lasted until [Christopher Columbus](#) arrived in 1493.^{[10][11]}

Spanish colony

When [Christopher Columbus](#) arrived in Puerto Rico during his second voyage on November 19, 1493, the island was inhabited by a group of [Arawak Indians](#) known as [Taínos](#).^[12] They called the island "Borikén" or, in Spanish, "Borinquen".^[13] Columbus named the island San Juan Bautista, in honor of Saint [John the Baptist](#). Later the island took the name of Puerto Rico while the capital was named [San Juan](#). In 1508, Spanish *conquistador* [Juan Ponce de León](#) became the island's *first governor* to take office.^[14]

The [Spanish](#) soon colonized the island. Taínos were forced into [slavery](#) and were decimated by the harsh conditions of

Government	Republic , three-branch government
 - President	Barack Obama (D)
 - Governor	Luis Fortuño (PNP/R)
 - Federal legislative branch	United States Congress
Sovereignty	United States ^[3]
 - Cession	December 10, 1898 from Kingdom of Spain
 - Autonomy	November 25, 1897 ^[4]
Area	
 - Total	9,104 km² (169th) 3,515 sq mi
 - Water (%)	1.6
Population	
 - July 2007 estimate	3,994,259 (127th in the world; 27th in U.S.)
 - 2000 census	3,913,055
 - Density	430/km ² (21st in the world; 2nd in U.S.) 1,113/sq mi
GDP (PPP)	2007 estimate
 - Total	\$77.4 billion (N/A)
 - Per capita	\$19,600 (N/A)
Gini (2006)	53.5 ^[5] ^[6] (?th)
Currency	United States dollar (USD)
Time zone	AST (UTC−4)
 - Summer (DST)	No DST (UTC−4)
Internet TLD	.pr
Calling code	+1 (spec. +1-787 and +1-939)



Garita at fort San Felipe del Morro

work and by [diseases](#) brought by the Spaniards.^[15] In 1511, the Taínos revolted against the Spanish; cacique [Urayoán](#), as planned by [Agüeybaná II](#), ordered his warriors to drown the Spanish soldier [Diego Salcedo](#) to determine whether the Spaniards were immortal. After drowning Salcedo, they kept watch over his body for three days to confirm his death.^[16]

The revolt was defeated by Ponce de León's men and within a few decades much of the native population had been decimated by disease, violence, and a high occurrence of suicide. By 1520, when [Charles V](#) issued a royal decree that collectively emancipated the remaining Taíno population, the Taíno presence had almost vanished.^[17]

African slaves were introduced to replace the Taíno. Puerto Rico soon became an important stronghold and port for the [Spanish Empire](#). Various forts and walls, such as [La Fortaleza](#), [El Castillo San Felipe del Morro](#) and [El Castillo de San Cristóbal](#), were built to protect the port of San Juan from European enemies. In 1607, Puerto Rico served as a port for provisions for the English ships, the *Godspeed*, *Susan Constant* and the *Discovery* who were on their way to establish the [Jamestown Settlement](#), the first English settlement in the New World. France, the [Netherlands](#) and England made several attempts to capture Puerto Rico but failed to wrest long-term occupancy. During the late 17th and early 18th centuries colonial emphasis was on the more prosperous mainland territories, leaving the island impoverished of settlers.

In 1779, Puerto Ricans fought in the [American Revolutionary War](#) under the command of [Bernardo de Gálvez](#), named [Field Marshal](#) of the Spanish colonial army in North America. Puerto Ricans participated in the capture of [Pensacola](#), the capital of the British colony of West Florida and the cities of [Baton Rouge](#), [St. Louis](#) and [Mobile](#). The Puerto Rican troops, under the leadership of Brigadier General Ramón de Castro,^[18] helped defeat the British and Indian army of 2,500 soldiers and British warships in Pensacola.^[19]

In 1809, in the midst of the [Peninsular War](#), the [Supreme Central Junta](#) based in [Cádiz](#) recognized Puerto Rico as an overseas province of Spain with the right to send representatives to the recently convened [Spanish parliament](#). The representative, [Ramon Power y Giral](#), died after serving a three-year term in the Cortes. These [parliamentary and constitutional reforms](#), which were in force from 1810 to 1814 and again from 1820 to 1823, were reversed twice afterwards when the traditional monarchy was restored by [Ferdinand VII](#). Nineteenth century reforms augmented the population and economy, and expanded the local character of the island. After the rapid gaining of independence by the South and Central American states in the first part of the century, Puerto Rico and [Cuba](#) became the only Spanish colonies found in the Americas. The Spanish Crown revived the Royal Decree of Graces of 1815. This time the decree was printed in three languages — Spanish, English and French — intending to attract Europeans of non-Spanish origin, with the hope that the independence movements would lose their popularity and strength with the arrival of new settlers. Free land was offered to those who wanted to populate the islands on the condition that they swear their loyalty to the Spanish Crown and allegiance to the [Roman Catholic Church](#).^[20]



Marker in Puerto Rico which traces the routes taken by the *Godspeed*, *Susan Constant* and the *Discovery* and which commemorates their stopping in Puerto Rico from April 6–10, 1607 on their way to Virginia.

Toward the end of the 19th century, poverty and political estrangement with Spain led to a small but significant uprising in 1868 known as "[Grito de Lares](#)". It began in the rural town of [Lares](#) but was subdued when rebels moved to the neighboring town of [San Sebastián](#). Leaders of this independence movement included [Ramón Emeterio Betances](#), considered the "father" of the Puerto Rican independence movement, and other political figures such as [Segundo Ruiz Belvis](#). In 1897, [Luis Muñoz Rivera](#) and others persuaded the liberal Spanish government to agree to Charters of Autonomy for Cuba and Puerto Rico. In 1898, Puerto Rico's first, but short-lived, autonomous government was organized as an 'overseas province' of Spain. The charter maintained a governor appointed by Spain, which held the power to annul any legislative decision, and a partially elected parliamentary structure. In February, Governor-General [Manuel Macías](#) inaugurated the new government under the Autonomous Charter. General elections were held in March and the autonomous government began to function on July 17, 1898.^{[21][22][23]}



The Original Lares Revolutionary Flag

United States colony

On July 25, 1898, during the [Spanish-American War](#), Puerto Rico was invaded by the United States with a landing at [Guánica](#). As an outcome of the war, Spain ceded Puerto Rico, along with [Cuba](#), the [Philippines](#), and [Guam](#) to the U.S. under the [Treaty of Paris](#).^[24]

The United States and Puerto Rico thus began a long-standing relationship. Puerto Rico began the 20th century under the military rule of the U.S. with officials, including the governor, appointed by the [President of the United States](#). The [Foraker Act](#) of 1900 gave Puerto Rico a certain amount of civilian popular government, including a popularly elected House of Representatives, also a judicial system following the [American legal system](#) that includes both [state courts](#) and [federal courts](#) establishing a Puerto Rico Supreme Court and a [United State District Court](#); and a non-voting member of Congress, by the title of "Resident Commissioner. In 1917, "Puerto Ricans were collectively made U.S. citizens"^[25] via the [Jones Act](#). The same Act also provided for a popularly elected Senate to complete a bicameral Legislative Assembly, a [bill of rights](#) and authorized the election of a Resident Commissioner to a four-year term. As a result of their new U.S. citizenship, many Puerto Ricans were drafted into World War I and all subsequent wars with U.S. participation in which a national military draft was in effect.

Natural disasters, including a major [earthquake](#), a [tsunami](#) and several [hurricanes](#), and the [Great Depression](#) impoverished the island during the first few decades under U.S. rule.^[26] Some political leaders, like [Pedro Albizu Campos](#) who led the [Puerto Rican Nationalist Party](#), demanded change. On March 21, 1937, a march was organized in the southern city of [Ponce](#), by the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, a march which turned into a bloody event when the Insular Police^[27] ("a force somewhat resembling the [National Guard](#) of the typical U.S. state" and which answered to the U.S.-appointed governor [Blanton Winship](#))^[28] opened fire upon, what a U.S. Congressman and others reported were, unarmed^[29] and defenseless^[30] cadets and bystanders alike,^{[31][32]} killing 19 and badly wounding over 200 more,^[33] many in their backs while running away.^{[34][35]} An [ACLU](#) report declared it a [massacre](#)^[36] and it has since been known as the [Ponce massacre](#).

The internal governance changed during the latter years of the [Roosevelt–Truman](#) administrations, as a form of compromise led by [Luis Muñoz Marín](#) and others. It culminated with the appointment by President Truman in 1946 of the first Puerto Rican-born governor, [Jesús T. Piñero](#). On June 11, 1948, Piñero signed the "Ley de la Mordaza" (Gag Law) or Law 53 as it was officially known, passed by the Puerto Rican legislature which made it illegal to display the [Puerto Rican Flag](#), sing patriotic songs, talk of independence and to fight for the liberation of the island. It resembled the anti-communist [Smith Law](#) passed in the United States.^[37]

Commonwealth

In 1947, the U.S. granted Puerto Ricans the right to elect democratically their own **governor**. Luis Muñoz Marín was elected during the 1948 general elections, becoming the first popularly elected governor of Puerto Rico. In 1950, the U.S. Congress approved Public Law 600 (P.L. 81-600) which allowed for a democratic **referendum** in Puerto Rico to determine whether Puerto Ricans desired to draft their own local constitution.^[38] This Act left unchanged all the articles under the Jones Act of 1917 that regulated the relationships between Puerto Rico and the United States.^[39]

On October 30, 1950, **Pedro Albizu Campos** and other nationalists led a 3-day revolt against the United States in various cities and towns of Puerto Rico. The most notable occurred in **Jayuya** and **Utua**. In the Jayuya revolt, known as the **Jayuya Uprising**, the United States declared **martial law** and attacked Jayuya with infantry, artillery and bombers. The **Utua Uprising** culminated in what is known as the Utua massacre. On November 1, 1950, Puerto Rican nationalists **Griselio Torresola** and **Oscar Collazo** **attempted to assassinate** President **Harry S Truman**. Torresola was killed during the attack, but Collazo was captured. Collazo served 29 years in a federal prison, being released in 1979. Don Pedro Albizu Campos also served many years in a federal prison in **Atlanta, Georgia**, for seditious conspiracy to overthrow the U.S. government in Puerto Rico.^[40]

The **Constitution of Puerto Rico** was approved by a Constitutional Convention on February 6, 1952, ratified by the U.S. Congress, approved by President Truman on July 3 of that year, and proclaimed by Gov. Muñoz Marín on July 25, 1952, on the anniversary of the arrival of U.S. troops to Puerto Rico in 1898, until then an annual Puerto Rico holiday. Puerto Rico adopted the name of *Estado Libre Asociado* (literally translated as "Free Associated State"), officially translated into English as **Commonwealth**, for its **body politic**.^{[41][42]} The United States Congress legislates over many fundamental aspects of Puerto Rican life, including citizenship, currency, postal service, **foreign affairs**, military defense, **communications**, **labor relations**, the **environment**, **commerce**, finance, health and welfare, and many others.^{[43][44]}

During the 1950s Puerto Rico experienced rapid industrialization, due in large part to *Operación Manos a la Obra* ("**Operation Bootstrap**"), an offshoot of FDR's New Deal, which aimed to transform Puerto Rico's economy from agriculture-based to manufacturing-based. Presently, Puerto Rico has become a major tourist destination, and it is the world's leading pharmaceutical manufacturing center.^[45] Yet it still struggles to define its political status. Three plebiscites have been held in recent decades to resolve the political status, but no changes have been attained. Support for the pro-statehood party, **Partido Nuevo Progresista** (PNP), and the pro-commonwealth party, **Partido Popular Democrático** (PPD), remains about equal. The only registered pro-independence party, the **Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño** (PIP), usually receives 3-5% of the electoral votes.^[*citation needed*]

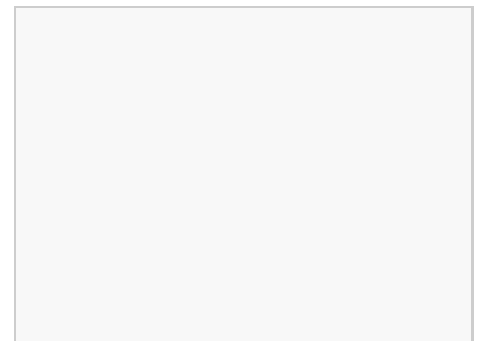
Government and politics

Main articles: [Government of Puerto Rico](#) and [Politics of Puerto Rico](#)

See also: [Municipalities of Puerto Rico](#), [List of political parties in Puerto Rico](#), and [Political party strength in Puerto Rico](#)

Puerto Rico has a **republican** form of government,^[46] subject to U.S. jurisdiction and sovereignty.^[3] Its current powers are all delegated by the **United States Congress** and lack full protection under the **United States Constitution**.^[47] Puerto Rico's head of state is the **President of the United States**.

The government of Puerto Rico, based on the formal **republican system**, is composed of three branches:



executive, legislative, and judicial. The **executive branch** is headed by the **Governor**, currently **Luis Fortuño**. The **legislative branch** consists of a **bicameral Legislative Assembly** made up of a **Senate** upper chamber and a **House of Representatives** lower chamber. The Senate is headed by the President of the Senate, while the House of Representatives is headed by the Speaker of the House.

The **judicial branch** is headed by the Chief Justice of the **Supreme Court of Puerto Rico**. The legal system is a mix of the **civil law** and the **common law** systems. The governor and legislators are elected by popular vote every four years. Members of the Judicial branch are appointed by the governor with the "advice and consent" of the Senate.

Puerto Rico is represented in the United States Congress by a nonvoting delegate, formally called a **Resident Commissioner** (currently **Pedro Pierluisi**). Current legislation has returned the Commissioner's power to vote in the **Committee of the Whole**, but not on matters where the vote would represent a decisive participation.^[48] Puerto Rican elections are governed by the **Federal Election Commission** and the **State Elections Commission of Puerto Rico**.^{[49][50]} While residing in Puerto Rico, Puerto Ricans cannot vote in U.S. presidential elections, but they can vote in **primaries**. Puerto Ricans who become residents of a **U.S. state** can vote in presidential elections.

As Puerto Rico is not an independent country, it hosts no **embassies**. It hosts, however, to **consulates** from 41 countries, mainly from the **Americas** and Europe.^[51] Most consulates are located in San Juan. As an unincorporated territory of the United States, Puerto Rico does not have any first-order administrative divisions as defined by the U.S. government, but has 78 **municipalities** at the second level. **Mona Island** is not a municipality, but part of the municipality of **Mayagüez**.^[52]

Municipalities are subdivided into wards or **barríos**, and those into sectors. Each municipality has a **mayor** and a municipal legislature elected for a four year term. The municipality of San Juan (previously called "town"), was founded first, in 1521, **San Germán** in 1570, **Coamo** in 1579, **Arecibo** in 1614, **Aguada** in 1692 and **Ponce** in 1692. An increase of settlement saw the founding of 30 municipalities in the 18th century and 34 in the 19th. Six were founded in the 20th century; the last was **Florida** in 1971.^[53]

From 1952 to 2007, Puerto Rico had three political parties which stood for three distinct future political scenarios. The **Popular Democratic Party** (PPD) seeks to maintain the island's "association" status as a commonwealth, improved commonwealth and/or seek a true free sovereign-association status or Free Associated Republic, and has won a plurality vote in referendums on the island's status held over six decades after the island was invaded by the U.S. The **New Progressive Party** (PNP) seeks **statehood**. The **Puerto Rican Independence Party** seeks **independence**. In 2007, a fourth party, the **Puerto Ricans for Puerto Rico Party** (PPR), was ratified. The PPR claims that it seeks to address the islands' problems from a status-neutral platform. Non-registered parties include the **Puerto Rican Nationalist Party**, the **Socialist Workers Movement**, the **Hostosian National Independence Movement**, and others.

Political status

South view of the Capitol, home of the Legislative Assembly in Puerto Rico

Main article: [Political status of Puerto Rico](#)

Puerto Rico is an "unincorporated territory" of the United States which according to the U.S. Supreme Court's [Insular Cases](#) is "a territory appurtenant and belonging to the United States, but not a part of the United States."^[54] Puerto Rico is subject to the Congress' plenary powers under the [territorial clause](#) of Article IV, sec. 3, of the U.S. Constitution.^[55] U.S. federal law applies to Puerto Rico, even though Puerto Rico is not a [state](#) of the American Union and has no voting representative in the U.S. Congress. Because of the establishment of the Federal Relations Act of 1950, all federal laws that are "not locally inapplicable" are automatically the law of the land in Puerto Rico.^{[56][57]} In 1907, the [U.S. Supreme Court](#), in *Grafton v. United States*^[58], Justice Harlan clarified the meaning of *plenary powers*: "The government of a state derives its powers from the people of the state, whereas the government of a territory owes its existence wholly to the United States'...The Court thus seems to equate plenary power to exclusive power. The U.S. government could exert over the territory power that it could not exercise over the state...This power, however, is not absolute, for it is restrained by some then-undefined [fundamental rights](#) possessed by anyone subject to the authority of the U.S. government."^[59]

Since 1917, people born in Puerto Rico are [U.S. citizens](#). However, federal electoral law does not grant a vote to any citizen who does not live in, or qualify as an absentee resident in, one of the fifty states or the [District of Columbia](#). Thus, people who have always lived in Puerto Rico cannot vote in federal elections, but people born in Puerto Rico and living in a state or in DC can vote. *See also: [Voting rights in Puerto Rico](#)*

Estado Libre Asociado

In 1950, the U.S. Congress granted Puerto Ricans the right to organize a constitutional convention via a referendum that gave them the option of voting their preference, "yes" or "no", on a proposed U.S. law that would organize Puerto Rico as a "commonwealth" that would suppose continued United States sovereignty over Puerto Rico and its people. Puerto Rico's electorate expressed its support for this measure in 1951 with a second referendum to ratify the constitution. The [Constitution of Puerto Rico](#) was formally adopted on July 3, 1952. The Constitutional Convention specified the name by which the [body politic](#) would be known. The purpose of Congress in the 1950 and 1952 legislation was to accord to Puerto Rico the degree of autonomy and independence normally associated with a State of the Union.^[60]

On February 4, 1952, the convention approved Resolution 22 which chose in English the word "[Commonwealth](#)", meaning a "politically organized community" or "state", which is simultaneously connected by a compact or treaty to another political system. The convention adopted a translation into Spanish of the term, inspired by the [Irish Free State](#) (Saorstát Éireann) of "Estado Libre Asociado" (ELA) to represent the agreement. Literally translated into English the phrase *Estado Libre Asociado* means "Associated Free State."

While the approval of the commonwealth constitution marked a historic change in the civil government for the islands, neither it, nor the public laws approved by Congress in 1950 and 1952, revoked statutory provisions concerning the legal relationship of Puerto Rico to the United States. This relationship is based on the Territorial Clause of the U.S. Constitution. The statutory provisions that set forth the conditions of the relationship are commonly referred to as the Federal Relations Act (FRA). While specified subsections of the FRA were "adopted in the nature of a compact", other provisions, by comparison, are excluded from the compact reference. Matters still subject to congressional authority and established pursuant to legislation include the citizenship status of residents, tax provisions, civil rights, trade and commerce, public finance, the administration of public lands controlled by the federal government, the application of federal law over navigable waters, congressional representation, and the judicial process, among others.^{[61][62]}

In 1967, the Puerto Rico's Legislative Assembly polled the political preferences of the Puerto Rican

electorate by passing a [plebiscite](#) Act that provided for a vote on the status of Puerto Rico. This constituted the first plebiscite by the Legislature for a choice on three status options (commonwealth, statehood, and independence). Claiming "foul play" and dubbing the process as illegitimate and contrary to International Law norms regarding decolonization procedures, the plebiscite was boycotted by the major pro-statehood and pro-independence parties of the time, the [Republican Party of Puerto Rico] and the Puerto Rican Independence Party, respectively. The Commonwealth option, represented by the PDP, won with a majority of 60.4% of the votes. After the plebiscite, efforts in the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, to enact legislation to address the status issue died in U.S. Congressional committees. In subsequent plebiscites organized by Puerto Rico held in 1993 and 1998 (without any formal commitment on the part of the U.S. Government to honor the results), the current political status failed to receive majority support (receiving 48.6% in 1993 and less than one percent, 0.3%, in 1998), when the "none of the above option" received the 50.3 % of the votes which was the [Popular Democratic Party](#) sponsored choice and was the winner option. Disputes arose as to the definition of each of the ballot alternatives; and Commonwealth advocates, among others, reportedly urged a vote for "none of the above".^{[63][64][65]}

International status

On November 27, 1953, shortly after the establishment of the Commonwealth, the General Assembly of the [United Nations](#) approved [Resolution 748](#), removing Puerto Rico's classification as a [non-self-governing territory](#) under article 73(e) of the Charter from UN. But the General Assembly did not apply its full list of criteria to Puerto Rico to determine if it has achieved self-governing status. According to the White House Task Force on Puerto Rico's Political Status in its December 21, 2007 report, the U.S., in its written submission to the UN in 1953, never represented that Congress could not change its relationship with Puerto Rico without the territory's consent.^[66] It stated that the U.S. Justice Department in 1959 reiterated that Congress held power over Puerto Rico pursuant to the Territorial Clause^[67] of the U.S. Constitution.^[66]

In 1993, the [United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit](#) stated that Congress may unilaterally repeal the Puerto Rican Constitution or the Puerto Rican Federal Relations Act and replace them with any rules or regulations of its choice.^[62] In a 1996 report on a Puerto Rico status political bill, the "[U.S. House Committee on Resources](#) stated that PR's current status does not meet the criteria for any of the options for full self-government". It concluded that PR is still an unincorporated territory of the U.S. under the territorial clause, that the establishment of local self-government with the consent of the people can be unilaterally revoked by the U.S. Congress, and that U.S. Congress can also withdraw the U.S. citizenship of PR residents of PR at any time, for a legitimate Federal purpose.^[68] The application of the U.S. Constitution to Puerto Rico is limited by the [Insular Cases](#).

Within the United States

Under the [Constitution of Puerto Rico](#), Puerto Rico is described as a Commonwealth and Puerto Ricans have a degree of [administrative autonomy](#) similar to citizens of a [U.S. state](#). Puerto Ricans "were collectively made [U.S. citizens](#)" in 1917 as a result of the [Jones-Shafroth Act](#)^[69]. The act was signed into law by President [Woodrow Wilson](#) on 2 March 1917. U.S. Federal law [8 U.S.C. § 1402](#)^[7], approved by President [Harry S. Truman](#) on 27 June 1952, declared all persons born in Puerto Rico on or after 13 January 1941 to be U.S. citizens at birth and all persons born in Puerto Rico between 11 April 1899 and 12 January 1941, and meeting certain other technical requirements, and not citizens of the United States under any other Act, are declared to be citizens of the U.S. as of 13 January 1941.^[70]

In addition, an April 2000 [report](#) by the [Congressional Research Service](#), asserts that citizens born in Puerto Rico are legally defined as [natural born citizens](#) and are therefore eligible to be elected President, provided they meet qualifications of age and 14 years residence within the United States.

According to this report, residence in Puerto Rico and U.S. territories and possessions does not qualify as residence within the United States for these purposes.^[71]

Since Puerto Rico is an [unincorporated territory](#) (see above) and not a U.S. state, the [United States Constitution](#) does not fully [enfranchise US citizens](#) residing in Puerto Rico.^{[70][72]}

Only the "[fundamental rights](#)" under the federal constitution apply to Puerto Rico, including the [Privileges and Immunities Clause](#) ([U.S. Constitution](#), Article IV, Section 2, Clause 1, also known as the 'Comity Clause') that prevents a state from treating citizens of other states in a discriminatory manner, with regard to basic civil rights. The clause also embraces a right to travel, so that a citizen of one state can have privileges and immunities in any other state; this constitutional clause regarding the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizens of the United States was expressly extended to Puerto Rico by the [U.S. Congress](#) through the federal law [48 U.S.C. § 737](#) and signed by President Truman in 1947.^{[72][73][74]}

Other fundamental rights such as the [due process](#) clause and the [equal protection](#) guarantee of the [Fourteenth Amendment](#) were expressly extended to Puerto Rico by the [U.S. Supreme court](#).^{[75][76][77][78]} In a brief concurrence in the judgment of [Torres v. Puerto Rico](#), 442 U.S. 465 (1979), Supreme Court Justice [Brennan](#) argued that any implicit limits from the Insular Cases on the basic rights granted by the Constitution (including especially the [Bill of Rights](#)) were anachronistic in the 1970s.^{[74][79][80]}

[Article Three of the United States Constitution](#) establishes the [judicial branch](#) of the [federal government](#). This article was expressly extended to the [United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico](#) by the U.S. Congress through Federal Law 89-571, 80 Stat. 764, signed by President [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) in 1966. After that date, judges appointed to the Puerto Rico federal district court have been Article III judges appointed under the Constitution of the United States. In addition in 1984 one of the judges of the federal district court, Chief Judge [Juan R. Torruella](#), a native of the island, was appointed to serve in the [United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit](#) with jurisdiction over Puerto Rico, [Massachusetts](#), [Rhode Island](#), [Maine](#), and [New Hampshire](#).^[81]

Federal executive branch agencies have significant presence in Puerto Rico, just as in any state, such as the [U.S. Attorney](#), [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#), [Homeland Security](#), [National Labor Relations Board](#), [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#), [Transportation Safety Authority](#), [Environmental Protection Agency](#), [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission](#), [Internal Revenue Service](#), and [Social Security Administration](#). The island's economic, commercial, and banking systems are integrated to those of the United States.^[82]

President [George H. W. Bush](#) issued a 30 November 1992 memorandum to heads of executive departments and agencies establishing the current administrative relationship between the federal government and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This memorandum directs all federal departments, agencies, and officials to treat Puerto Rico administratively as if it were a state, insofar as doing so would not disrupt federal programs or operations.

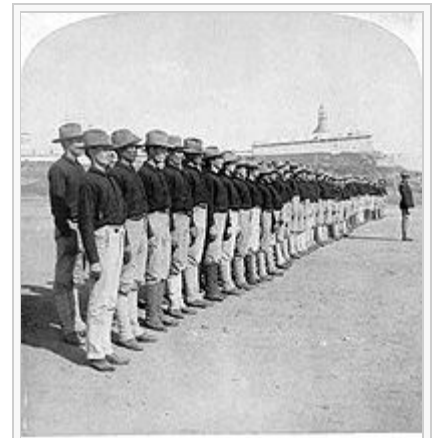
Puerto Rico does participate in the internal political process of both the [Democratic](#) and [Republican](#) parties in the U.S., accorded equal-proportional representation in both parties, and delegates from the islands vote in each party's national convention.

The U.S. Government classifies Puerto Rico as an independent taxation authority by Federal Law [48 U.S.C. § 734](#) . Puerto Rico residents are required to pay U.S. federal taxes, import/export taxes,^[83] federal commodity taxes,^[84] social security taxes etc. The only exemption is [federal income taxes](#) since residents pay federal [payroll taxes](#) ([Social Security](#)^[85] and [Medicare](#)),^[86] as well as Commonwealth of Puerto Rico income taxes. All federal employees,^[87] plus those who do business with the federal government,^[88] in addition to Puerto Rico-based corporations that intend to send funds to the U.S.,^[89] and some others^[90] also pay [federal income taxes](#).

Because residents of Puerto Rico pay into Social Security, they are eligible for Social Security benefits upon retirement, but are excluded from the [Supplemental Security Income](#) (SSI), and the island actually receives less than 15% of the [Medicaid](#) funding it would normally receive if it were a U.S. state.^[91] Yet Medicare providers receive less-than-full state-like reimbursements for services rendered to beneficiaries in Puerto Rico, even though the latter paid fully into the system.^[92]

Since 1961 several Puerto Ricans have been appointed by the [President](#), upon the advice and consent of the [Senate](#) to serve as [United States Ambassadors](#) to [Venezuela](#), [Spain](#), [Costa Rica](#), [Chile](#), the [Dominican Republic](#), and the Republics of [Mauritius](#) and [Seychelles](#). A Puerto Rican was also appointed by President [Obama](#) as ambassador to [El Salvador](#), pending the advice and consent of the United States Senate. This evinces the extreme trust the President and Congress have placed upon these individuals, who serve the vital function of acting as the representative of the United States in foreign nations. As embassies fall within the [Department of State](#), ambassadors answer to the [Secretary of State](#).^[81]

Puerto Ricans may enlist in the U.S. military. Since 1917 Puerto Ricans have been included in the compulsory draft whenever it has been in effect and more than 400,000 Puerto Ricans have served in the United States Armed Forces. Puerto Ricans have participated in all U.S. wars since 1898, most notably [World War I](#), [World War II](#), the [Korean](#) and [Vietnam](#) wars, as well as the current [Middle Eastern conflicts](#). Several Puerto Ricans became notable commanders, five have been awarded the [Medal of Honor](#), the highest military decoration in the United States, and several Puerto Ricans have attained the rank of [General](#) or [Admiral](#), which requires a Presidential nomination and Senate confirmation, as is the case of judges and ambassadors.^[93] In World War II,^[94] the Korean War^[95] and the Vietnam War^[96] Puerto Ricans were the most decorated Hispanic soldiers and in some cases were the first to die in combat.^{[97][98]}



First Company of native Puerto Ricans enlisted in the American Colonial Army, 1899.

Recent developments

The nature of Puerto Rico's political relationship with the U.S. is the subject of ongoing debate in Puerto Rico, the [United States Congress](#), and the [United Nations](#).^{[99][100]} In 2005 and 2007, two reports were issued by the U.S. President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status.^{[66][101]} Both reports conclude that Puerto Rico continues to be a territory of U.S. under the plenary powers of the U.S. Congress.^[66] Reactions from Puerto Rico's two major political parties were mixed. The Popular Democratic Party (PPD) challenged the task force's report^[citation needed] and committed to validating the current status in all international forums, including the United Nations. It also rejects^[citation needed] any "colonial or territorial status" as a status option, and vows to keep working for the enhanced Commonwealth status that was approved by the PPD in 1998 which included sovereignty, an association based on "respect and dignity between both nations", and common citizenship.^[102] The New Progressive Party (PNP) supported^[citation needed] the White House Report's conclusions and supported bills to provide for a democratic referendum process among Puerto Rico voters.

According to a [CRS report](#), the recent activity regarding Puerto Rico's political status—in Congress and on the island—suggests that action may be taken in the 111th Congress. The reports issued in 2007 and 2005 by the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status may be the basis for reconsideration of the existing commonwealth status, as legislative developments during the 109th and 110th Congresses suggested. Agreement on the process to be used in considering the status

proposals has been as elusive as agreement on the end result. Congress would have a determinative role in any resolution of the issue. The four options that appear to be most frequently discussed include continuation of the commonwealth, modification of the current commonwealth agreement, statehood, or independence. If independence, or separate national sovereignty, were selected, Puerto Rican officials might seek to negotiate a compact of free association with the United States.^[103]

On June 15, 2009, the [United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization](#) approved a draft resolution calling on the Government of the United States to expedite a process that would allow the Puerto Rican people to exercise fully their inalienable right to self-determination and independence.^[104]

On April 29, 2010, the U.S. Congress voted 223–169 to approve a measure for a federal sanctioned process for Puerto Rico's self determination allowing Puerto Rico to set a new referendum on whether to continue its present form of commonwealth political status or should have a different political status. If Puerto Ricans vote to continue to have its present form of political status the Government of Puerto Rico is authorized to conduct additional plebiscites at intervals of every 8 years from the date that the results of the prior plebiscite are certified; If Puerto Ricans vote to have a different political status to the territory, a second referendum would determine whether it becomes a U.S. state, an independent country, or a sovereign nation associated with the U.S. that will not be subject to the Territorial Clause of the United States Constitution.^[105] During the House debate, a fourth option to retain its present form of commonwealth (*status quo*) political status was added as an option in the second plebiscite.^[105] ^[106]

Immediately following [U.S. House](#) of the [U.S. Congress](#) passage, H.R. 2499 was sent to the [U.S. Senate](#), where it was given two formal readings and referred to the [Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources](#). H.R. 2499 has been scheduled for a hearing before the aforementioned committee at 9:30 A.M., on Wednesday, May 19th, 2010. This hearing will be for gathering testimony on the bill.^[107]

Geography

Main article: [Geography of Puerto Rico](#)

See also: [Geology of Puerto Rico](#) and [Fauna of Puerto Rico](#)

Puerto Rico consists of the main island of Puerto Rico and various smaller islands, including [Vieques](#), [Culebra](#), [Mona](#), [Desecheo](#), and [Caja de Muertos](#). Of these last five, only Culebra and Vieques are inhabited year-round. Mona is uninhabited most of the year except for employees of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources. There are also many other even smaller islands including [Monito](#) and "La Isleta de San Juan" which includes [Old San Juan](#) and [Puerta de Tierra](#).

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has an area of 13,790 square kilometers (5,320 sq mi), of which 8,870 km² (3,420 sq mi) is land and 4,921 km² (1,900 sq mi) is water.^[108] The maximum length of the main island from east to west is 180 km (110 mi), and the maximum width from north to south is 65 km (40 mi).^[109] Puerto Rico is the smallest of the Greater Antilles. It is 80% of the size of [Jamaica](#),^[110] just over 18% of the size of [Hispaniola](#) and 8% of the size of [Cuba](#), the largest of the Greater



Antilles.^[111]

Puerto Rico is mostly mountainous with large coastal areas in the north and south. The main mountain range is called "[La Cordillera Central](#)" (The Central Range). The highest elevation in Puerto Rico, [Cerro de Punta](#) 1,339 meters (4,393 ft),^[108] is located in this range. Another important peak is [El Yunque](#), one of the highest in the *Sierra de Luquillo* at the [El Yunque National Forest](#), with an elevation of 1,065 m (3,494 ft).^[112]

Puerto Rico has 17 lakes, all man-made, and more than [50 rivers](#), most originating in the Cordillera Central.^[113] Rivers in the northern region of the island are typically longer and of higher [water flow rates](#) than those of the south, since the south receives less rain than the central and northern regions.

Puerto Rico is composed of [Cretaceous](#) to [Eocene volcanic](#) and [plutonic](#) rocks, overlain by younger [Oligocene](#) and more recent [carbonates](#) and other [sedimentary rocks](#).^[114] Most of the [caverns](#) and [karst](#) topography on the island occurs in the northern region in the carbonates. The oldest rocks are approximately 190 million years old ([Jurassic](#)) and are located at Sierra Bermeja in the southwest part of the island. They may represent part of the [oceanic crust](#) and are believed to come from the Pacific Ocean realm.

Puerto Rico lies at the boundary between the Caribbean and North American [plates](#) and is being deformed by the [tectonic](#) stresses caused by their interaction. These stresses may cause [earthquakes](#) and [tsunamis](#). These [seismic](#) events, along with [landslides](#), represent some of the most dangerous [geologic hazards](#) in the island and in the northeastern Caribbean. The [most recent major earthquake](#) occurred on October 11, 1918 and had an estimated magnitude of 7.5 on the [Richter scale](#).^[115] It originated off the coast of [Aguadilla](#) and was accompanied by a tsunami.



Corcho Beach in [Vieques](#)

The [Puerto Rico Trench](#), the largest and deepest trench in the Atlantic, is located about 115 km (71 mi) north of Puerto Rico at the boundary between the Caribbean and North American plates.^[116] It is 280 km (170 mi) long.^[117] At its deepest point, named the [Milwaukee Deep](#), it is almost 8,400 m (27,600 ft) deep, or about 5.2 miles.^[116] The island experiences frequent tremors and is an area of concern for major earthquakes.^[*citation needed*]

Located in the [tropics](#), Puerto Rico has an average temperature of 82.4 °F (28 °C) throughout the year. Temperatures do not change drastically throughout the seasons. The temperature in the south is usually a few degrees higher than the north and temperatures in the central interior mountains are always cooler than the rest of the island. The [Hurricane season](#) spans from June to November. The all-time low in Puerto Rico has been 39 °F (4 °C), registered in [Aibonito](#).^[118]

Species [endemic](#) to the archipelago are 239 plants, 16 birds and 39 [amphibians/reptiles](#), recognized as of 1998. Most of these (234, 12 and 33 respectively) are found on the main island.^[119] The most recognizable endemic species and a symbol of Puerto Rican pride is the [Coquí](#), a small frog easily identified by the sound of its call, and from which it gets its name. Most *Coquí* species (13 of 17) live in the [El Yunque National Forest](#), a [tropical rainforest](#) in the northeast of the island previously known as the Caribbean National Forest. El Yunque is home to more than 240 plants, 26 of which are endemic to the island. It is also home to 50 bird species, including the critically endangered [Puerto Rican Amazon](#). Across the island in the southwest, the 40 km² (15 sq mi) of dry land at the Guánica Commonwealth Forest Reserve^[120] contain over 600 uncommon species of plants and animals, including 48 endangered species and 16 endemic to Puerto Rico.

Administrative divisions

Main article: [Municipalities of Puerto Rico](#)

As an



Puerto Rico's municipalities

unincorporated territory of the United States, Puerto Rico does not have any first order administrative divisions as defined by the [U.S. Government](#), but there are 78 [municipalities](#) at the secondary level which function as counties. Municipalities are further subdivided into *barrios*, and those into sectors. Each municipality has a [mayor](#) and a municipal legislature elected for four year terms.

The first municipality (previously called "town") of Puerto Rico, San Juan, was founded in 1521. In the 16th century two more municipalities were established, [Coamo](#) (1570) and [San Germán](#) (1570). Three more municipalities were established in the 17th century. These were [Arecibo](#) (1614), [Aguada](#) (1692) and [Ponce](#) (1692). The 18th and 19th century saw an increase in settlement in Puerto Rico with 30 municipalities being established in the 18th century and 34 more in the 19th century. Only six municipalities were founded in the 20th century with the last, [Florida](#), being founded in 1971.^[121]

Economy

Main article: [Economy of Puerto Rico](#)

In the early 1900s the greatest contributor to Puerto Rico's economy was [agriculture](#) and its main crop was sugar. In the late 1940s a series of projects codenamed [Operation Bootstrap](#) encouraged a significant shift to manufacture via tax exemptions. Manufacturing quickly replaced agriculture as the main industry of the island. Puerto Rico is classified as a "high income country" by the [World Bank](#).^{[122][123]}

Economic conditions have improved dramatically since the [Great Depression](#) because of external investment in capital-intensive industries such as [petrochemicals](#), [pharmaceuticals](#) and [technology](#). Once the beneficiary of special tax treatment from the U.S. government, today local industries must compete with those in more economically depressed parts of the world where wages are not subject to U.S. minimum wage legislation. In recent years, some U.S. and foreign owned factories have moved to lower wage countries in Latin America and Asia. Puerto Rico is subject to U.S. trade laws and restrictions.

Also, starting around 1950, there was heavy migration from Puerto Rico to the [Continental United States](#), particularly New York City, in search of better economic conditions. Puerto Rican migration to New York displayed an average yearly migration of 1,800 for the years 1930–1940, 31,000 for 1946–1950, 45,000 for 1951–1960, and a peak of 75,000 in 1953.^[124] As of 2003, the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) estimates that more people of Puerto Rican birth or ancestry live in the U.S. than in Puerto Rico.^[125]

On May 1, 2006, the Puerto Rican government faced significant [shortages in cash flows](#), which forced the closure of the local Department of Education and 42 other government agencies. All 1,536 public



Milla de Oro is a major financial centre in Puerto Rico.

schools closed, and 95,762 people were furloughed in the first-ever partial shutdown of the government in the island's history.^[126] On May 10, 2006, the **budget crisis** was resolved with a new tax reform agreement so that all government employees could return to work. On November 15, 2006 a 5.5% sales tax was implemented. Municipalities are required by law to apply a municipal sales tax of 1.5% bringing the total sales tax to 7%.^[127]

Tourism is an important component of Puerto Rican economy supplying an approximate \$1.8 billion. In 1999, an estimated 5 million tourists visited the island, most from the U.S. Nearly a third of these are **cruise ship** passengers. A steady increase in hotel registrations since 1998 and the construction of new hotels and new tourism projects, such as the **Puerto Rico Convention Center**, indicate the current strength of the tourism industry.

Puerto Ricans had **median household income** of \$17,741 for 2007, which makes Puerto Rico's economy comparable to the independent nations of **Latvia** or **Poland**.^[128] By comparison, the poorest state of the Union, **Mississippi**, had median household income of \$36,338 in 2007.^[128] Nevertheless, Puerto Rico's GDP per capita compares favorably to other independent Caribbean nations, and is one the highest in North America.^[129] Puerto Rico's public debt has grown at a faster pace than the growth of its economy, reaching \$46.7 billion in 2008.^[130] In January 2009, **Luis Fortuño** enacted several measures aimed at eliminating the government's \$3.3 billion deficit,^[131] including laying off nearly 24,000 government employees. Puerto Rico's unemployment rate was 15.9 percent in January 2010.^[132] Bureau of Labor Statistics. Some analysts said they expect the government's layoffs to propel that rate to 17 percent.^[133]



View of the **La Concha**, one of the newest hotels, from the beach in **Condado**.

Demographics

Main article: [Demographics of Puerto Rico](#)

Population and racial makeup



Royal Decree of Graces, 1815.

During the 1800s hundreds of **Corsican**, **French**, **Lebanese**, **Chinese**, and **Portuguese** families

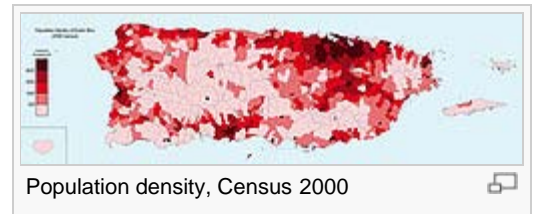
arrived in Puerto Rico, along with large numbers of immigrants from Spain (mainly from **Catalonia**, **Asturias**, **Galicia**, the **Balearic Islands**, **Andalusia**, and the **Canary Islands**) and numerous Spanish loyalists from Spain's former colonies in South America. Other settlers included **Irish**, **Scots**, **Germans**, **Italians** and thousands others who were granted land by Spain during the *Real Cedula de Gracias de 1815* ("**Royal Decree of Graces of 1815**"), which allowed European Catholics to settle in the island with a certain amount of free land.

This mass immigration during the 19th century helped the population grow from 155,000 in 1800 to almost a million at the close of the century. A census conducted by royal decree on September 30, 1858, gives the following totals of the Puerto Rican population at this time: 300,430 identified as **Whites**; 341,015 as Free **colored**; and 41,736 as **Slaves**.^[136]

Demographic distribution
Racial distribution

Immigration

Recently, Puerto Rico has become the permanent home of over 100,000 legal residents who immigrated from not only Spain, but from [Latin America](#): Argentines, [Cubans](#), Dominicans, [Colombians](#) and [Venezuelans](#). [Emigration](#) has been a major part of Puerto Rico's recent history. Starting soon after [World War II](#), poverty, cheap airfare and promotion by the island government caused waves of Puerto Ricans to move to the United States, particularly to [New York](#), [New Jersey](#), [Massachusetts](#) and [Florida](#). This trend continued even as Puerto Rico's economy improved and its birth rate declined.



Language

Main article: [Puerto Rican Spanish](#)

The official languages are Spanish and English with Spanish being the primary language. English is taught as a second language in public and private schools from elementary levels to high school and in universities.^[137] Particularly, the [Spanish of Puerto Rico](#), has evolved into having many idiosyncrasies that differentiate it from the language as spoken in other Spanish-speaking countries. This is mainly due to the influences from ancestral languages, such as those from the Taínos and Africans, and more recently from the English language influence resulting from its relationship with the United States. According to a study by the University of Puerto Rico, nine of every 10 Puerto Ricans residing in Puerto Rico do not speak English at the advanced level^[138] and according to a brief report of the U.S. Census 2000, seven of every 10 Puerto Ricans residing in Puerto Rico does not speak English at the advanced level.^[139]

Religion

The [Roman Catholic Church](#) has historically been the dominant religion in Puerto Rico. The first [dioceses](#) in the Americas was erected in Puerto Rico in 1511.^[140] All [municipalities](#) in Puerto Rico have at least one Catholic church (building), most of which are located at the town center or "*plaza*". Protestantism which was suppressed under the Spanish regime has been encouraged under American rule making modern Puerto Rico interconfessional. [Taíno religious practices](#) have been rediscovered/reinvented to a degree by a handful of advocates. Various African religious practices have been present since the arrival of African slaves. In particular, the [Yoruba](#) beliefs of [Santería](#) and/or [Ifá](#), and the [Kongo](#)-derived [Palo Mayombe](#) find adherence among a few individuals who practice some form of [African traditional religion](#). In 2007, [Islam](#) had over 5,000 [Muslims](#) in Puerto Rico, representing about 0.10% of the population^{[141][142]}

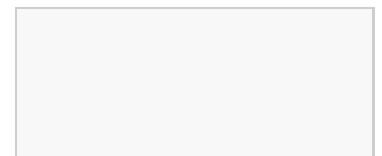
There were eight Islamic [mosques](#) spread throughout the island, with most Muslims living in [Rio Piedras](#)^{[143][144]}. Puerto Rico is also home to the largest and richest Jewish community in the Caribbean with 3,000 Jewish inhabitants. Puerto Rico is the only Caribbean island in which the [Conservative](#), [Reform](#) and [Orthodox Jewish](#) movements are represented.^{[145][146]}

Culture

Main article: [Culture of Puerto Rico](#)

See also: [Cuisine of Puerto Rico](#) and [Music of Puerto Rico](#)

Puerto Rican culture is a mix of four cultures, African (from the slaves), [Taíno](#) (Amerindians), Spanish, and more recently, North American. From Africans, the Puerto Ricans have obtained the "[bomba](#) and [plena](#)", a type of music and dance including



percussions and [maracas](#). From the Amerindians (Táinos), they kept many names for their municipalities, foods, musical instruments like the [güiro](#). Many words and other objects have originated from their localized language.

From the Spanish they received the Spanish language, the Catholic religion and the vast majority of their cultural and moral values and traditions. From the United States they received the English language, the university system and the adoption of some holidays and practices. On March 12, 1903, [University of Puerto Rico](#) was officially founded, branching out from the "Escuela Normal Industrial", a smaller organism that was founded in Fajardo three years before.

Much of the Puerto Rican culture centers on the influence of music. Like the country as a whole, Puerto Rican music has been developed by mixing other cultures with local and traditional rhythms. Early in the history of Puerto Rican music, the influences of African and Spanish traditions were most noticeable. However, the cultural movements across the Caribbean and North America have played a vital role in the more recent musical influences that have reached Puerto Rico.^{[147][148]}

The official symbols of Puerto Rico are the *Reinita mora* or [Puerto Rican Spindalis](#) (a type of bird), the *Flor de Maga* (a type of flower), and the *Ceiba* or [Kapok](#) (a type of tree). The unofficial animal and a symbol of Puerto Rican pride is the [Coquí](#), a small frog genus. Other popular symbols of Puerto Rico are the "[jíbaro](#)", the "countryman", and the carite.

Sports

Main article: [Sports in Puerto Rico](#)

[Baseball](#) was one of the first sports to gain widespread popularity in Puerto Rico. The [Puerto Rico Baseball League](#) serves as the only active professional league, operating as a winter league. No [Major League Baseball](#) franchise or affiliate plays in Puerto Rico, however, San Juan hosted the [Montreal Expos](#) for several series in 2003 and 2004 before they moved to [Washington, D.C.](#) and became the [Washington Nationals](#). Puerto Rico has participated in the [World Cup of Baseball](#) winning one gold (1951), four silver and four bronze medals and the [Caribbean Series](#), winning fourteen times. Famous Puerto Rican baseball players include [Roberto Clemente](#) and [Orlando Cepeda](#), enshrined in the [Baseball Hall of Fame](#) in 1973 and 1999, respectively.^{[149][150]}

[Boxing](#), [basketball](#), and [volleyball](#) are considered popular sports as well. [Wilfredo Gómez](#) and [McWilliams Arroyo](#) have won their respective divisions at the [World Amateur Boxing Championships](#). Other medalists include [José Pedraza](#), who holds a silver medal, as well as three boxers that finished in third place, José Luis Vellón, [Nelson Dieppa](#) and [McJoe Arroyo](#). In the professional circuit, Puerto Rico has the third-most [boxing world champions](#) and its the global leader in champions per capita. These include [Miguel Cotto](#), [Félix Trinidad](#), [Wilfred Benítez](#) and Gómez among others. The [Puerto Rico national basketball team](#) joined the [International Basketball Federation](#) in 1957. Since then, it has won more than 30 medals in international competitions, including gold in three [FIBA Americas Championships](#) and the 1994 [Goodwill Games](#). August 8, 2004, became a landmark date for the team when it became the first team to defeat the [United States](#) in an Olympic tournament since the integration of [National Basketball Association](#) players. Winning the inaugural game with scores of 92-73 as part of the [2004 Summer Olympics](#) organized in [Athens, Greece](#).^[151]

Miscellaneous practices of this sport have experienced some success, including the "Puerto Rico All



Kapok tree (*Ceiba*), the national tree of Puerto Rico



Stars" team, which has won twelve world championships in unicycle basketball.^[152] Organized **Streetball** has gathered some exposition, with teams like "Puerto Rico Street Ball" competing against established organizations including the **Capitanes de Arecibo** and **AND1's Mixtape Tour Team**. Consequently, practitioners of this style have earned participation in international teams, including **Orlando "El Gato" Meléndez**, who became the first Puerto Rican born athlete to play for the **Harlem Globetrotters**.^[153] **Orlando Antigua**, whose mother is Puerto Rican, made history in 1995, when he became the first Hispanic and the first non-black in 52 years to play for the **Harlem Globetrotters**.^[154]

The **Puerto Rico Islanders** Football Club, founded in 2003, plays in the **United Soccer Leagues First Division**, which constitutes the second tier of football in North America. **Puerto Rico** is also a member of **FIFA** and **CONCACAF**. In 2008 the archipelago's first unified league, the **Puerto Rico Soccer League**, was established. Secondary sports include **Professional wrestling** and **road running**. The **World Wrestling Council** and **International Wrestling Association** are the largest wrestling promotions in the main island. The **World's Best 10K**, held annually in San Juan, has been ranked among the 20 most competitive races globally.

Puerto Rico has representation in all international competitions including the **Summer** and **Winter Olympics**, the **Pan American Games**, the **Caribbean World Series**, and the **Central American and Caribbean Games**. Puerto Rican athletes have won 6 medals (1 silver, 5 bronze) in Olympic competition, the first one in 1948 by boxer **Juan Evangelista Venegas**. On March 2006 San Juan's **Hiram Bithorn Stadium** hosted the opening round as well as the second round of the newly formed **World Baseball Classic**. The **Central American and Caribbean Games** were held in 1993 in **Ponce** and will be held in 2010 in **Mayagüez**.

Education

Main article: [Education in Puerto Rico](#)

Education in Puerto Rico is divided in three levels — Primary (elementary school grades 1-6), Secondary (intermediate and high school grades 7-12), and Higher Level (undergraduate and graduate studies). As of 2002, the literacy rate of the Puerto Rican population was 94.1%; by gender, it was 93.9% for males and 94.4% for females.^[155] According to the 2000 Census, 60.0% of the population attained a high school degree or higher level of education, and 18.3% has a bachelor's degree or higher.

Instruction at the primary school level is compulsory between the ages of 5 and 18 and is enforced by the state. The Constitution of Puerto Rico grants the right to an education to every citizen on the island. To this end, public schools in Puerto Rico provide free and non-sectarian education at the elementary and secondary levels. At any of the three levels, students may attend either **public** or **private** schools. As of 1999, there were 1532 public schools^[156] and 569 private schools in the island.^[*citation needed*]

The largest and oldest university system in Puerto Rico is the public **University of Puerto Rico** (UPR) with 11 campuses. The largest private university systems on the island are the **Sistema Universitario Ana G. Mendez** which operates the **Universidad del Turabo**, **Metropolitan University** and **Universidad del Este**, the multi-campus **Inter American University**, the **Pontifical Catholic University**, and the **Universidad del Sagrado Corazón**. Puerto Rico has four schools of Medicine and four Law Schools.

Transportation

Main article: [Transportation in Puerto Rico](#)

Cities and towns in Puerto Rico are interconnected by a system of roads, **freeways**, **expressways**, and **highways**

maintained by the Highways and Transportation Authority under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Transportation, and patrolled by the [Police of Puerto Rico](#). The island's [metropolitan area](#) is served by a [public bus transit system](#) and a [metro system](#) called *Tren Urbano* (in English: Urban Train). Other forms of public transportation include seaborne ferries (that serve Puerto Rico's archipelago) as well as *Carros Públicos* ([private mini buses](#)).

The island has three [international airports](#), the [Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport](#) in [Carolina](#), [Mercedita Airport](#) in Ponce, and the [Rafael Hernández Airport](#) in Aguadilla, and 27 local airports. The Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport is the largest aerial transportation hub in the Caribbean, and one of the largest in the world in terms of passenger and cargo movement.^[157]

Puerto Rico has 9 [ports](#) in different cities across the main island. The [San Juan Port](#) is the largest in Puerto Rico, and the busiest port in the Caribbean and the 10th busiest in the United States in terms of commercial activity and cargo movement, respectively.^[158] The second largest port is the [Port of the Americas](#) in Ponce currently under expansion to increase cargo capacity to 1.5 million 20 ft. containers ([TEUs](#)) per year.^[159]

See also

Main articles: [Outline of Puerto Rico](#) and [Index of Puerto Rico-related articles](#)



[Geography portal](#)



[Latin America portal](#)



[Caribbean portal](#)



[Puerto Rico portal](#)



[Spanish language edition](#) of Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



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Tren Urbano at Bayamón Station



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External links

Puerto Rican government

- [Official website](#) ↗ (Spanish)

United States government

- [Application of the U.S. Constitution in U.S. Insular Areas](#) ↗








United Nations (U.N.) Declaration on Puerto Rico

- [U.N. Decolonization Committee's press release on what it deems as the colonial political status of Puerto Rico](#) ↗

General information

- [BBC Territory profile](#) ↗
- [Encyclopaedia Britannica profile](#) ↗
- [Datos y Estadísticas de Puerto Rico y sus Municipios \(In Spanish\)](#) ↗
- [Puerto Rico](#) ↗ entry at *The World Factbook*
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Politics	Constitution · The Commonwealth · Governor · Resident Commissioner · Legislative Branch (Senate · House of Representatives) · Supreme Court · Political parties · Military · Independence movement · Political status of Puerto Rico
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Other republics	Cuba · Dominican Republic · Haiti
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United Kingdom	Anguilla · British Virgin Islands · Cayman Islands · Montserrat · Turks and Caicos Islands
Netherlands	Aruba · Netherlands Antilles (Bonaire · Curaçao · Saba · Sint Maarten · Sint Eustatius)
France	Guadeloupe · Martinique · St. Barthélemy · St. Martin
United States	Navassa Island · Puerto Rico · U.S. Virgin Islands

<div>v · d · e</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Countries and dependencies of North America</div>	
<i>Several nations listed here straddle both North and South America or can also be considered Caribbean.</i>	

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Dependencies	Denmark	Greenland
	France	St. Barthélemy · St. Martin · St. Pierre and Miquelon · Clipperton
	Netherlands	Aruba · Netherlands Antilles
	United Kingdom	Anguilla · Bermuda · British Virgin Islands · Cayman Islands · Montserrat · Turks and Caicos Islands
	United States	Navassa Island · Puerto Rico · U.S. Virgin Islands

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Wal-Mart

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Walmart" redirects here. For other uses, see [Walmart \(disambiguation\)](#).

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (branded as Walmart) (NYSE: WMT ) is an American [public corporation](#) that runs a chain of large, discount department stores. In 2008 it was the world's largest public corporation by revenue, according to the [Fortune Global 500](#) for that year.^[6] The company was founded by [Sam Walton](#) in 1962, [incorporated](#) on October 31, 1969, and publicly traded on the [New York Stock Exchange](#) in 1972. Wal-Mart is the largest majority private employer^[7] and the largest [grocery retailer](#) in the United States. It also owns and operates the [Sam's Club retail warehouses](#) in North America.

Walmart operates in Mexico as [Walmex](#), in the United Kingdom as [Asda](#) ("Asda Wal-Mart" in some branches), in Japan as [Seiyu](#), and in India as [Best Price](#). It has wholly-owned operations in [Argentina](#), [Brazil](#), [Canada](#), and [Puerto Rico](#). Wal-Mart's investments outside North America have had mixed results: its operations in the United Kingdom, South America and China are highly successful, while it was forced to pull out of Germany and South Korea when ventures there were unsuccessful.

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Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Walmart 

Type	Public (NYSE: WMT  )
Industry	Retailing
Founded	Rogers, Arkansas, U.S. (1962)
Founder(s)	Sam Walton
Headquarters	Bentonville, Arkansas, U.S. <div>36°21′51″N 094°12′59″W﻿ / ﻿Latin American headquarters: Miami, Florida, U.S.^[1]</div>
Area served	Worldwide
Key people	Mike Duke (CEO) H. Lee Scott (Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board) S. Robson Walton (Chairman)
Products	Discount Stores Supercenters Neighborhood Markets
Revenue	▲ US\$ 408.21 billion (2010) ^[2]
Operating income	▲ US\$ 23.95 billion (2010) ^[3]
Net income	▲ US\$ 14.33 billion (2010) ^[3]
Total assets	▼ US\$ 170.70 billion (2010) ^[4]
Total equity	▲ US\$ 70.74 billion (2010) ^[3]
Employees	approx. 2,100,000 (2009) ^[5]
Website	www.walmartstores.com  www.walmart.com 

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History

Main article: [History of Wal-Mart](#)

Sam Walton, a businessman from Arkansas, began his retail career when he started work on June 3, 1940, at a **J.C. Penney** store in **Des Moines, Iowa** where he remained for 18 months. In 1945, he met **Butler Brothers**, a regional **retailer** that owned a chain of **variety stores** called **Ben Franklin** and that offered him one in **Newport, Arkansas**.^[8]

Walton was extremely successful in running the store in Newport, far exceeding expectations.^[9] However, when the lease came up for renewal, Walton could neither come to agreement on the existing store's lease renewal nor find a new location in Newport. Instead, he opened a new Ben Franklin franchise in **Bentonville, Arkansas**, but called it "Walton's Five and Dime." There, he achieved higher sales volume by marking up slightly less than most competitors.^[10]

On July 2, 1962, Walton opened the first Wal-Mart Discount City store located at 719 Walnut Ave. in **Rogers, Arkansas**. The building is now occupied by a hardware store and a pawn shop. Within five years, the company expanded to 24 stores across **Arkansas** and reached \$12.6 million in sales.^[11] In 1968, it opened its first stores outside Arkansas, in **Sikeston, Missouri** and **Claremore, Oklahoma**.^[12]

Incorporation and growth

The company was **incorporated** as *Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.* on October 31, 1969. In 1970, it opened its home office and first distribution center in **Bentonville, Arkansas**. It had 38 stores operating with 1,500 employees and sales of \$44.2 million. It began trading stock as a **publicly held company** on October 1, 1970, and was soon listed on the **New York Stock Exchange**. The first **stock split** occurred in May 1971 at a market price of \$47. By this time, Wal-Mart was operating in five states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma; it entered Tennessee in 1973 and Kentucky and Mississippi in 1974. As it moved into Texas in 1975, there were 125 stores with 7,500 employees and total sales of \$340.3 million.^[12]

In the 1980s, Walmart continued to grow rapidly, and by its 25th anniversary in 1987 there were 1,198 stores with sales of \$15.9 billion and 200,000 associates.^[12] This year also marked the completion of the company's satellite network, a \$24 million investment linking all operating units of the company with its Bentonville office via two-way voice and data transmission and one-way video communication. At the time, it was the largest private satellite network, allowing the corporate office to track inventory and sales and to instantly communicate to stores.^[13] In 1988, Sam Walton stepped down as CEO and was replaced by **David Glass**.^[14] Walton remained as Chairman of the **Board**, and the company also rearranged other people in senior positions.

In 1988, the first *Walmart Supercenter* opened in **Washington, Missouri**.^[15] Thanks to its superstores, it surpassed **Toys "R" Us** in toy sales in the late 1990s.^[16] The company also opened overseas stores, entering South America in 1995 with stores in Argentina and Brazil; and Europe in 1999, buying **Asda** in the UK for \$10 billion.^[17]

In 1998, Walmart introduced the "**Neighborhood Market**" concept with three stores in **Arkansas**.^[18] By 2005, estimates indicate that the company controlled about 20% of the retail grocery and consumables business.^[19]

In 2000, **H. Lee Scott** became President and CEO, and Walmart's sales^[20]



Sam Walton's original Walton's Five and Dime store in **Bentonville, Arkansas**, now serving as the Wal-Mart Visitor's Center



Logo used from 1992-2008 (2001-2009 in Canada, 1992-2009 in Mexico, although Mexico used the current logo in December 2008). It is still used in Mainland China.



Current Logo



Inside a Walmart Supercenter in **West Plains, Missouri**

increased to \$165 billion. In 2002, it was listed for the first time as America's largest corporation on the [Fortune 500](#) list, with revenues of \$219.8 billion and profits of \$6.7 billion. It has remained there every year, except for 2006.^{[21][22]}

In 2005, Walmart had \$312.4 billion in sales, more than 6,200 facilities around the world—including 3,800 stores in the United States and 2,800 elsewhere, employing more than 1.6 million "associates" worldwide. Its U.S. presence grew so rapidly that only small pockets of the country remained further than 60 miles (100 km) from the nearest Wal-Mart.^[23]

As Walmart grew rapidly into the world's largest corporation, many critics worried about the effect of its stores on local communities, particularly small towns with many "mom and pop" stores. There have been several studies on the economic impact of Walmart on small towns and local businesses, jobs, and taxpayers. In one, Kenneth Stone, a Professor of Economics at [Iowa State University](#), found that some small towns can lose almost half of their retail trade within ten years of a Wal-Mart store opening.^[24] However, in another study, he compared the changes to what small town shops had faced in the past — including the development of the railroads, the advent of the Sears Roebuck catalog, as well as the arrival of shopping malls — and concluded that shop owners who adapt to changes in the retail market can thrive after Wal-Mart arrives.^[24] A later study in collaboration with [Mississippi State University](#) showed that there are "both positive and negative impacts on existing stores in the area where the new supercenter locates."^[25]

In the aftermath of [Hurricane Katrina](#) in September 2005, Walmart was able to use its logistical efficiency in organizing a rapid response to the disaster, donating \$20 million in cash, 1,500 truckloads of free merchandise, food for 100,000 meals, as well as the promise of a job for every one of its displaced workers.^[26] An independent study by Steven Horwitz of [St. Lawrence University](#) found that Walmart, [Home Depot](#) and [Lowe's](#) made use of their local knowledge about supply chains, infrastructure, decision makers and other resources to provide emergency supplies and reopen stores well before FEMA began its response.^[27] While the company was overall lauded for its quick response – amidst the [criticisms](#) of the [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) – several critics were nonetheless quick to point out that there still remain issues with the company's labor relations issues.^[28]

Recent initiatives

In October 2005, Wal-Mart announced it would implement several environmental measures to increase energy efficiency. The primary goals included spending \$500 million a year to increase fuel efficiency in Wal-Mart's truck fleet by 25% over three years and double it within ten, reduce [greenhouse gas](#) emissions by 20% in seven years, reduce energy use at stores by 30%, and cut solid waste from U.S. stores and Sam's Clubs by 25% in three years. CEO Lee Scott said that Wal-Mart's goal was to be a "good steward for the environment" and ultimately use only [renewable energy](#) sources and produce zero waste.^[29] The company also designed three new experimental stores in [McKinney, Texas](#), [Aurora, Colorado](#), and [Las Vegas, Nevada](#). with wind turbines, photovoltaic solar panels, biofuel-capable boilers, water-cooled refrigerators, and [xeriscape](#) gardens.^[30] Despite much criticism of its environmental record, Wal-Mart took a few steps in what is viewed as a positive direction, which included becoming the biggest seller of organic milk and the biggest buyer of organic cotton in the world, as well as reducing packaging and energy costs.^[31] Wal-Mart also spent nearly a year working with outside consultants to discover the company's total environmental impact and find where they could improve. They discovered, for example, that by eliminating excess packaging on their toy line Kid Connection, they could not only save \$2.4 million a year in shipping costs but also 3,800 trees and a million barrels of oil.^[31] Walmart has also recently created its own [electric company](#) in Texas, *Texas Retail Energy*, and plans to supply its stores with cheap power purchased at wholesale prices. Through this new venture, the company expects to save \$15 million annually and also



Exterior of the relocated Wal-Mart in [Niagara Falls, New York](#). At 204,000 sq.ft., this is by far the largest store in the area.



Exterior of the recently remodeled Wal-Mart in [West Hills, Los Angeles, California](#)

lays the groundwork and infrastructure to sell electricity to Texas consumers in the future.^[32]

In March 2006, Walmart sought to appeal to a more affluent demographic. The company launched a new Supercenter concept in [Plano, Texas](#), intended to compete against stores seen as more upscale and appealing, such as [Target](#).^{[33][34]} The new store has wood floors, wider aisles, a [sushi](#) bar, a coffee/sandwich shop with free [Wi-Fi Internet](#) access, and more expensive beers, wines, electronics, and other goods. The exterior has a hunter green background behind the Wal-Mart letters, similar to Wal-Mart Neighborhood Markets, instead of the blue previously used at its supercenters.



Exterior of the new green prototype Wal-Mart Supercentre in [Burlington, Ontario](#)

On September 12, 2007, Walmart introduced new [advertising](#) with the [slogan](#), "*Save Money Live Better*," replacing the "*Always Low Prices, Always*" slogan, which it had used for the previous 19 years. [Global Insight](#), which conducted the research that supported the ads, found that Walmart's [price level](#) reduction resulted in savings for consumers of \$287 billion in 2006, which equated to \$957 per person or \$2,500 per [household](#) (up 7.3% from the 2004 savings estimate of \$2,329).^[35]

On June 30, 2008, Walmart unveiled a new company logo, featuring the non-hyphenated name "Walmart" followed by a stylized spark, as it is referred to on store advertisements. The new logo received mixed reviews from some design critics, who question whether the new logo is as bold as competitors such as the [Target](#) bullseye or as instantly recognizable as the former company logo, which was used for 18 years.^[36] The new logo made its debut on the company's *walmart.com* website on July 1, 2008. The new logo will eventually replace store logos at the company's US locations throughout the year^[clarification needed which year].^[37] Wal-Mart Canada started to adopt the logo for its stores in early 2009.

On March 20, 2009, Wal-Mart announced that it is paying a combined \$933.6 million in bonuses to every full and part time hourly worker of the company. An additional \$788.8 million in [profit sharing](#), [401\(k\)](#) contributions, and hundreds of millions of dollars in merchandise discounts and contributions to the employees' stock purchase plan is also included in this plan. While the economy at large was in an ongoing [recession](#), the largest retailer in the U.S. reported solid financial figures for the most recent fiscal year (ending January 31, 2009), with \$401.2 billion in net sales, a gain of 7.2% from the prior year. Income from continuing operations increased 3% to \$13.3 billion, and earnings per share rose 6% to \$3.35.^[38]

On July 16, 2009, Wal-Mart announced plans to develop a worldwide sustainable product index.^[39]

On February 22, 2010, the company confirming it was acquiring [video streaming](#) company [Vudu, Inc.](#) for an estimated \$100 million.^[40]

Operating divisions

See also: *List of assets owned by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*

Wal-Mart's operations are organized into three divisions: Wal-Mart Stores U.S., [Sam's Club](#), and Wal-Mart International.^[41] The company does business in nine different retail formats: [supercenters](#), [food and drugs](#), [general merchandise](#) stores, bodegas (small markets), cash and carry stores, [membership warehouse clubs](#), [apparel](#) stores, soft [discount stores](#) and [restaurants](#).^[41]

Wal-Mart Stores U.S.

Wal-Mart Stores U.S. is Wal-Mart's largest division, accounting for 67.2% of net sales for financial year 2006.^[41] It consists of three retail formats that have become commonplace in the United States: [Discount Stores](#), [Supercenters](#), and [Neighborhood Markets](#). The retail department stores sell a variety of mostly non-grocery products, though emphasis has now shifted towards supercenters, which include more grocery items. This division also includes Wal-Mart's [online retailer](#), *walmart.com*.

In September 2006, Wal-Mart announced a new pilot program to sell [generic drugs](#) at just \$4 per prescription. The pilot program was launched at stores in the [Tampa, Florida](#) area, and expanded to all stores in [Florida](#) by January 2007. While the average price of generics is \$29 per prescription, compared to \$102 for name-brand drugs, Wal-Mart maintains that it is not selling at a loss, or providing as an act of charity – instead, they are using

the same mechanisms of mass distribution that it uses to bring lower prices to other products.^[42] While it's little known outside of the drug industry, many of Walmart's low cost generics are imported from India and made by drug makers in that country including [Ranbaxy](#) and [CIPLA](#).^[43]

On February 6, 2007, the company launched a "beta" version of its new movie download service, *mediadownloads.walmart.com*, which sells 3,000 films and television episodes from all major studios and television networks.^[44] This service was discontinued on December 21, 2007.^[45]

Wal-Mart Discount Stores

Wal-Mart Discount Stores are [discount department stores](#) with size varying from 51,000 square feet (4,738.1 m²) to 224,000 square feet (20,810.3 m²), with an average store covering about 102,000 square feet (9,476.1 m²).^[41] They carry [general merchandise](#) and a selection of [food](#). Many of these stores also have a garden center, a [pharmacy](#), [Tire & Lube Express](#), optical center, [one-hour photo processing lab](#), [portrait studio](#), a [bank branch](#), a cell phone store and a [fast food](#) outlet. Some also have gasoline stations.^[46]

The first Wal-Mart store opened in [Rogers, Arkansas](#) in 1962.

In 1990, Wal-Mart opened its first *Bud's Discount City* location in Bentonville. Bud's operated as a closeout store, much like [Big Lots](#). Many locations were opened to fulfill leases in [shopping centers](#) as Wal-Mart stores left and moved into newly built Supercenters. All of the Bud's Discount City stores closed or converted into Wal-Mart Discount Stores by 1997.^{[11][47]}

As of December 2009, there were 810 Wal-Mart Discount Stores in the United States. In 2006, the busiest in the world was one in [Rapid City, South Dakota](#).^[48]

Wal-Mart Supercenter

Wal-Mart Supercenters are [hypermarkets](#) with size varying from 98,000 to 261,000 square feet (9,104.5 to 24,247.7 m²), with an average of about 197,000 square feet (18,301.9 m²).^[41] These stock everything a Wal-Mart Discount Store does, and also include a full-service [supermarket](#), including [meat](#) and [poultry](#), [baked goods](#), [delicatessen](#), [frozen foods](#), [dairy](#) products, [garden produce](#), and fresh [seafood](#). Many Wal-Mart Supercenters also have a garden center, [pet shop](#), [pharmacy](#), [Tire & Lube Express](#), optical center, one-hour photo processing lab, portrait studio, and numerous alcove shops, such as cellular phone stores, hair and nail salons, video rental stores, local bank branches (newer locations have [Woodforest National Bank](#) branches), and [fast food](#) outlets — usually [Subway](#), but sometimes [Dunkin' Donuts](#), [McDonald's](#) or [Blimpie](#). Some also sell [gasoline](#) distributed by [Murphy Oil Corporation](#) (whose Wal-Mart stations are branded as "Murphy USA"), [Sunoco, Inc.](#) ("Optima"), or [Tesoro Corporation](#) ("Mirastar").^[46]

The first Supercenter opened in 1988 in [Washington, Missouri](#). A similar concept, *Hypermart USA*, opened in [Garland, Texas](#) a year earlier. All of the Hypermart USA stores were later closed or converted into Supercenters.

As of December 2009, there were 2,737 Wal-Mart Supercenters in the United States.^[48] The largest Supercenter in the United States, covering 260,000 square feet (24,154.8 m²) and two floors, is located in [Crossgates Commons](#) in [Albany, New York](#).^[49]

As of December 2009, there were 2,737 Wal-Mart Supercenters in the United States.^[48] The largest Supercenter in the United States, covering 260,000 square feet (24,154.8 m²) and two floors, is located in [Crossgates Commons](#) in [Albany, New York](#).^[49]

Since the introduction of the new Wal-Mart logo in 2008, the company has been phasing out the "Supercenter" portion of the name on these stores, simply referring to these stores as "Walmart."

Neighborhood Market by Walmart

Neighborhood Markets by Walmart are [grocery stores](#) that average about 42,000 square feet (3,901.9 m²).^[41] They are used to fill the gap between Discount Store and Supercenters, offering a variety of products, which include full lines of [groceries](#), pharmaceuticals, health and beauty aids, photo developing services, and a limited selection of [general merchandise](#).



A typical Wal-Mart discount department store in [Laredo, Texas](#)



A picture of a remodeled Walmart Supercenter in [Miami, Florida](#).

The first Neighborhood Market opened in 1998 in [Bentonville, Arkansas](#). As of December 2009, there were 151 of them in the United States.^[48]

Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market now has the same logo as Wal-Mart does. However, this change took place a few months after the new logo was introduced on June 30, 2008.

Supermercado de Wal-Mart

Wal-Mart opened "Supermercado de Wal-Mart" locations to appeal to Hispanic communities in the United States.^[50]

Marketside

Main article: [Marketside](#)

Marketside is a new chain of grocery stores opened in October 2008, the stores are said to be less than half the size of a conventional supermarket, as stated in the backgrounder found on Wal-Mart's official homepage. As of December 2009, there were four Marketside stores, all within the state of [Arizona](#).^[48] Each of these stores is open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sam's Club

Main article: [Sam's Club](#)

Sam's Club is a chain of [warehouse clubs](#) which sell [groceries](#) and [general merchandise](#), often in large quantities. Sam's Club stores are "membership" stores and most customers buy annual memberships. However, non-members can make purchases either by buying a one-day membership or paying a surcharge based on the price of the purchase.^[51] Some locations also sell [gasoline](#).^[46] The first Sam's Club opened in 1983 in [Midwest City, Oklahoma](#) ^[51] under the name "Sam's Wholesale Club".

Sam's has found a niche market in recent years as a supplier to small businesses. All Sam's Club stores are open early hours exclusively for business members and their old slogan was "We're in Business for Small Business." Their current slogan is "Savings Made Simple" as Sam's Club attempts to attract a more diverse member base. In March 2009, the company announced that it plans to enter the [electronic medical records](#) business by offering a [software](#) package to physicians in small practices for \$25,000. Wal-Mart is partnering with [Dell](#) and [eClinicalWorks.com](#) in this new venture.^[52]

According to Wal-Mart's 2007 Annual Report, Sam's Club's sales during 2007 were \$42 billion, or 12.1% of Wal-Mart's total 2007 sales.^[53] As of December 2009, there were 605 Sam's Clubs in the United States. Wal-Mart also operates more than 100 international Sam's Clubs in [Brazil](#), [China](#), [Mexico](#), and [Puerto Rico](#).^[54]

Wal-Mart International

Wal-Mart's international operations currently comprise 4,081 stores in 14 countries outside the United States.^[55] According to Wal-Mart's 2006 Annual Report, the International division accounted for about 20.1% of sales.^[41] There are wholly owned operations in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Puerto Rico (although PR is part of the US, the company's operations there are managed through its international division^[55]), and the UK. With 1.8 million employees worldwide, the company is the largest private employer in the US and Mexico, and one of the largest in Canada.^[56]

Wal-Mart has operated in Canada since its acquisition of 122 stores comprising the [Woolco](#) division of [Woolworth Canada, Inc](#) in 1994.^[57]



Supermercado de Wal-Mart in [Spring Branch, Houston](#)



A typical Sam's Club store in [Maplewood, Missouri](#)



Wal-Mart's UK subsidiary, [Asda](#)

As of October 31, 2008, it operates 310 locations, employing 77,500 Canadians, with a local home office in [Mississauga, Ontario](#).^[58] [Wal-Mart Canada](#)'s first three Supercentres (spelled as in [Canadian English](#)) opened on November 8, 2006, in [Hamilton, London](#), and [Aurora](#), Ontario. As of October 31, 2008, there are 39 Wal-Mart Supercentres in Canada,^[48].

Sales in 2006 for Wal-Mart's UK subsidiary, [Asda](#) (which retains the name it had before acquisition by Wal-Mart), accounted for 42.7% of sales of Wal-Mart's international division. In contrast to Wal-Mart's US operations, Asda was originally and still remains primarily a grocery chain, but with a stronger focus on non-food items than most UK supermarket chains other than [Tesco](#). At the end of 2007, Asda had 340 stores, some of which are branded Asda Wal-Mart Supercentres, as well as Asda Supermarkets, Asda Living, George High Street and Asda Essentials stores.^[59]

In addition to its wholly-owned international operations, Wal-Mart has joint ventures in China and several majority-owned subsidiaries. Wal-Mart's majority-owned subsidiary in Mexico is [Walmex](#). In Japan, Wal-Mart owns about 53% of [Seiyu](#).^[60] Additionally, Wal-Mart owns 51% of the Central American Retail Holding Company (CARHCO), consisting of more than 360 supermarkets and other stores in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.^[61]

In 2004, Wal-Mart bought the 116 stores in the [Bompreço](#) supermarket chain in northeastern Brazil. In late 2005, it took control of the Brazilian operations of Sonae Distribution Group through its new subsidiary, WMS Supermercados do Brasil, thus acquiring control of the Nacional and Mercadorama supermarket chains, the leaders in the [Rio Grande do Sul](#) and [Paraná](#) states, respectively. None of these was rebranded. As of August 2006, Wal-Mart operates 71 Bompreço stores, 27 Hiper-Bompreço stores, 15 Balaio stores, and three Hiper-Magazines (all originally parts of Bompreço). It also runs 19 Wal-Mart Supercenters, 13 Sam's Club stores, and two Todo Dia stores. With the acquisition of Bompreço and Sonae, Wal-Mart is currently the third largest supermarket chain in Brazil, behind [Carrefour](#) and [Pão de Açúcar](#).^[62]

In June 2006, Wal-Mart was excluded from the investment portfolio of [The Government Pension Fund of Norway](#), which held stock values of about US\$ 430 million in the company, due to a social audit into alleged labor rights violations in the company's operations in the US and worldwide.^{[63][64]} Although Wal-Mart did not respond to questions from the fund's auditors, the company later claimed the decision "don't appear to be based on complete information".^[65]

In July 2006, Wal-Mart announced its withdrawal from Germany due to sustained losses in a highly competitive market. The stores were sold to the German company [Metro](#) during Wal-Mart's fiscal third quarter.^{[60][66]}

In November 2006, Wal-Mart announced a joint venture with [Bharti Enterprises](#) to open retail stores in India. As foreign corporations are not allowed to directly enter the retail sector in India, Wal-Mart will operate through franchises and handle the [wholesale](#) end.^[67] The partnership will involve two joint ventures; Bharti will manage the front end involving opening of retail outlets, while Wal-Mart will take care of the back end, such as [cold chains](#) and logistics.

In 2008, Wal-Mart named German retailing veteran Stephan Fanderl as the president of Wal-Mart Emerging Markets-East in an effort to, "explore retail business opportunities in Russia and neighboring markets." The market is estimated to be worth more than \$140 billion per year in food sales alone.^[68]

In January 2009, the company acquired a controlling interest in the largest grocer in [Chile](#), [Distribucion y Servicio](#)^[69]



Asda's headquarters, Asda House in [Leeds](#)



[Bompreço](#) in [Natal, Brazil](#).



A Wal-Mart/Walmex store in [Playa del Carmen](#), [Mexico](#)



A typical Wal-Mart store in [Moncton](#), [New Brunswick](#)

D&S SA.

In February 2010, the company agreed to buy Vudu, a Silicon Valley start-up whose three-year-old online movie service is being built into an increasing number of televisions and Blu-ray players. Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed, but a person briefed on the deal said the price for the company, which raised \$60 million in capital, was over \$100 million.^[70]

Wal-Mart's unsuccessful approach in the German market

In the mid 1990s Wal-mart tried with a large financial investment to get a foothold in the German retail market. In 1997 Wal-mart took over the supermarket chain Wertkauf with its 21 stores for 750,- million DM (375,- mil €) and in 1998 Wal-mart took over 74 Interspar stores for 1.3 billion DM (750,- Mil €). Several reasons lead to Wal-mart's failure in the German market.

The German market at this point was an **oligopoly** with high competition among the companies which also used a similar low price strategy as Wal-mart. Because of this Wal-mart's low price strategy yielded no competitive advantage. Also Wal-mart's **corporate culture** was not viewed positively among employees and customers in Germany, particularly Wal-mart's "statement of ethics", which restricted relationships between employees and lead to a public discussion in the media, resulting in a bad reputation for Wal-mart among customers. Also Wal-mart's "Big Box – Low Price" Model, a price strategy that works well in the U.S., was not successful in Germany.

In 2006 Wal-mart withdrew from the German market, the 85 stores were sold to the Metro AG. Wal-mart did not disclose its losses from its ill fated German investment, but they were estimated around 3 bil €. On the other hand Wal-mart's competitors in Germany such as Kaufland and Rewe were able to increase their market share.

Private label brands

Main article: [List of Wal-Mart brands](#)

About 40% of products sold in Wal-Mart are **private label store brands**, or products offered by Wal-Mart and produced through contracts with manufacturers. Wal-Mart began offering private label brands in 1991 with the launch of **Sam's Choice**, a brand of drinks produced by **Cott Beverages** exclusively for Wal-Mart. Sam's Choice quickly became popular, and by 1993 was the third beverage brand in the United States.^[71] Other Wal-Mart brands include Great Value and Equate in the US and Canada, and **Smart Price** in Britain. A 2006 study talked of "the magnitude of mind-share Wal-Mart appears to hold in shoppers' minds when it comes to awareness of private label brands and retailers."^[72]

Corporate affairs

Wal-Mart's **business model** is based on selling a wide variety of general merchandise at "always low prices."^[41] The company refers to its employees as "associates". All Wal-Mart stores in the US and Canada also have designated "greeters", who welcome shoppers at the store entrance.^[73]

In June, 2007. Wal-Mart announced it was retiring the blue vest its 1.5 million associates wear, and replacing it with khakis and polos. The replacement was to help Wal-Mart increase sales.

Unlike many other retailers, Wal-Mart does not charge a **slotting fee** to suppliers for their products to appear in the store.^[74] Instead, it focuses on selling more popular products and often pressures store managers to drop unpopular products, as well as asking manufacturers to supply more popular products.^[74]

On September 14, 2006, the company announced that it would phase out its **layaway** program, citing declining use and increased costs.^[75] Layaway ceased to be offered on November 19, 2006, and required merchandise pickup by December 8, 2006. Wal-Mart now focuses on other payment options, such as increased use of six- and twelve-month, zero-interest financing. The layaway location in most stores is now used for Wal-Mart's Site-To-Store program, which was introduced in March 2007. This enables *walmart.com* customers to buy goods online with a free shipping option, and have goods shipped to the nearest store for pickup.^[76]

Financial

For the **fiscal year** ending January 31, 2009, Wal-Mart reported a **net income** of \$13.6 billion^[5] on \$404 billion of revenue^[2] (3.4% **profit margin**). For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2006, Wal-Mart's international operations accounted for about 20.1% of total sales.^[41]

Governance

Wal-Mart is governed by a fifteen-member **Board of Directors**, which is elected annually by **shareholders**. **Robson Walton**, the eldest son of founder **Sam Walton**, serves as **Chairman of the Board**. **Michael T. Duke** serves as **Chief Executive Officer** (CEO), and **Lee Scott**, formerly CEO, serves as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board. Other members of the board include **Aída Álvarez**, **Jim Breyer**, M. Michele Burns, **James Cash**, **Roger Corbett**, **Douglas Daft**, **David Glass**, Gregory B. Penner, Allen Questrom, Arne M. Sorenson, **Jim Walton**, Christopher J. Williams, and Linda S. Wolf.^[77] Sam Walton died in 1992. After Walton's death, Don Soderquist, Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice Chairman, became known as the "Keeper of the Culture."^{[78][79]}

Notable former members of the board include **Hillary Clinton** (1985–1992)^[80] and **Tom Coughlin** (2003–2004), the latter having served as Vice Chairman. Clinton left the board before the **1992 U.S. Presidential Election**, and Coughlin left in December 2005 after pleading guilty to wire fraud and tax evasion for stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from Wal-Mart.^[81] On August 11, 2006, he was sentenced to 27 months of home confinement, five years of probation, and ordered to pay \$411,000 in restitution.^[82]

Competition

In North America, Wal-Mart's primary competition includes **department stores** like **Kmart**, **Target**, **ShopKo** and **Meijer**, Canada's **Zellers**, **The Real Canadian Superstore** and **Giant Tiger**, and Mexico's **Comercial Mexicana** and **Soriana**. Competitors of Wal-Mart's Sam's Club division are **Costco**, and the smaller **BJ's Wholesale Club** chain operating mainly in the eastern US. Wal-Mart's move into the **grocery** business in the late 1990s also set it against major **supermarket** chains in both the United States and Canada. Several smaller retailers, primarily **dollar stores**, such as **Family Dollar** and **Dollar General**, have been able to find a small niche market and compete successfully against Wal-Mart for home consumer sales.^[83] In 2004, Wal-Mart responded by testing its own dollar store concept, a subsection of some stores called "Pennies-n-Cents."^[84]

Wal-Mart also had to face fierce competition in some foreign markets. For example, in Germany it had captured just 2% of German food market following its entry into the market in 1997 and remained "a secondary player" behind **Aldi** with a 19% share.^[85] In July 2006, Wal-Mart announced its withdrawal from Germany. Its stores were sold to German company **Metro**.^[66] Wal-Mart continues to do well in the UK, and its **Asda** subsidiary is the second largest chain after **Tesco**.^[86]

In May 2006, after entering the South Korean market in 1998, Wal-Mart withdrew and sold all 16 of its South Korean outlets to **Shinsegae**, a local retailer, for \$882 million. Shinsegae re-branded the Wal-Marts as **E-mart** stores.^[87]

Wal-Mart struggled to export its brand elsewhere as it rigidly tried to reproduce its model overseas. In China, Wal-Mart hopes to succeed by adapting and doing things preferable to Chinese citizens. For example, it found that Chinese consumers preferred to select their own live fish and seafood; stores began displaying the meat uncovered and installed fish tanks, leading to higher sales.^[88]

In addition, under heavy pressure from the Chinese government, Wal-Mart accepted a form of organized labor in China. Chinese labor unions do not negotiate contracts but simply pay dues to the government, "to secure the social order." However, Chinese consumers may be more open to **Americana** than shoppers in Europe.^[89]

Customer base

Each week, about 100 million customers, nearly one-third of the U.S. population, visit Wal-Mart's U.S. stores.^[90] Wal-Mart customers give low prices as the most important reason for shopping there, reflecting the "*Low prices, always*" advertising slogan that Wal-Mart used from 1962 until 2006.^[91] The average US Wal-Mart customer's income is below the national average, and analysts recently estimated that more than one-fifth of them lack a bank account, twice the national rate.^[92]

A Wal-Mart financial report in 2006 also indicated that Wal-Mart customers are sensitive to higher utility costs and gas prices.^[93] A poll indicated that after **2004 US Presidential Election** 76% of voters who shopped at Wal-Mart once a week voted for **George W. Bush**, while only 23% supported senator **John Kerry**.^[94] When measured against other similar retailers in the U.S., frequent Wal-Mart shoppers were rated the most politically **conservative**.^[95]



Street sign for Wal Mart Drive near Gordon, Pennsylvania

In 2006, Wal-Mart took steps to expand its US customer base, announcing a modification in its US stores from a "one-size-fits-all" merchandising strategy to one designed to "reflect each of six demographic groups – African-Americans, the affluent, empty-nesters, Hispanics, suburbanites and rural residents."^[96] Around six months later, it unveiled a new slogan: "*Saving people money so they can live better lives*". This reflects the three main groups into which Wal-Mart categorizes its 200 million customers: "brand aspirational" (people with low incomes who are obsessed with names like [KitchenAid](#)), "price-sensitive affluents" (wealthier shoppers who love deals), and "value-price shoppers" (people who like low prices and cannot afford much more).^[91] Wal-Mart has also made steps to appeal to more [liberal](#) customers, for example, by rejecting the [American Family Association](#)'s recommendations and carrying the [DVD *Brokeback Mountain*](#), a love story between two gay cowboys in Wyoming.^[97]

Economic impact

Wal-Mart is one of the largest corporations in the world.^[21]

Kenneth Stone, Professor of Economics at [Iowa State University](#), in a paper published in *Farm Foundation* in 1997, found that some small towns can lose almost half of their retail trade within ten years of a Wal-Mart store opening.^[24] However, he compared the changes to previous competitors small town shops have faced in the past—from the development of the railroads and the Sears Roebuck catalog to shopping malls. He concludes that shop owners who adapt to the ever changing retail market can thrive after Wal-Mart comes to their community.^[24] A subsequent study in collaboration with [Mississippi State University](#) indicated that there are "both positive and negative impacts on existing stores in the area where the new supercenter locates."^[25]

A June 2006 article published by the [libertarian Ludwig von Mises Institute](#) suggested that Wal-Mart has a positive impact on small business.^[98] It argued that while Wal-Mart's low prices caused some existing businesses to close, the chain also created new opportunities for other small business, and so "the process of [creative destruction](#) unleashed by Wal-Mart has no statistically significant impact on the overall size of the small business sector in the United States."^[99]

A [Loyola University Chicago](#) study which suggested that impact a Wal-Mart store has on a local business is correlated to its distance from that store. The leader of that study admits that this factor is stronger in smaller towns and doesn't apply to more urban areas saying "It'd be so tough to nail down what's up with Wal-Mart".^[100]

For the concern of jobs, a study commissioned by Wal-Mart with consulting firm [Global Insight](#), found that its stores' presence saves working families more than [US\\$2,500](#) per year, while creating more than 210,000 jobs in the U.S.^{[101][102]} Alternately the [Economic Policy Institute](#) estimates that 196,000 jobs were lost between 2001–2006,^[103] and 68% of jobs lost were manufacturing jobs. Another study by Global Insight has found that Wal-Mart's growth between 1985 and 2004 resulted in food-at-home prices that were 9.1% lower and overall prices (as measured by the [Consumer Price Index](#)) that were 3.1% lower than they would otherwise have been.^[104]

Another study at the [University of Missouri](#) found that a new store increases net retail employment in the county by 100 jobs in the short term, half of which disappear over five years as other retail establishments close.^[105]

Studies of Wal-Mart show consumers benefit from lower costs. A 2005 *Washington Post* story reported that "Wal-Mart's discounting on food alone boosts the welfare of American shoppers by at least \$50 billion per year."^[106] A study in 2005 at [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#) measured the effect on [consumer welfare](#) and found that the poorest segment of the population benefits the most from the existence of discount retailers.^[107] A 2004 paper by two professors at [Pennsylvania State University](#) found that U.S. counties with Wal-Mart stores suffered increased poverty compared with counties without Wal-Marts.^[108] They hypothesized, to explain their results: This could be due to the displacement of workers from higher-paid jobs in the retailers customers no longer choose to patronize, Wal-Mart providing less local charity than the replaced businesses, or a shrinking pool of local leadership and reduced [social capital](#) due to a reduced number of local independent businesses.^[108] Dr [Raj Patel](#), author of *Stuffed and Starved: Markets, Power and the Hidden Battle for the World Food System*, said in a lecture at the [University of Melbourne](#) on 18 September 2007, that a study in Nebraska looked at two different Wal-Marts, the first of which had just arrived and "was in the process of driving everyone else out of business but, to do that, they cut their prices to the bone, very, very low prices". In the other Wal-Mart, "they had successfully destroyed the local economy, there was a sort of economic crater with Wal-Mart in the middle; and, in that community, the prices were 17 per cent higher".^[109]

Employee and labor relations

See also: *Criticism of Wal-Mart*

Labor unions, Christian organizations,^{[110][111]} and environmental groups^[112] have criticized Wal-Mart for its policies and/or business practices. In particular, several labor unions blame Wal-Mart workers' unwillingness to join their organizations on the company's anti-union stance. Others disapprove of the corporation's extensive foreign product sourcing, treatment of employees and product suppliers, environmental practices, and **use of public subsidies**, and the impact of stores on the local economies of towns in which they operate.^{[113][114][115]}

In 2005, two labor unions launched campaigns portraying Wal-Mart negatively. These included **Wake Up Wal-Mart** (**United Food and Commercial Workers**) and **Wal-Mart Watch** (**Service Employees International Union**). By the end of 2005, Wal-Mart launched **Working Families for Wal-Mart**, an operation managed by Wal-Mart to tell the company's side of the story. Additional efforts to counter criticism included a **PR** campaign in 2005, managed through its PR website walmartfacts.com,^[116] as well as several television commercials. The company retained the PR firm **Edelman** to respond to negative media attention,^[117] and started interacting directly with bloggers by sending them news, suggesting topics for postings, and sometimes inviting them to visit its corporate headquarters.^[118]

In the past, Wal-mart has been accused of locking night-shift workers in at night,^[119] paying employees below **minimum wage**, and exposing employees to health **hazards**.^[64] Wal-Mart's own "Standards for Suppliers" reports document extensive problems of this kind among the company's "directly-sourced" factories.^[120] Full-time Wal-Mart employees earn an average of \$10.78 per hour, but critics point out that the starting pay can be far lower — placing some employees with children below the **poverty line** — and that payrates do not rise as quickly as with unionized companies.^[121] Others decry low levels of health coverage or overpriced health insurance, though the company reports that it offers rates as low as \$5 per month in some areas (\$9 per month nationwide) and that 92% of its associates are insured (though not necessarily through Wal-Mart).^[122] Other grievances regard **poor working conditions**, unfavorable employer-employee relationships, and anti-**union** policies. Many suggest that Wal-Mart's high annual **turnover**-rate of ~70% shows that workers are dissatisfied and maltreated.^[121]

In response, **Jay Nordlinger** of *National Review* argues that Wal-Mart is attacked simply because it is a leader of the Fortune 500 list or the largest employer in America, and a "free-market success story".^[123] **Penn & Teller** devoted an episode of *Bullshit!* to an analysis of Wal-Mart criticism as a social movement. They theorized that despite the noble rhetoric, the real motivation of "Wal-Mart haters" was rooted in human psychology. They suggested that hating Wal-Mart permits a person "to feel better about themselves" for three main reasons: They "don't run a greedy international conglomerate", they aren't Wal-Mart workers, widely considered "low-skilled, minimum wage drones", and they aren't Wal-Mart customers thought of as "toothless, welfare-getting hillbillies".^[124] Wal-Mart stores are unionized in every country outside of North America.^[125]

Wal-Mart has opposed the **Employee Free Choice Act** (EFCA), which would make it easier for workers to unionize by removing the employer's ability to demand a secret ballot in union elections, and which would require mandatory arbitration of labor disputes. In mid-2008, the company required store managers and department heads to attend meetings at which opposition to the EFCA was used as a fulcrum for criticism of **Democratic** candidates in the elections for the **United States Senate** and the **House of Representatives**, as well as of the presumptive Democratic Presidential nominee, Senator **Barack Obama**. At these meetings, Wal-Mart human resources managers warned that Democratic victories might result in passage of the EFCA and hence more unionization. At one meeting, a Wal-Mart customer service supervisor from Missouri stated, "I am not telling you how to vote, but if the Democrats win, this bill will pass and you won't have a vote on whether you want a union."^[126] A Wal-Mart spokesman, while acknowledging that the meetings were taking place nationwide, said, "If anyone representing Wal-Mart gave the impression we were telling associates how to vote, they were wrong and acting without approval."^[126] Several labor-rights groups including the **AFL-CIO** have asked the **Federal Election Commission** to investigate whether Wal-Mart broke federal election rules by advocating against Democratic candidate Barack Obama in meetings with employees.^[127]

Gender and sexual orientation

Wal-Mart is currently facing a **gender discrimination** lawsuit, *Dukes v. Wal-*



A protest in Utah against Wal-Mart



Mart Stores, Inc., which alleges that female employees were discriminated against in matters regarding pay and promotions. If the **class action** is certified, it would be the largest such lawsuit in history, covering 1.5 million women according to the plaintiffs.^[128] A December 2007 **United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit** 2–1 ruling^[129] affirming the class certification has been vacated by the court for *en banc* review.^{[130][131]} According to a consultant hired by plaintiffs in a sex discrimination lawsuit, in 2001, Wal-Mart's EEOC filings showed that female employees made up 65% of Wal-Mart's hourly paid workforce, but only 33% of its management.^{[132][133]} Just 35% of its store managers were women, whereas 57% were at comparable retailers.^[133] Wal-Mart says comparisons with other retailers are unfair, because it classifies employees differently; if department managers were included in the totals, women would make up 60% of the managerial ranks.^[133] Others have criticized the lawsuit as without basis in the law and as an abuse of the class action mechanism.^{[134][135][136]} In 2007, Wal-Mart was named by the National Association for Female Executives as one of the top 35 companies for Executive Women.^[137]

Wal-Mart's rating on the **Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index**, a measure of how companies treat **LGBT** employees and customers, has fluctuated widely during the past decade, from a low of 14% (2002) to 65% (2006). They were praised for expanding their antidiscrimination policy protecting gay and lesbian employees,^[138] as well as for a new definition of "family" that included same-sex partners.^{[139][140]} However, they have been criticized in other areas, such as not renewing its membership in the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, which is reflected in their 2008 rating of 40% (compared to **Target** at 80% and **Kmart** at 100%).^[141]

In January 2006, Wal-Mart announced that "diversity efforts include new groups of minority, female and gay employees that meet at Wal-Mart headquarters in Bentonville to advise the company on marketing and internal promotion. There are seven Business Resource Groups: women, African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, Gays and Lesbians, and a disabled group."^[142]

See also

Television and film

- *Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price* – a 2005 **documentary film** by director **Robert Greenwald**
- *Why Wal-Mart Works; and Why That Drives Some People C-R-A-Z-Y* – a 2005 rebuttal to the Greenwald documentary
- *Something Wal-Mart This Way Comes* – a 2004 episode of **Comedy Central's** *South Park*



Other

- **Wal-Mart camel** – a bone **fossil** of a prehistoric **camel** found at a future Wal-Mart store in **Mesa, Arizona**
- **Wal-Mart First Tee Open at Pebble Beach** – a **golf** tournament
- **Walmarting** – a **neologism**

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- Official E-Commerce Website
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Key people	Sam Walton · David Glass · Lee Scott · Jim C. Walton · Bud Walton · Douglas Daft	
Assets	Amigo Supermarkets · ASDA · Líder · Sam's Club · Walmart Discount Stores · Neighborhood Market by Walmart · Walmart Supercenter · Marketside · Project Impact · Walmex · Walmart Canada · Más Club	

See also	Criticism of Wal-Mart · History of Wal-Mart · List of assets owned by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. · List of Wal-Mart brands
Annual revenue: ▲ US\$405.61 billion FY 2009 (▲ \$13.4 billion) · Employees: 2.1 million · Stock symbol: NYSE: WMT  · Website: www.walmartstores.com 	

v • d • e Dow Jones Industrial Average components	
Current	3M · Alcoa · American Express · AT&T · Bank of America · Boeing · Caterpillar · Chevron · Cisco Systems · The Coca-Cola Company · DuPont · ExxonMobil · General Electric · Hewlett-Packard · The Home Depot · Intel · IBM · Johnson & Johnson · JPMorgan Chase · Kraft Foods · McDonald's · Merck & Co. · Microsoft · Pfizer · Procter & Gamble · The Travelers Companies · United Technologies Corporation · Verizon Communications · Wal-Mart · The Walt Disney Company
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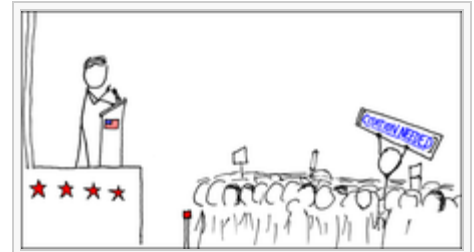
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The United States is a corporation

[US is a Corp.](#) [Supreme Court confirms](#) [District of Columbia, corporation possession of the Queen of England](#)
[Federal Zone](#)

It was formed in 1871, which controls only the District of Columbia and the territories it purchases or acquires; Puerto Rico, Guam, Virginia Islands. Many think that income taxes, and some laws do not effect people in the sovereign states of the union as they are outside of the control / jurisdiction of the United States corporation. The United States of America is different from the "United States" [corporation].

The US corporation (called the District of Columbia) does not effect or control the 50 sovereign states that are protected from the federal government by the US Constitution **of** the United States adopted in 1788.

There are 2 United States, one formed in 1787, the collection of the several sovereign states of the union, and another separate and different one formed in 1871, which only controls the District of Columbia and it's territories. Others may can give you specific references and explain this further. Here is an outline of the concepts.

The date is February 21, 1871 and the Forty-First Congress is in session. I refer you to the "Acts of the Forty-First Congress," Section 34, Session III, chapters 61 and 62. On this date in the history of our nation, Congress passed an Act titled: "An Act To Provide A Government **for the** District of Columbia." This is also known as the "Act of 1871." What does this mean? Well, it means that Congress, under no constitutional authority to do so, created a separate form of government **for the** District of Columbia, which is a ten mile square parcel of land.

The Constitution **of the** United States of America was adopted on September 17, 1787, by the [Constitutional Convention](#) in [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#), and [ratified](#) by conventions in each [U.S. state](#) in the name of "The People".

<http://case.law.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=US&vol=129&invol=141>

U.S. Supreme Court

STOUTENBURGH v. HENNICK, 129 U.S. 141 (1889)
129 U.S. 141

STOUTENBURGH, Intendant of Washington Asylum,
v.
HENNICK.

January 14, 1889

Sections 1 and 18 of the act of congress of **February 21, 1871**, entitled '**An act to provide a government for the District of Columbia**,' (16 St. 419,) are as follows: 'Section 1. That all that part of the territory of the United States included within

the limits of the District of Columbia be, and the same is hereby, created into a government by the name of the District of Columbia, by which name it is hereby constituted a body corporate for municipal purposes, and may contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, have a seal, and exercise all other powers of a municipal corporation not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and the provisions of this act.' 'Sec. 18. That the legislative power of the District shall [129 U.S. 141, 144] extend to all rightful subjects of legislation within said District, consistent with the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act, subject, nevertheless, to all the restrictions and limitations imposed upon states by the tenth section of the first article of the constitution of the United States; but all acts of the legislative assembly shall at all times be subject to repeal or modification by the congress of the United States, and nothing herein shall be construed to deprive congress of the power of legislation over said District in as ample manner as if this law had not been enacted.' These sections are carried forward into the act of congress of June 22, 1874, entitled 'An act to revise and consolidate the statutes of the United States, general and permanent in their nature, relating to the District of Columbia, in force on the first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three,' as sections 2, 49, 50.

- - - also note:

And Whereas: The Constitution does provide that Congress has the power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district not exceeding ten miles square, as may, by session of particular states and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States.

And Whereas: On February 21, 1871, the Forty First Congress passed an act entitled "An Act to Provide a Government [for the](#) District of Columbia," legislating the organization of a municipal corporation to run the day to day affairs of the District of Columbia, the seat of government, which transferred the United States of America, the Republic, into "a corporate entity" entitled UNITED STATES, in capital letters, having "no" jurisdiction outside the District of Columbia.

And Whereas: Congress adopted the text of the federal constitution as the constitution or charter of this municipal corporation. This municipal corporation was granted the power to contract to provide municipal services to the inhabitants of the District of Columbia and necessarily as an operation of the privileges and immunity clause of Article Four of the Constitution, any other person who chooses to contract for its services.

- - Is there fraud in our ranks ?

The Webster's Dictionary states that Fraud means Deceit, Trickery, intentional perversion of truth in order to induce another to part with something of value or to surrender a legal right.

The Blacks Law Dictionary states pretty much what the Webster's Dictionary does but adds about two pages full of information. My favorite part is: A false representation of a matter of fact, whether by words or by conduct, by false or misleading allegations, or by concealment of that which should have been disclosed, which deceives and is intended to deceive another so that he shall act upon it to his legal injury.

- - - -

February 21, 1871 Congress Passes an Act to Provide a Government [for the](#) District of Columbia, also known as the Act of 1871*

With no constitutional authority to do so, Congress creates a separate

form of government for the District of Columbia, a ten mile square parcel of land (see, Acts of the Forty-first Congress," Section 34, Session III, chapters 61 and 62).

The act -- passed when the country was weakened and financially depleted in the aftermath of the Civil War -- was a strategic move by foreign interests (international bankers) who were intent upon gaining a stranglehold on the coffers and neck of America.

Congress cut a deal with the international bankers (specifically Rothschilds of London) to incur a DEBT to said bankers. Because the bankers were not about to lend money to a floundering nation without serious stipulations, they devised a way to get their foot in the door of the United States.

The Act of 1871 formed a corporation called THE UNITED STATES. The corporation, OWNED by foreign interests, moved in and shoved the original Constitution into a dustbin. With the Act of 1871, the original Constitution was defaced in effect vandalized and sabotage when the title was capitalized and the word "for" was changed to "of" in the title

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is the constitution of the INCORPORATED UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

It operates in an economic capacity and has been used to fool the People into thinking it governs the Republic. It does is not!

Capitalization is NOT insignificant when one is referring to a legal document. This seemingly "minor" alteration has had a major impact on every subsequent generation of Americans.

What Congress did by passing the Act of 1871 was create an entirely new document, a constitution for the government of the District of Columbia, an INCORPORATED government. This newly altered Constitution was not intended to benefit the Republic. It benefits only the corporation of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and operates entirely outside the original Constitution.

Instead of having absolute and unalienable rights guaranteed under the original Constitution, we the people now have "relative" rights or privileges. One example is the Sovereign's right to travel, which has now been transformed (under corporate government policy) into a "privilege" that requires citizens to be licensed.

By passing the Act of 1871, Congress committed TREASON against the People who were Sovereign under the grants and decrees of the Declaration of Independence and the original Constitution.

- - - -

<http://www.supremelaw.org/decs/dccases/metrorr.htm> gives this discussion

JUDICIAL INTERPRETATIONS

District of Columbia

On May 3d, 1802 an Act was passed to incorporate the City of Washington. (2 Stat. at L. 195.)

In 1871 an important modification was made in the form of the district government -- a Legislature was established, with all the apparatus of a distinct government. By the Act of February 21st, of that year, entitled "An Act to

Provide a Government for the District of Columbia (16 Stat. at L. 419), it was enacted (sec. 1) that all that territory of the United States included within the limits of the District of Columbia be created into a government by the name of the District of Columbia by which name it was constituted a "a body corporate for municipal purposes," with power to make contracts, sue and be sued, and "to exercise all other powers of a municipal corporation not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

...

This Constitution lasted until June 20th, 1874, when an Act was passed entitled "An Act for the Government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes." (18 Stat. at L. 116) By this Act the government established by the Act of 1871 was abolished.

p 234

By a subsequent Act, approved June 11th, 1878 (20 Stat. at L. 102), it was enacted that the District of Columbia should "remain and continue a municipal corporation," as provided in section two of the Revised Statutes relating to said District, and the appointment of commissioners was provided for, to have and to exercise similar powers given to the commissioners appointed under the Act of 1874. All rights of action and suits for and against the District were expressly preserved in status quo. p. 234

All municipal governments are but agencies of the superior power of the State or government by which they are constituted, and are invested with only such subordinate powers of local legislation and control as the superior Legislature sees fit to confer upon them. p. 234

The people are the recognized source of all authority, state or municipal, and to this authority it must come at last, whether immediately or by circuitous route. Barnes v. District of Columbia, 91 U.S. 540, 545 [23: 440, 441]. p 234

Chief Justice Marshall, speaking for this court, in the case of Hepburn v. Ellzey, 6 U.S. 2 Cranch, 445 [2:332], where the question was whether a citizen of the District could sue in the circuit courts of the United States as a citizen of a State. The court did not deny that the District of Columbia is a State in the sense of being a distinct political community; but held that the word "State" in the Constitution, where it extends the judicial power to cases between citizens of the several "States," refers to the States of the Union. It is undoubtedly true that the District of Columbia is a separate political community in a certain sense, and in that sense may be called a State; but the sovereign power of this qualified State is not lodged in the corporation of the District of Columbia, but in the government of the United States. Its supreme legislative body is Congress. The subordinate legislative powers of a municipal character which have been or may lodged in the city corporations, or in the District of Columbia, do not make those bodies sovereign.

- - -

Text of the District of Columbia Organic Act of 1871

(a coy of the pages of le

<http://www.nikolasschiller.com/blog/index.php/archives/2009/01/30/2215/>

- - - -

The United States Isn't a Country —It's a Corporation ! by Lisa Guliani

http://www.serendipity.li/jsmill/us_corporation.htm

- - - - -

Constitution for the United States of America

<http://www.barefootsworld.net/constit1.html>

United States - US- U.S.-USA-America (a possession of the Queen of England)

Means: (A) a federal corporation . . . Title 28 USC Section 3002(5) Chapter 176. It is clear that the United States . . . is a corporation . . . 534 FEDERAL SUPPLEMENT 724.

`It is well settled that "United States" et al is a corporation, originally incorporated February 21, 1871 under the name "District of Columbia," 16 Stat. 419 Chapter 62. It was reorganized June 11, 1878; a bankrupt organization per House Joint Resolution 192 on June 5, 1933, Senate Report 93-549, and Executive Orders 6072, 6102, and 6246; a de facto (define de facto) government, originally the ten square mile tract ceded by Maryland and Virginia and comprising Washington D. C., plus the possessions, territories, forts, and arsenals.

The significance of this is that, as a corporation, the United States has no more authority to implement its laws against "We The People" than does Mac Donald Corporations, except for one thing -- the contracts we've signed as surety for our strawman with the United States and the Creditor Bankers. These contracts binding us together with the United States and the bankers are actually not with us, but with our artificial entity, or as they term it "person", which appears to be us but spelled with ALL CAPITAL LETTERS.

All this was done under,

VICE-ADMIRALTY COURTS.

In English Law. Courts established in the queen's possessions beyond the seas, with jurisdiction over maritime causes, including those relating to prize.

The United States of America is lawfully the possession of the English Crown per original commercial joint venture agreement between the colonies and the Crown, and the Constitution, which brought all the states (only) back under British ownership and rule. The American people, however, had sovereign standing in law, independent to any connection to the states or the Crown. This fact necessitated that the people be brought back, one at a time, under British Rule, and the commercial process was the method of choice in order to accomplish this task. First, through the 14th Amendment and then through the registration of our birth certificate and property. All courts in America are Vice-admiralty courts in the Crowns private commerce.

[Supreme Law Library : The Federal Zone : index](#)

"Supreme Law Library. The Federal Zone: Cracking the Code of Internal Revenue Electronic Eleventh Edition [Note: Small numbers indicate number of bytes in ..."

www.supremelaw.org/fedzone11/index.htm

2. [Supreme Law Firm](#)

"The Supreme Law Firm holds informative seminars nationwide, and maintains the ... His massive book entitled "The Federal Zone: Cracking the Code of Internal ..."

www.supremelaw.org/

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Research by Ted Elden, Architect, AIA, NCARB, ret., Charleston, West Virginia. www.abodia.com/911

159045

04/05/2010

[9-11 was Lie ! 1 page proof](#)

[9-11 Files many short videos](#)



9-11 Events changed our world.
Do you know What **Really** Happened ?

1,000s of authorities; engineers, architects, physicist, government, media people show convincing facts than are little known. Join us in our quest for 9-11 Truth.

Watch [video of WTC blowing up](#), not collapsing

We've been deceived on many things for a long time.

We yield to conclusions of government & news media.

We've given up thinking.

Reason to Change - lecture *Elden can give to your organization.*

These explain much the *news did not include*. More articles in [Home](#) [Index](#) top left corner link.



Index: Facts prove 9-11 was Great Deception - [click to articles on this page](#)

[9-11 faked Plane overlaid on Broadcast Videos](#)

[Architect & Engineers - 9-11 - Demolitions in WTC](#)

[9-11 Fact Sheet- problems with "Official" Story](#) 9-11 We Know

[150+ 9/11 Smoking Guns in Mainstream Articles-](#) InfoWars

[Examine World Trade Center Collapse](#)

[Problems with the NIST Report of the WTC Collapse](#)

[Underwriters Lab says fires not hot enough to collapse steel](#)

[Molten Steel was found weeks after buildings collapsed.](#)

[Read these books - View Videos - See Web Sites](#)

[Deception in Media & Government - Wake Up Americ](#)

[New York Mag. 2 million circ. - demolitions felled WT](#)

[Quotes - What's Going On](#)

[9-11 Important web sites - in debt & detailed info.](#)

[Pilots Question 9-11](#) Flight path was impossible

[Patriots Question 9-11](#) Military, government, mec

[AE 911 Truth.org - Architects & Engineers, Richard Gage, AIA](#) San Francisco

Revealing photo WTC [Twin Towers' destruction](#) exhibited **all** characteristics of **destruction by explosions**:
on 9-11 – It was an **Inside Job** by people in America

100s of Architects & Engineers study building collapse to see how demolitions ravaged WTC

Extremely rapid onset of “collapse”

[Sounds of explosions](#) at plane impact zone — a full second prior to collapse (heard by 118 first responders as well as

[Blast waves](#) blew out windows in buildings 400 feet a

by media reporters)

[Observations of flashes](#) (seen by numerous professionals)

[Squibs](#), or “mistimed” explosions, 40 floors below the “collapsing” building seen in all the videos

[Mid-air pulverization](#) of all the 90,000 tons of concrete and steel decking, filing cabinets & 1,000 people – mostly to dust

[Massive volume](#) of expanding pyroclastic [dust clouds](#)

Vertical progression of full building perimeter [demolition waves](#)

[Symmetrical collapse](#) – through the path of *greatest* resistance – at nearly free-fall speed — the columns gave *no* resistance

1,400 foot diameter field of equally distributed debris – *outside* of building footprint

[Lateral ejection](#) of thousands of individual 20 - 50 ton beams up to 500 feet

[Total destruction of the building](#) down to individual steel elements – obliterating the steel core structure

Tons of [molten metal](#) found by FDNY under all 3 high (no other possible source other than an incendiary charge such as Thermate)

Chemical signature of [Thermate \(high tech incendiary\)](#) found in slag, solidified molten metal, and [dust sam](#) Physics professor Steven Jones, PhD.

FEMA finds rapid oxidation and [intergranular melting](#) structural steel samples

More than 1000 Bodies are [unaccounted for](#) — 700 [bone fragments](#) found on top of nearby buildings

WTCs Collapses exhibited **none** of the **characteristics of destruction by fire**, i.e.

Slow onset with large visible deformations

Asymmetrical collapse which follows the path of least resistance (laws of conservation of momentum would cause a falling, intact, from the point of plane impact, to the side most damaged by the fires)

[Evidence of fire temperatures](#) capable of softening steel

[High-rise buildings](#) with much larger, hotter, and longer lasting fires have never “collapsed”

9-11 was Great Deception of Government & Media

There are 2 ways to think - Blindly **follow** authority, or **Reason** through actual facts.

This web site introduces the obvious facts, with links to deeper info., details & truth.

Many things government / media didn't published show What Happened on 9-11.

Facts show, as countless millions of others have seen, our world is very different than media portrays it.

[Learn who owns & controls the media, how they choose and or exclude information](#)

[Andrew Grove Whistle Blower, involved in high finance with those in WTC. Report shows \\$ trillions in 9-11](#)

Independent Thinker's - 9/11 FACT SHEET [^ - - to top](#)

What occurred on September 11th, 2001 is a matter of facts, physics and unprecedented violations of national protocol by American officials themselves. Here're 10 points to consider. There're hundreds more.

1. No steel-framed building before or since 9/11 has ever collapsed due to fire.

2. No official agency (FAA, FBI, or the airlines) has ever released a list of the 9/11 passengers. But within hours, the FBI released a list of the hijackers.

3. On September 11th, 2001 the FAA successfully grounded all aircraft—an unprecedented operation. Yet it could not successfully scramble any jet fighters that day—a normal procedure occurring over 100 times a year.

Neither jet fuel nor the burning contents of the buildings could have caused the towers' steel structure to buckle or fail.

7. Tests have shown that cell-phone calls cannot be made at altitudes over 4000 to 8000 feet, as cell towers are located on the ground. Commercial airplanes fly at 30,000 feet and above. No passenger could have successfully placed a call for help by cell phone from an airborne plane on 9/11, as reported.

4. Building 7, a 47-story skyscraper and part of the World Trade Center complex, was not struck by a plane but collapsed in 6.5 seconds at 5:20 p.m. on September 11th, in the exact manner of a controlled demolition.
5. There was no visible airplane debris where Flight 93 supposedly crashed in Pennsylvania—only a smoking hole in the ground, much like a bomb crater.
6. Office fires burn at low temperatures of 600-800 dF. Steel melts at 2750 dF. Jet fuel is an ordinary hydrocarbon; its maximal burning temperature is 1200 dF in open air.
8. 9/11 was immediately declared an “act of war” by President Bush. The rubble from Ground Zero was carted away and the steel sold off without examination.
9. Enormous profits were made by insiders on plummeting stock prices of the two airlines involved in 9/11—American and United. Federal law protects their identities.
10. Accepting victims’ compensation barred 9/11 families from further discovery through litigation.

[911 We Know.com](http://911-We-Know.com). Pass around and engage in discussion! [^ - - to top](#)

Examine the World Trade Towers Collapse

Was it caused by jet fuel fires ? or from many explosions, flashes & evidence of controlled demolition ?

World Trade Center 1 & 2 supposedly hit by planes, then they *collapsed in just 8.5 seconds, near speed of free fall !*

[BYU Physics Prof. Steven Jones finds Thermate in WTC Physical Samples. Proof Building Collapse was an Inside Job](#)

Based on chemical analysis of WTC structural steel residue, a Brigham Young University physics professor identified material as Thermate. Controlled demolition is done with explosive thermite plus sulfur. Sulfur cases the thermite to burn hotter, cutting steel quickly and leaving trails of yellow colored residue.

Reports show World Trade Towers were destroyed by explosives ! [1 page](#) [2 pages](#) [12 pages](#) [^ - - to top](#)

[World Trade Tower Building 7 is the clue. No planes hit it, it had only small fires. wtc7.net](#)
[- Yet the 47 story, \\$ 3/4 billion building fell in less than 8 seconds that afternoon.](#) 911 Research

Many factors prove **WTC was destroyed by internal explosives** - charges set in advance.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all concrete was reduced to dust (never in a collapse before) - WTC 1, 2 & 7, fell in 8 seconds, - explosions in basement happened before buildings fell - many explosions & flashes seen by hundreds of witnesses, news casters, 47 fire men. - molten steel was found under rubble 6 weeks after WTC were down, they were watered daily to keep dust down. - only internal explosives could have created this kind of intense heat, also observed in NASA satellite photos. - thermate found on WTC samples, article above. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large dust cloud demonstration a pyroclastic flow of super heated materials in fine particles moving a high speed thru NYC streets & nearly across the river, like the debris from volcano, not fire & collapse. - roof 100' antenna collapsed before the building fell indicating the building core, the strongest part with the least combustible material and hermitically sealed to prevent the circulation of oxygen and spread of fire, fell first. The core should not have collapsed at all. - FEMA & NIST report agreed the jet fuel kerosene would have burned off in a few minutes, leaving only the building contents to burn, on a floor or two, which doesn't have the high heat to weaken the massive steel girders of the core. |
|--|---|

The NIST \$ 20 million report & the FEMA Report on the WTC Collapse DOES NOT INCLUDE or discuss these obvious facts, which contradict their findings & report.

[An Inconvenient Witness: Sonnenfeld on WTC 6](#)

Kurt Sonnenfeld, the FEMA videographer who, for 29 days after 9-11, filmed the crime scene at the World Trade Center, including the **sub-basement levels of WTC 6**. The building was destroyed from demolitions within before the tower fell, the vaults were robbed, cleared out before 9-11. Link to details. Kurt- moved to Argentina to escape threats.

[NIST Admits Total Collapse of Twin Towers Unexplainable](#)

Implicitly acknowledges **controlled demolition** only means by which towers could have fallen at **free fall speed**

Paul Joseph Watson, Prison Planet, Tuesday, Oct. 16, '07

[Former Chief of NIST's Fire Science Division Calls for Independent Review of World Trade Center Investigation](#)

Professionals: Architects, Engineers: Important web sites: [AE911Truth.org](#), [PatriotsQuestion911](#). [WTC7.net](#)
[9-11 Research](#), [Scholars for 9/11 Truth & Justice](#), [Journal of 9/11 Studies](#)
[Architects & Engineers](#), [Kevin Ryan - U.L. Whistleblower](#) [^ - - to top](#)

UL Says NO WAY WTC Steel Could Melt At 2000 F
Underwriters Laboratory Executive Speaks Out On WTC Study
911Truth.org - 11-14-4

"The buildings should have easily withstood the thermal stress caused by pools of [brief] burning jet fuel."

This story just does not add up. If steel from those buildings did soften or melt, I'm sure we can all agree that this was certainly not due to jet fuel fires of any kind, let alone the briefly burning fires in those towers. That fact should be of great concern to all Americans. Alternatively, the contention that this steel did fail at temperatures around 250C suggests that the majority of deaths on 9/11 were due to a safety-related failure. That suggestion should be of great concern to my company.

From: Kevin R. Ryan, Site Manager of the Environmental Health Laboratories , South Bend, Indiana
(Company site - [www.ehl.cc](#)) A division of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (Company site - [www.ul.com](#))
To: Frank Gayle, Deputy Chief of the Metallurgy Division, Material Science and Engineering Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST and the World Trade Center at [wtc.nist.gov](#)

[Kevin Ryan, Underwriters Laboratories analyses the temperature of fire and the properties of the steel, to find the analysis and conclusions of the NIST explanation of WTC collapse are impossible.](#)

Leslie Robertson, structural engineer designed WTC, describes fires still burning & **molten steel still running 21 days after attacks**. [[SEAU News, 11/2001](#)] <http://www.seau.org/SEAUnews-2001-10.pdf>

Only building demolitions, not office fires from fuel, could cause this extreme heat.

Suggestion to Architect, Engineers, Building Professionals - Please stay *focused* on the discussion of the buildings fires or **explosion. Ignore other issues - there is abundant evidence, but I've not presented it all here.** [^ - - to top](#)

[New York Magazine, March 06, circ. 2 million circulation, breaks the 9 -11 Truth story !](#)
[Review of NY Magazine article](#) See [Vanity Fair](#), July 06, 1 million, [Tokyo Journal](#) - extensive articles & links.

[Short video questions What happened on 9-11 ?](#) shows much that government / media said is not true.

Quotes to Ponder - What is going on ? Deception - Controlling our thought.

"When you eliminate the impossible, whatever remains – however improbable – must be the truth !"

Our democracy is at risk if we must seek the truth,
- resolve to find those that implemented and or covered up this greatest American Crime.

- Sherlock Holmes / Conan Doyle

"The man who never looks into a newspaper is better informed than he who reads them; inasmuch as he who knows nothing is nearer to truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehoods and errors."

Thomas Jefferson

Evil flourishes when good men do not act (or learn & understand).

Learn the Truth, be a light in the darkness, don't acquiesce or concede to the lies that surround us.

Great forces of money and power keep the cover on 9-11, but engineers, scholars and concerned citizens have gathered much more convincing evidence than the government or media has ever shown.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. ~ Margaret Mead

[Introduction - Why Study 9-11 ?](#)
[To learn of deceptions of Media & Government](#)

[Google shows 13 million web sites on 9-11 Conspiracy, 4 million links on 9-11 World Trade Explosives](#)

Millions of American have discovered incredible truth about 9-11 that disprove what the government and media told us.

Jim Walters, of Walters Homes, [ReOpen911.org](#) spent \$ 7 million presenting to the public obvious flaws in the 9-11 Cover Story, to awaken a sleeping and apathetic American Public to the realities of 9-11. [^ - - to top](#)

[Zogby Poll shows: Over 70 Million American Adults Support a New 9/11 Investigation](#)

[Free Online Videos Establish Proof of 9/11 Inside Job](#)

[MIT Prof. explains 9-11 controlled demolition](#)

[9 11 Mysteries Demolitions](#)

[Flying beam weights twice as much as airplane](#)

[Crumbling spire \(WTC Core\) 20+ ? stories high crumbles in the air - Why ?](#)

9-11 Commission Report Implicitly discredited by 100+ Architects & Engineers

The 9-11 Commission Report did not deal with the evidence that supports the conclusion that the World Trade Center Twin Towers and Building 7 (WTC 7) were destroyed by controlled demolition. (See the list on the right column of our [homepage](#).) Indeed, the Report avoided even mentioning the complete, symmetrical, and rapid collapse of WTC 7, although that collapse was unprecedented in the 100-plus-year history of steel-framed skyscrapers. Our members call for a serious 9-11 investigation that looks squarely at all the relevant evidence.

The 9-11 Commission Report As Whitewash

Like the NIST Report after it, the 9-11 Commission Report was clearly a political document rather than a scientific one. The 9-11 Commission was laden with [conflicts of interest](#). Most of the Commission's members either themselves had motive, or had documented connections to people with motive, to plan and execute the 9-11 attack. They were also connected to people with the means and opportunity to rig the WTC towers for controlled demolition -- means and opportunity that al Qaeda lacked. Hence, the 9-11 Commission Report was nothing more than a **sophisticated whitewash**. Its flaws, evasions, and outright lies are well documented at [The 9-11 Commission Report: An Elaborate Fiction](#) and in Prof. David Ray Griffin's 339-page book [The 9-11 Commission Report: Omissions and Distortions](#). [^ - - to top](#)

[9-11 Important web site - in depth & detailed info:](#)

[The Complete 9/11 Timeline](#) by Paul Thompson's - 3,300+ national news articles that explain the 9-11 Truth.
www.cooperativeresearch.org/project.jsp?project=911_project

[Architects & Engineers 911 Truth](#)
[911 Truth.org](#)

[ZeitGeistMovie - current problems](#)

[Rense.com](#)

[World Trade Bldg 7 falls in 10 seconds - no fire or plane damage - Key to Demolitions](#)
[9-11 Research](#)
[Journal of 9/11 Studies](#)
[9/11 Blogger](#)
[Patriots Question 9/11 - The Architects & Engineers](#)
[9-11 Commission Report](#)
[Kevin Ryan - U.L. Whistleblower](#)
[911 mysteries demolitions part 1 of 3](#)

[Physics 911 the Truth Seeker.uk](#)
[Am Patriots Friends Network Scholars for 911 Truth](#)
[911 Citizens Watch](#)
[911 We Know](#)
[PatriotsQuestion911.com](#)
[InfoWars.com](#)
[Stop Lying](#)
[Lets Roll 911.org](#)
[Pilots for 911 Truth](#)
[Loose Change](#)

[911 Review](#)
[American Free Press](#)
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[video.google](#) [www.WantToKnow.info/indexnewsarticles](#) [^ - - to top](#)

["Scholars for 9/11 Truth" - Dr. James H. Fetzer, founder](#)
["Scholars for 9/11 Truth & Justice" - Dr. Steven E. Jones, member 9/11: The Myth and the Reality by David Ray Griffin](#)
[Patriots Question 9-11 Commission - Military, Government, Critics](#)
[High-Level US Officials report on 9-11](#)
[Comprehensive Web sites to 9-11 Truths ! Links to deep explanations](#)
[Hunt the Boeing, web site - photos from Pentagon Crash - Can you find a piece of an airline ?](#)
[Complete 9/11 Timeline](#) Paul Thompson's planned events before & after in 3,300+ mainstream news articles.

[InforWars.com](#) - [ST911.com](#) - [Truther.org](#) - [TruthAction.org](#) - [911proof.com](#) - [PrisonPlanet.tv](#) - [911review.com](#) - [FreedomtoFascism.com](#) - [911Blogger.com](#) - [911TruthMovement.org](#) - [911truthRadio.com](#) - [theResistanceManifesto.com](#) - [WhatReallyHappened.com](#) - [theTruthMovement.net](#) - [911essentials.com](#) - [RestoreTheRepublic.com](#) - [TruthNews.us](#)

[Link from others](#)

[More details on What Happened on 9-11 - to 9-11 Index Page 1, to Page 2, 3 \(What Secret Government is doing \)](#)
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9/11 Resources [Read these books:](#) [911 We Know.com](#) [^ - - to top](#)

Debunking 9/11 Debunking by David Ray Griffin
The 9/11 Commission Report: Omissions and Distortions by David Ray Griffin
Painful Questions: An Analysis of the September 11th Attack by Eric Hufschmid
The Terror Conspiracy: Deception, 9/11 And the Loss of Liberty by Jim Marrs
Waking Up from our Nightmare: The 9/11/01 Crimes in New York City by Don Paul & Jim Hoffman

The Day America Died by John Kaminski
9.11 On Trial: The World Trade Center Collapse by Victor Thorn
Crossing the Rubicon: The Decline of the American Empire at the End of the Age of Oil by Michael C. Ruppert
9/11 Synthetic Terror by Webster Griffin Tarpley
Towers of Deception: The Media Cover-up of 9/11 by Barrie Zwicke

[View these DVD Videos:](#) [911 We Know.com](#) [^ - - to top](#)

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9/11 Blueprint for Truth • One Nation Under siege • 9/11 The Myth & the Reality • Endgame

[Patriots Question 9/11](#) excerpt

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[120+ Senior Military, Intelligence Service, Law Enforcement,
and Government Officials](#)

[200+ Professors Question 9/11](#)

[320+ Engineers and Architects](#)

[200+ 9/11 Survivors and Family Members](#)

[70+ Pilots and Aviation Professionals](#)

[120+ Entertainment and Media Professionals](#)

[Pilots For 911 Truth.org](#)

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This is organization of aviation professionals & pilots who discuss the 4 flights,
and their maneuvers on 9-11, to reveal facts & share truths.
They're Veterans, Architects & Engineers, scholars & families of the victims.

Deception in Media & Government - **Wake Up America**

In reviewing 9-11, millions of people have found the media mislead us by not publishing important facts.

When you begin to understand the true & complete facts, you'll see a very different story from what we were told about 9-11, our war, our Patriot Act, & Military Commission Act.

Wake up America - our civil liberties are quickly disappearing.
All authorities; government, corporations, even religion, want more control over you.
They accept the "terrorist in our country" so they can gain more control over you.

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Was a commercial plane found at the Pentagon ? No.

No plane was found at the crash site in PA,
just a 15' x 20' foot hole, too small for a 135 foot wide airline.
News broadcast showed Mayor of Cleveland reported (& United Airline confirmed)
flight UA 93 landed at Cleveland Hopkins Airport at 10 am on 9-11
National news said the same plane crashed in Shanksville 6 minutes later.
Both cannot be true.

Mayor of Shanksville said there was no evidence that a commercial plane crashed.
The initial hole was 15' by 20' where supposedly a 135' wide plane crashed.

After the [Brave Patriots](#) have gone forth to fight for the truth,
not with guns and killing, but with words and reason, others too will follow.

Brave is the man with the courage and conviction to think and reason,
rather than be cowardly, endlessly hiding in popular opinion,
while the very standards of freedom and liberty dissolve around us.

[USA vs US](#) [What they don't want you to know](#)

This site explains how government is evolving, dissolving it's just relation with citizens and yielding

control to corporations that reduce your rights, freedom, liberties. This is happening in all areas of school, education, marriage / drivers licenses, taxes and more. Very important insight to be learned from this site, the clue to the bad things happening in America.

***Compiled and maintained by Ted Elden, Architect, AIA, ret.
former member W. Va. Board of Architects & NCARB, Charleston W. Va.***

Ted Elden TedElden@SuddenLink.net 304 344 2335 2 Ramu Road Charleston, West Virginia
Elden speaks across our state to organizations like Rotary, Kiwanis, Exchange Clubs, Colleges & communities.

He's written 1,000+ letters to W. Va. Legislatures, Mayors, & W. Va. Senators & Representatives,
many newspapers, history professors & more.

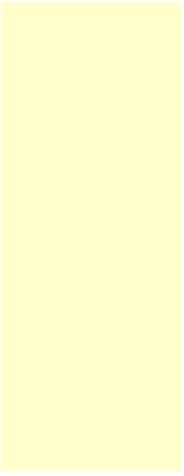
Let's work together to find ways to expose what is really on going in America !. [^ - - to top](#)

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[Stop the War !](#)



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NWO in USA

You can know

Conspiracies

Health Care #1 cause of death in America

Our Synthetic Health Care System

Ye shall know the truth, and the truth set you free. John 8:32

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Income Tax



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Freedom Law School- Peymon Mottahedeh, offers \$ 300,000 ? reward to any who can show there's a law requiring most Americans pay income tax.

William Conklin offers \$ 100,000 for similar proof. Check the web, links or these people / organizations for further info.

Only 4 groups of people need to file & pay - you're probably not one ! Maybe 3 % of US population who works for Federal Government.

Laws changed little, but there's progression of writing confusing rules to keep you from knowing fundamental facts.

Fed. Inc. Tax doesn't go to US Gov., but to PR Trust , then to Int. Money Fund abroad, where bankers ferments more wars.

Many beat IRS administratively (out of court) and in court. Know the law, you prevail.

According to former IRS agent, 67 million have quit filing and paying income tax.

Court cases defeat IRS. You benefit from knowledge, not show in news, TV, etc. - simply learn the actual laws.

- President Ronald Reagan's Grace Report determined 2/3 of income tax is wasted - not a dime goes to any U.S. government program or service. It goes to private lenders. Our federal income taxes do not go to our US government.

From my research, I've found many reason you are not liable, and may step from their control.

You best advantage is based on gaining knowledge, and taking proper action.

Some have lost in court because they were not clearly informed, or did not take the proper action.

Learn from those who have successfully defeated the IRS.

Tom Cryer, Louisiana lawyer beat IRS in Federal Court Summer 2007. His web site offers much useful information and a course of action. He has spoken to millions via radio, like Coast to Coast to show obvious point why he and most have no liability for inc. tax.

Tom Cryer. LA attorney freed ! acquitted by federal jury of 4 counts of IRS. He's not paid taxes for 10 years. WorldNetDaily.com

Know this is real case. Send \$ 6 to court to get copies of Fed. Court Docket. Go to Truth Attack web site to learn more.

- 861 Evidence - Flash slide show

Tax law has not changed for decades, but the code interpreting and explaining IRC has changed many times, making it more confusing and harder to understand, so more people pay, not knowing the simple truth of why and how they are exempt.

in 1928 ? about 3.9 % of population paid, those in federal government, not private citizens, as the law dictated - then & now.

IRS Commissioner admits tax is voluntary & many drop from their rolls, 35 million at one time. NY Times noted many dropped out.

Supreme Court rules anything in conflict with constitution is null & void. Income Tax law compromises your 2nd & 5th amendment rights.

There are many legal reasons to Not File and Not Pay Income taxes - much is outlined here. Excise / appointment.

Only these 4 groups of people need to pay Federal Income Tax

- those who live or work in Wash. DC, PR, Guam, federal territories
- those working for US federal government
- those that make income from foreign (overseas) transactions
- foreigners living in the united States who derive income in USA.

Wm. Conklin offers \$ 100,000 reward to any who can prove we're required to pay taxes.

... xx ...

as above

[Suit against BioTerroirst !](#)

[Vaccinations used as Genocide !](#)

Only those people. Most US residents do not have to file or pay income tax. IRS does not have laws or audit authority over most people. Constitution guarantees you Freedom in pursuit of life, liberty & property. IRS is foreign private corporation for profit working in US.

Income Taxes don't go to US government, but to overseas bankers. Highway taxes pays for roads, property taxes pays for schools & programs.

- [Great Income Tax Hoax by Irwin Schiff](#)- read on line. You can immediately **Stop Paying** the Illegally Enforces Tax. see Supreme Court decision: The government's present method of collecting income taxes is unconstitutional; wages, rents, dividends, and interest are not income. Income can only be a *corporate* profit.
- No law requires anyone: - to File income tax returns, - to Pay income taxes, or - to Submit to IRS audits.

on this web site [31 Questions & answers about IRS www.supremelaw.org/sls/31answers.htm](http://www.supremelaw.org/sls/31answers.htm)

- [Pay NO Taxes Legally introduction](#) [BATF - IRS Criminal Fraud](#) - history - many issues
- [Quick Summary of illegal IRS, a foreign private corporation that steals from US by great income tax hoax.](#)
- [861 Evidence - Flash slide show](#) 861 code shows Most Americans do not have taxable income.
- [The Most inconvenient Truth of all ! \(slide show\)](#)

[The Simple Truth about Income Tax \(paperback\) ?](#)

- [IRS shows 340,000 federal employees... failed to pay their taxes including 3000 IRS employees '01, US House of Reps.](#)
- [LA Attorney Challenges Income Tax Law](#) [Crack the Code](#) - Hendrickson
- [Great Soc. Sec. Lie - Fascism for our Children](#) - SS was never to be used as ID, now it's always used as ID
- [1040 Checkmate](#)- Court case resolved- OMB # on [1040 form is bogus, not legal](#)- IRS is Complicit in Income Tax Fraud
- [Letter to IRS - Exempt me on OMB - IRS form is fraudulent document - thrown out of court.](#) [Same info as document](#)
- [IRS has no Legal Authority](#) - Special Agents have ... no ... authority to conduct any federal income tax investigation.
- [IRS - No Law Exists](#) - Ms. Vernice Kuglin's, FedEx pilot, court case found no income tax law exists.
- [IRS Exposed](#) - IRS has no jurisdictions, prep. by Peterson, Waddell, Kentucky
- [31 Questions](#) showing IRS is not of our government, has no jurisdiction over most people
- [Streaming](#) "Theft by Deception" and "The 861 Evidence," by Larken Rose <http://I Rob You.info>
- [Theft by Deception - buy the DVD @ \\$ 15](#)
- Many other [Articles combined in one long article](#): Larkin Rose, Bill Benson, ConKlin, Joseph Banister, What IsTax ? - many web site sources. Others important leaders: Sherry Jackson, Peter Eric Hendrickson

links to articles on other web sites

- [Original Intent Treatise - Debunking IRS Lies](#) <http://www.originalintent.org/edu/lies.php>
- [The Law that never was -- Fraud of Income & Social Security Tax -- Home](#) 16th Amendment was never legally ratified.
- When you send money to IRS it goes to Federal Reserve Bank which is not a government owned bank, then to European Bankers - link broken - sorry !
- Federal Reserve is private, foreign corporation for profit working in US, using trust accounts in Puerto Rico.
- [Idaho Observer Nation's leading tax honesty](#) Government cases crumbling under weight of truth, logic
- [IRS is not a part of the US Government.](#)
- [Quotes on Banking and the Federal. Reserve System Fraud](#)
- [IRS.gov-pub-irs-utl-friv_tax.pdf //](#)

- www.tax-freedom.com/ Great web sites, resources, etc.
-

Letters I've sent to Wash. D.C. via certified mail to: Sec. of Treasury of US, & Comm. of Int. Revenue. Here's summary:

My demand is for a taxing statute enacted after the repeal of 1939. In the most likely event that you cannot produce it, I shall be at liberty to conclude that I am not a "taxpayer", and am not required to respond to IRS mail that refers to me as a "taxpayer".

*If I am not a taxpayer, I do not expect that the government can file criminal complaints against me for failing to comply with an **unknown law** that applies to taxpayers. Further attempts to coerce me into paying this unidentified tax, by sending me letters in the mail, open the door for me to file suits against the senders for **mail fraud** and other violations of the United States Code.*

Download PDF or read Irwin Schiff's **banned** Federal Mafia & Great Income Tax Hoax, etc. at www.PayNoIncomeTax.com

Taxed in the USA - 31 questions & answers about IRS & IRC Int. Rev. Code - overview here - [click for full text](#)

I've certified documents - court cases proving these things from Supreme Law. San Diego Calif. from www.SupremeLaw.org/sls/31answers.htm

- Court findings show Internal Revenue Service ['IRS'] in NOT an organization within the U.S. Department of the Treasury?
 - The IRS appears to be a collection agency working for foreign banks and operating out of Puerto Rico under color of the Federal Alcohol Administration.
 - IRS has no authority to established offices inside the 50 States.
 - IRS is NOT a U.S. federal agency of the US Dept. of Justice.
 - Federal regulations create an income tax liability for federal citizens, not state citizens.
 - Federal citizens are those who reside or work in Wash. DC, PR & US territories, or work for federal government.
 - Courts show one can be a State Citizen, without also being a federal citizen.
 - 'Tax evasion' is the crime of evading a lawful tax.
 - For purposes of the IRC, Int. Revenue Code, the term 'employer' refers to federal government agencies, and an 'employee' is a person who works for such an 'employer.'
-

If a power is not enumerated in U.S. Constitution, then Congress doesn't have authority to exercise that power.

President Reagan's Grace Commission admitted **none** of the collected income taxes funds **goes to pay** for any federal government services. Get this info from FIOA requests.

IRS is technically a trust with a domicile in Puerto Rico, a foreign, private corporation for profit. - conclusions from court rulings. Supreme Law - 31 Questions

Federal Reserve is also a foreign, privately owned corporation doing business in US, taking profits to European bankers.

They technically aren't an 'agency' of the federal government, as that term is defined in Freedom of Information Act and in Administrative Procedures Act. The government of the *federal territories* are expressly excluded from the definition of 'agency' in those Acts of Congress.

William Conklin offers **\$ 100,000 reward** to anyone who can prove law requires us to pay Federal Income Tax. This offer has stood for 8 years. He wrote book, "Why No One is Required to File Tax Returns" - See Amazon.com

Irwin Schiff offers many important books on this subject.

Readers of Cracking the Code have **taken back over \$ 2 million** in taxes they paid, when they asked to get their money back.

They read and acted on the law. Knowledge is power. <http://www.LostHorizons.com/>
We lose rights, privilege, property, money and more when we believe in popular opinion.

When we read, think, look at law and sources, **your world will be transformed.**

[Family Guardian.org](#) **Excellent**, Very extensive list of articles, sources on IRS / income tax.

100s of articles, Supreme Court decisions, communications from IRS directors and more.
Forums, News, Evidence of Massive Hoax, Government and Legal Profession Lies and Propaganda
Articles & Media. Christian Tax Articles, 100s more articles forms, relief
[More articles and discussion on this web site.](#) They offer forms to step out of system.

This is a compilation of information gathered from many sources.
It is not intended, nor does this information or author offer any advice and or tax advice
to any on your particular situation, nor on the accuracy of this information.

Your own research should yield great pearls of knowledge & your understanding of these issues.

How you can find the original source documents.

If you want to see the source of any article, book, tax form, etc. just search google for a quoted string of the text.
Like a finger print, a quoted string or "thought print often finds the unique document" on the internet in seconds.

Yellow phrase is an example of a quoted string - with quotes on each end.

Search excludes occurrence of any combinations of the words.

Search finds those word in that order only,

which is usually a **unique thought print**.

If you want to be free from your slavery & deception, you have to act - read, think, learn act.

No one else will do this for you. The evidence and information is clear, from many many sources.

The longer you read, dwell, talk with others, the more confident you will become.

Change your life, based on truth, to proper action, out of deception & slavery. The truth will set you free !

[IRS Not Established by Law](#)

The 1st document signed by a congressional member states "...Internal Revenue Service' was not established by law."

The 2nd document from Department of the Treasury states the U.S. Attorney General's Office has no authority to defend IRS agents in a civil or criminal matter.

The third document from the U.S. Department of Justice also states U.S. Attorney General's Office has no authority to defend IRS agents in a civil or criminal matter.

The last document from IRS Director of Customer Service Center contradicts the Congressman, Dept. of Treasury and the Dept. of Justice.

The media has the public hood winked in circulating half truths and intentionally concealing important info. we all should know.

Once the media was controlled by 1,000s of people & companies.

Changes in FCC laws allow just 9 Corporations to control 95% of national media thru AOL/ Time Warner, Disney, Sony, GE, etc.

International cities; Rome, Paris, Madrid, Moscow have 12 to 18 daily newspapers.

. NYC & Washington DC have only 1 daily.

In America, is their just one version to each story, no debate on what is truth ?

Web site prepared by **Ted Elden**, Architect, retired, Photographer, Computer guru. I am of little importance, but we've found, through extensive research, far beyond what the news media will release that there are Supreme Court Decisions, and interrogatives with IRS that prove amazing things to your benefit.

[Grace Commission Report](#) < - - [click here to report](#)

Some may think "What will support the services offered by the government if none of us pay Federal Income Tax?"

Well, below is a report requested by President Ronald Reagan to see just where the Federal Dollar goes.

The Grace Commission Report has no copyright notice in it. Since it appears to be in the public domain, the beginning of the report is found below. The Grace Commission confirms the allegation that the income tax revenues go 100% to pay the interest on the national debt and not a single nickel of it goes to the government. Whatever government services we have, they are not being financed by the income tax.

The underlined section of this report is from the Grace Commission that proves that none of the personal income

tax goes to pay for any government services and is used to pay only the interest on the national debt.
[Grace Commission List - Presidents Private Sector Survey](#)

The first 2/3 of the income tax is either wasted or lost. Of the remaining 1/3, every dime of IRS income tax goes to private lenders for interest only on the exponentially escalating national debt. This fact was revealed by the Grace Commission (PPSS) in the Reagan Administration. Not one dime goes to reduce the national debt or run our government. Therefore, Congress must borrow more to pay for its ways to help the people by helping them out of their money. Congress does this by [borrowing from the unconstitutional Fed. raising taxes to pay the debt](#) to the owners of the Fed, and [raiding the Social Security Fund](#), which is now [missing \\$4 trillion. Clinton stole \\$10 billion from the Social Security Fund to bomb Kosovo](#). That could have given the retired people a nice raise. Those people did not pay into Social Security all their lives to enable Clinton to bomb Kosovo, or to raise the national debt by letting Congress cook the books.

Peter Eric Hendrickson describes the Word Art of IRC Internal Revenue Tax Code in his book, [Cracking the Code](#). Examples. Income / profit. When you trade your time for payment, you have not made a profit, you have only traded your own time for money from another. You own your time and you can trade with anyone. You only make a profit if you trade something & gain something more than your original value. Words defined in a law (like tax code) mean only what the definition means for that law, not the common usage of the word. Many things are included, but the broader definition are excluded. If law states something in particular, then things not mentioned are specifically excluded. The United States is defined as the 10 square mile area of Washington D.C, It's territories are Puerto Rico, Guam, the Samoas and the federal territories. These do not include W. Va., Calif, Ohio, etc. Many laws are passed, but not enacted, giving them no power or authority. Only those enacted are laws in place, but both are listed in the law books. You have to research to determine which ones are enacted, the listings of the laws do not differentiate those that are enacted. Some laws are for the entire nation, others for only the federal territories and or federal employees, not for all of us. See his book for more exacting definitions/ explanations, this is my simple summary.

[Supreme Law Library : The Federal Zone-](#) Cracking the Code of Internal Revenue Electronic Eleventh Edition

[Comment on IRS - Most US citizens are not required to file & pay.
History of the 1942 - 2 year Victory Tax](#)

May 29, 1944, Congress repealed the Victory Tax Act of 1942, but the news media did not publicize that fact

The discussion of **taxes in not about money.**
It is about who controls your life and freedom.

The US Constitution gives you opportunities and rights. If you ignore your rights, others will gladly take advantage of you.

Most people live in a small world, listening to national news, owed and controlled by power & money. They deceive you to control, tax, and reduce your rights & freedom. With intelligence, reading and action, you can have a better life.

Will you let others lower your life, make you cower in fear, deceived, or will you stand on truth to have a better life ?

Tom Cryer, [Truth Attack](#) and many other show you this is not about your money, it is about your freedom.

Get & act in truth - Save America from take over by deceivers.

The more I learn, the more freedom, property, wealth I can gain. But beyond, the more I learn, the more able I am to escape the great deceptions perpetrated on most of us; health, banking, taxes, war, government, science and much more.

Our team, the [TruthSeekers](#), actively pursues this information and shares it as we can.

We meet to talk, share, discuss. We act to step out of corrupt system.

The ultimate aim of knowledge is action. From action, you derive benefit.

Interviews with former IRS agents and presentations simplifying and confirming this information.

Other research to connect you with reality: [9-11](#) [General Research](#)

Learn What's Happening in America, meetings, discussions, articles, video, people's rights & more.

Friends or people in my region may borrow from me from my A/V library;

[More links on No Taxes - 16th Amendment - Comments, Corrections, Inquiries Welcome.](#)

TedElden@abodia.com 304 344 2335 PO Box 3201, Charleston non-domestic W. Va. near [25332] - 9999

Other areas of discovery, see [9-11](#) & [Research](#) at bottom of home page www.abodia.com

This is a collection of information I have gathered. I am not advocating tax advice nor confirming this information. Do your own research, find your own counsel. But if you look, I'm certain you will find many things you have had never

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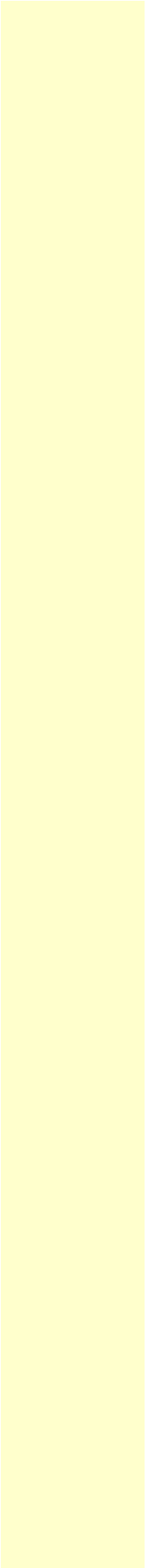
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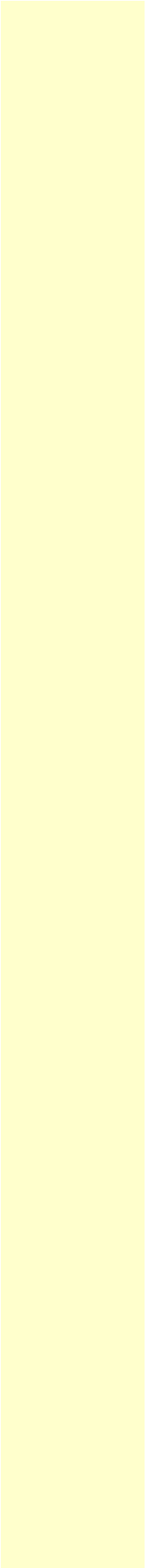
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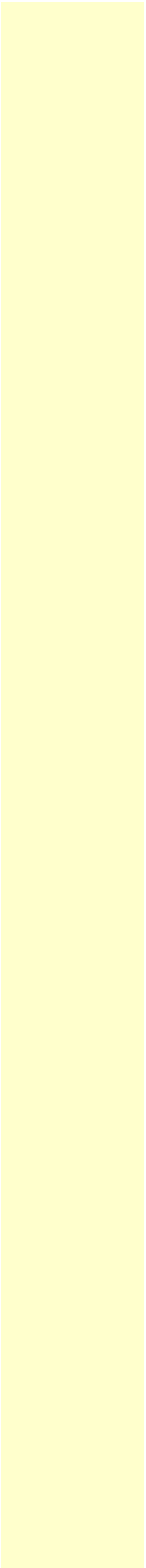
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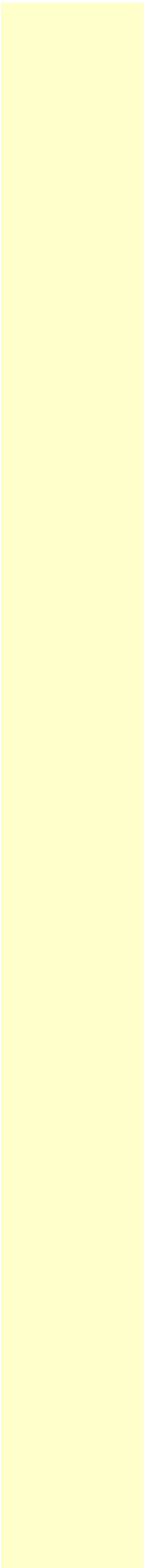
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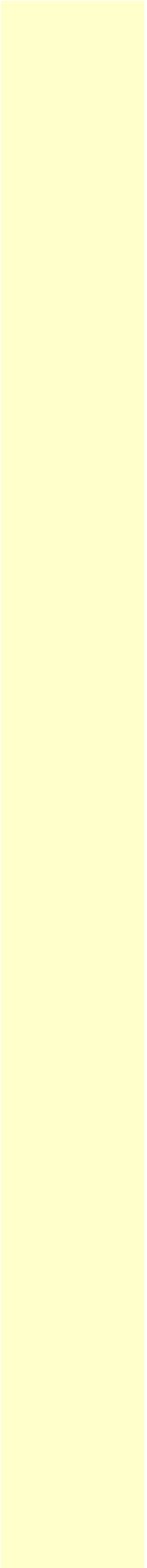
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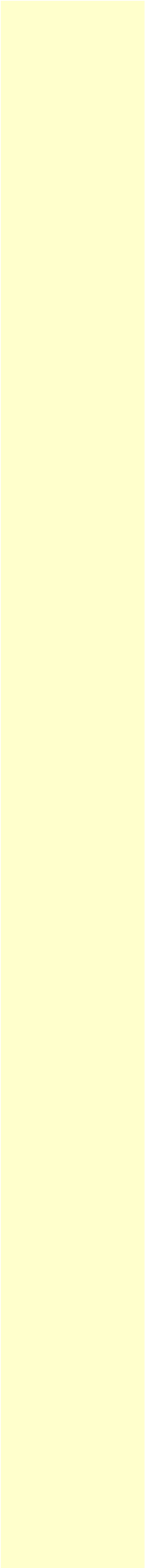


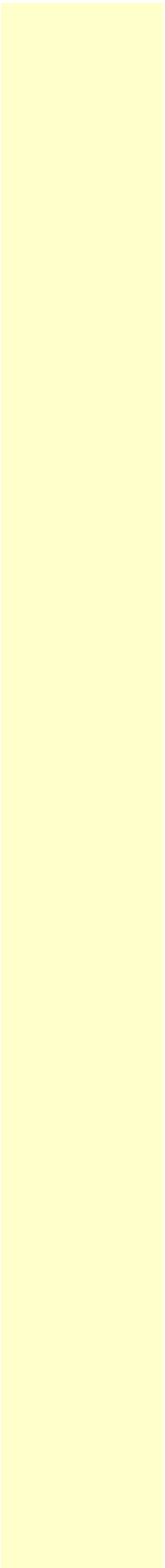












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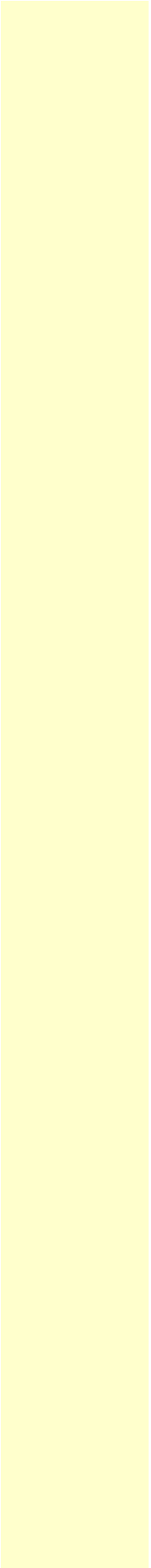
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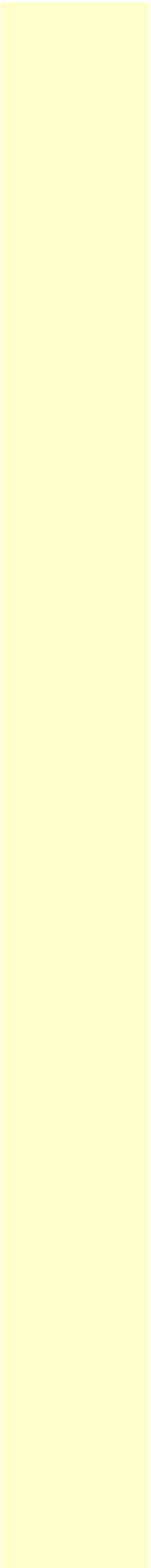
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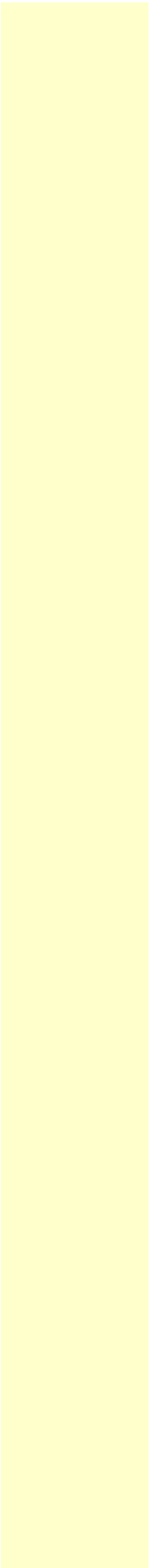
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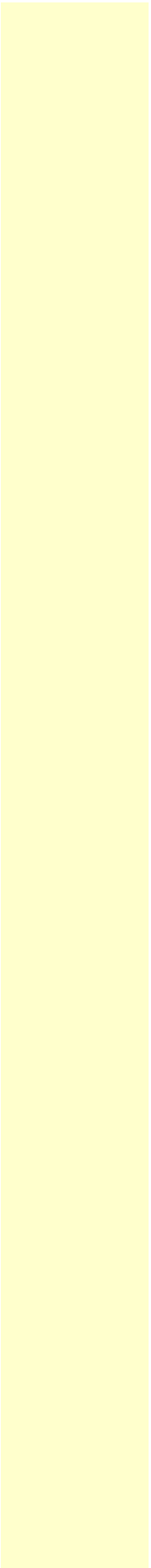
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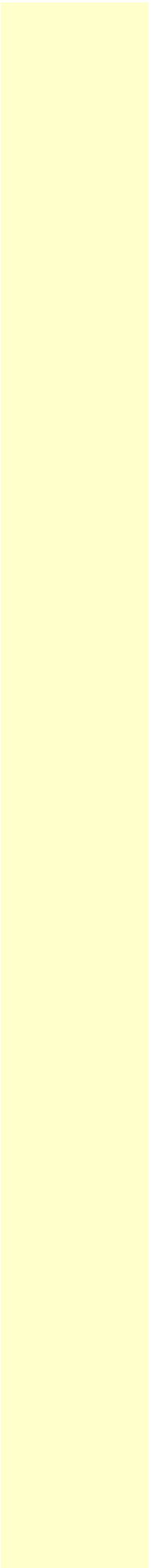
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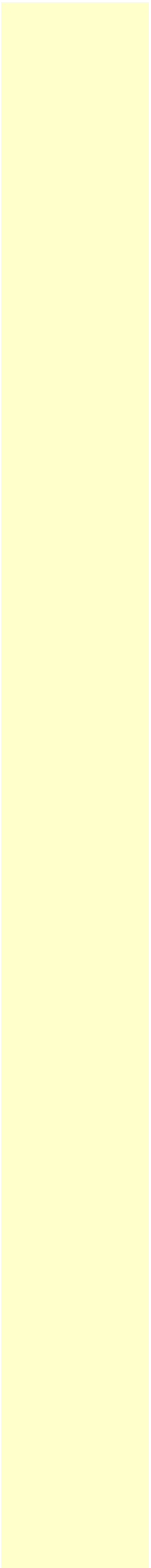


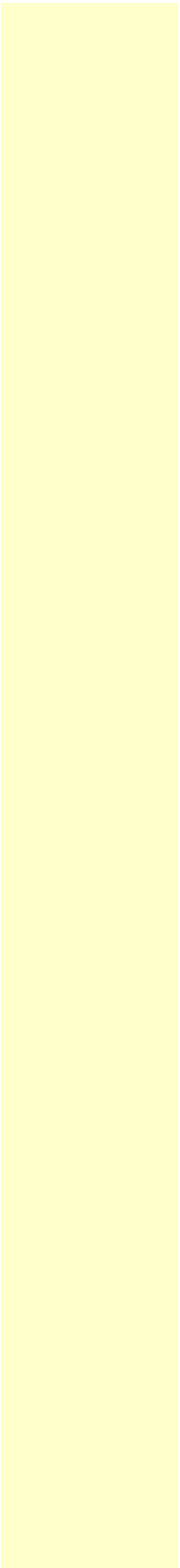















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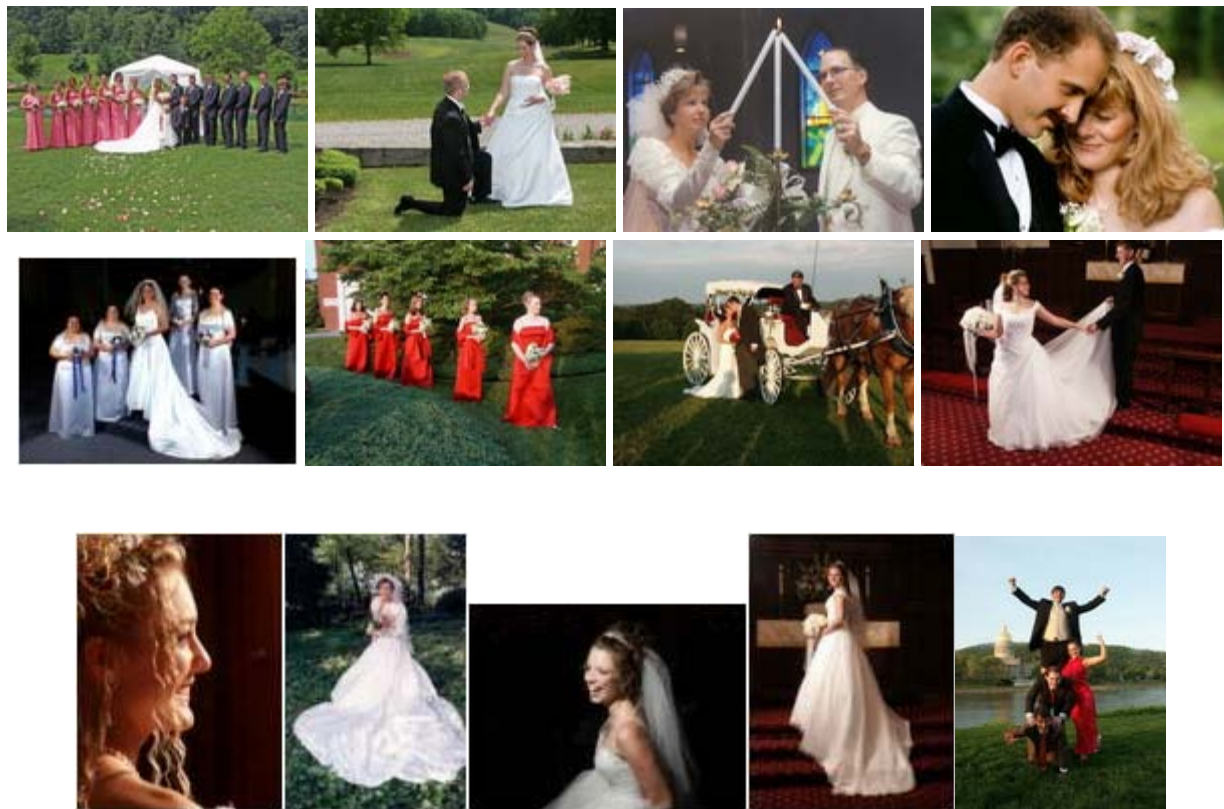
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