THE BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY ORDINANCE

My Story:

My name is Bill Mitchell, and I am the Florida Director of the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association. In 2019, I was living with my family in Lake Havasu, Arizona when the COVID crisis struck. Our city declared an emergency and imposed sweeping mandates—closing businesses and churches, issuing mask orders, and violating fundamental constitutional rights. I wasn't a constitutional scholar then, but I knew something was deeply wrong. Over the next 18 months, I joined with a dedicated group of patriots to push back. We succeeded in getting the Mohave County Supervisors to pass a resolution affirming our constitutional rights. That experience launched my ongoing commitment to defending liberty and restoring constitutional governance.

After relocating to Flagler Beach, Florida, I was encouraged by Florida's reputation as a "Free State." But I soon discovered that even here, efforts to pass meaningful election integrity legislation were being blocked—despite Republican control of the legislature and governorship. It mirrored what I had witnessed in Arizona.

That's when I realized real change must happen locally, county by county.

We must empower what I call the Three Pillars of the Constitutional County:

- 1. County Commissioners who enact ordinances and defend local sovereignty
- 2. County Sheriff the constitutional protector of the people
- 3. Supervisor of Elections guardian of free and fair elections

When these three act in concert with their oaths of office, they form a constitutional firewall against federal and state overreach.

Ordinance No. 1776 is the tool that makes this possible. It reasserts the duty of counties to protect the rights of their citizens—not through rebellion, but through restoration. The following documents reflect a summary of five years of research and advocacy. They offer a proven blueprint for restoring our constitutional rights—one county at a time.

Introduction: Why Every County in America Should Adopt Ordinance No. 1776

The COVID-19 crisis revealed a systemic failure of constitutional protections at every level of government. Under the guise of public health emergencies, local, state, and federal authorities imposed mandates and restrictions that infringed upon core constitutional rights—freedom of religion, speech, assembly, due process, bodily autonomy, and the right to work. Many of these mandates were executed through executive orders and regulatory decrees, without legislative input or judicial oversight, in direct conflict with the foundational principles of separation of powers and representative government.

In response to these abuses, the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (CSPOA) is advocating for the nationwide adoption of Ordinance No. 1776: The Bill of Rights

Constitutional County Ordinance. This model ordinance empowers county governments and sheriffs to take lawful, local action to defend their citizens' constitutional rights against unlawful government overreach—past, present, or future. Grounded in the Tenth Amendment, Florida's Home Rule authority, and U.S. Supreme Court precedent, Ordinance No. 1776 affirms that counties are not mere extensions of higher government, but sovereign political subdivisions with a duty to protect the rights of the people they serve.

The ordinance defines "Unlawful Acts" as federal, state, or local actions that violate the Bill of Rights and prohibits county personnel and resources from being used to enforce such acts. It is a clear assertion of lawful non-cooperation under the anti-commandeering doctrine, allowing counties to stand as a constitutional firewall against tyranny and abuse.

The CSPOA promotes Ordinance No. 1776 as a practical and peaceful means for sheriffs and county commissioners to take a stand—locally—to preserve liberty and restore constitutional governance. It is not a gesture of defiance, but a principled act of duty rooted in the oath every public servant takes to support and defend the Constitution.

Every county in America has both the constitutional authority and moral responsibility to adopt this ordinance. Ordinance No. 1776 offers a lawful framework for redressing the grievances of the past while safeguarding the future. It's time for counties to reclaim their rightful role as the last line of defense for the rights of the people—and to ensure that what happened in 2020 can never happen again.

Legal Summary: Constitutionality of Ordinance No. 1776 "Bill of Rights Constitutional County Ordinance"

Overview

Ordinance No. 1776 is a lawful exercise of local government authority under both the Florida Constitution and the United States Constitution. It affirms the rights of county residents as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and lawfully restricts county officials from participating in the enforcement of unconstitutional federal mandates. This ordinance is constitutional for the following reasons:

1. Florida Home Rule Authority

Florida law provides counties with broad legislative powers:

- Florida Constitution, Article VIII, Section 1(f) and
- Chapter 125.01, Florida Statutes

These grant counties the authority to adopt ordinances that protect the general welfare of their citizens unless expressly prohibited by state law. Ordinance No. 1776 complies with this framework by:

- Defining "unlawful acts" as federal actions that violate constitutional rights;
- Prohibiting county officials from aiding in such enforcement;
- Establishing civil and administrative penalties for violations.

2. Tenth Amendment & Anti-Commandeering Doctrine

The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently held that the federal government cannot require state or local governments to enforce federal laws. This is known as the anti-commandeering doctrine, upheld in:

- New York v. United States, 505 U.S. 144 (1992)
- Printz v. United States, 521 U.S. 898 (1997)
- Murphy v. NCAA, 138 S. Ct. 1461 (2018)

Ordinance No. 1776 lawfully invokes this doctrine by refusing to permit local cooperation in enforcing federal actions that violate constitutional rights.

3. Protection of Individual Rights

The ordinance explicitly affirms the first ten amendments of the U.S. Constitution and recognizes the duty of local government to protect citizens' rights. As held in:

Bond v. United States, 564 U.S. 211 (2011):
 "Federalism protects the liberty of the individual from arbitrary power."

This ordinance strengthens that protection by limiting county resources and personnel from being used to implement unconstitutional policies.

4. Legal Safeguards

The ordinance includes:

- A severability clause, ensuring constitutionality is preserved even if a portion is challenged;
- A conflict clause, ensuring consistency with other laws;
- No attempt to nullify federal law or interfere with federal agents, avoiding preemption issues.

✓ Conclusion

Ordinance No. 1776 is a constitutional assertion of local autonomy and individual liberty, fully supported by Florida's home rule provisions and U.S. Supreme Court precedent. It does not obstruct lawful federal action but rather protects county residents from unlawful federal overreach in accordance with state and federal law.

ORDINANCE NO. 1776 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING _____ COUNTY AS A BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY

(This section sets the stage for why Counties have the authority to enact this ordinance.) WHEREAS the _____ County Board of County Commissioners has growing concerns over the federal government's increasing encroachment on the rights and privileges of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS of particular concern are those edicts being promulgated by the federal government in the form of executive orders, which circumvent the legislative process and arguably violate the fundamental American doctrine of separation of powers; and,

WHEREAS Article I, Section 1 of the Florida State Constitution recognizes that, "[a]II political power is inherent in the people..."; and,

WHEREAS the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America 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."; and,

WHEREAS "... federalism protects the liberty of the individual from arbitrary power...[and] an individual has a direct interest in objecting to laws that upset the constitutional balance between the National Government and the States when the enforcement of those laws causes injury that is concrete, particular, and redressable. Fidelity to principles of federalism is not for the States alone to vindicate." Bond v. United States, 564 U.S. 211, 222, 131 S. Ct. 2355, 2364-65 (2011); and,

WHEREAS "[t]he structural principles secured by the separation of powers protect the individual as well." Id.; and,

WHEREAS the State of Florida is divided into various counties and municipalities and Article VIII, Section 1(f) of the Florida Constitution vests counties with "such power of self-government as is provided by general or special law."; and,

WHEREAS Chapter 125.01, Florida Statutes specifically authorizes counties to "[a]dopt ordinances and resolutions necessary for the exercise of its powers... [and] Perform any other acts not inconsistent with law, which acts are in the common interest of the people of the county, and exercise all powers and privileges not specifically prohibited by law..."; and,

WHEREAS Chapter 125.01, Florida Statutes further provides that, "[t]he provisions of this section shall be liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the purpose of this section and to secure for the counties the broad exercise of home rule powers authorized by the State Constitution."; and,

WHEREAS neither the United States Congress nor the Executive Branch of the federal government has the authority to commandeer the states to act (see, e.g., Murphy v. National Collegiate Athletic Ass'n, 138 S. Ct. 1461 [2018]); and,

WHEREAS the anti-commandeering principle is absolute and categorical. See Printz v. United States, 521 U.S. 898, 935 (1997) ("It matters not whether policymaking is involved, and no case-by-case weighing of the burdens or benefits is necessary; such commands are fundamentally incompatible with our constitutional system of dual sovereignty."); and,

WHEREAS "[w]here Congress exceeds its authority relative to the States, therefore, the departure from the constitutional plan cannot be ratified by the "consent" of state officials" New York v. United States, 505 U.S. 144, 182, 112 S. Ct. 2408, 2431 (1992); and,

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners acknowledges and affirms that the Sheriff is an independent Constitutional officer and not under the authority of this Board, but the Sheriff is charged with the duty to enforce County Ordinances;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY COMMISSIONERS OF	THE BOARD OF COUNTY COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:
SECTION ONE: Title This ordinance shall be known and cited Ordinance".	d as the "Bill of Rights Constitutional County

(This section addresses the need for this ordinance to protect the God given rights of the citizen.)

SECTION TWO: Findings		
In addition to the foregoing whereas clauses, the Board of County Commissioners of		
County, Florida, hereby finds a	and declares:	
In order to secure the rights of the citizens of	County as enumerated, in part, by	
the United States Constitution including the first ten amendments thereto, which are commonly		
referred to as the Bill of Rights of that Constitution, and reads as follows:		

Amendment I

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

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

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 persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in a militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself; 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.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, 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.

Amendment VII

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

Amendment VIII

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

Amendment IX

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

Amendment X

amenament X		
he powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the		
tates, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.		
County has the right to be free from the commanding hand of the federal		
overnment and has the right to refuse to cooperate with federal government officials in response		
o unconstitutional federal government measures, and to proclaim a Bill of Rights Sanctuary for		
aw-abiding citizens in its cities and County;		
HEREFORE, through the enactment of this Ordinance, County, Florida is		
ereby declared to be a Bill of Rights Constitutional County.		

(This next Section Defines what an unlawful act is and renders such acts null and void of effect.)

SECTION THREE: Definitions

An "Unlawful Act" shall consist of:
1. Any federal act, law, order, rule, or regulation, which restricts, impedes, or
impinges upon an individual's Constitutional rights including, but not limited
to, those enumerated in Amendments 1 through 10 to the United States
Constitution.
2. Any such "Unlawful Act" is invalid in County and shall not be
recognized by County, and shall be considered null, void and of no
effect in County, Florida.
(This Section outlines what County Elected Officials are prohibited to participate in or enforce.)
SECTION FOUR: Prohibitions
A. Notwithstanding any other law, regulation, rule or order to the contrary, no
agent, department, employee or official of County, a political
subdivision of the State of Florida, while acting in their official capacity, shall:
1. Knowingly and willingly, participate in any way in the enforcement of any
Unlawful Act; or,
2. Utilize any assets, County funds, or funds allocated by any entity to
County, in whole or in part, to engage in any activity that aids in the
enforcement or investigation relating to an Unlawful Act.
(This Section outlines the civil and criminal penalties and lack of qualified immunity.)
CECTION ENVE. Devoluine
SECTION FIVE: Penalties
A. Anyone within the jurisdiction of County, Florida, accused of being in
violation of this ordinance may be sued in Circuit Court for declaratory and
injunctive relief, damages and attorneys' fees. Neither sovereign nor official or
qualified immunity shall be an affirmative defense in cases brought pursuant to this section.
B. In addition to the civil liability provided for by Section A above, violation of
this Ordinance shall be punishable in accordance with Section(s) of the
County Code of Ordinances (General Penalty).
SECTION FIVE: Conflict and Severability
In the event this Ordinance conflicts with any other ordinance of County or other
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applicable law, the more restrictive shall apply. If any phrase or portion of this Ordinance is
held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be
deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the
validity of the remaining portion.
SECTION SIX: Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances
The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Laws
and Ordinances of County, Florida. The sections of the Ordinance may be renumbered or
re-lettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section" or "article"
or any other appropriate word.

SECTION SEVEN: Effective Date

his Ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the Florida Department of
itate.
PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of
County, Florida this day of 2025
Зу:
Chair:
ATTEST:
, Clerk of Circuit Court and Ex-officio Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners of County Florida
Section 1 sets the stage for why Counties have the authority to enact this ordinance.
Section 2 Findings: addresses the need for this ordinance to protect the God given rights of the citizen.
Section 3: Definitions of An Unlawful Act shall consist of:
section 4: Prohibitions outline what County Elected Officials are prohibited to participate in or enforce.)

Department of State.

Section 7: Effective Date when this Ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the Florida

Section 5: Penalties are outlined both civil and criminal and the lack of qualified immunity.

Section 6: Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances of the county

In order to get the county commission to pass the ordinance we have over the years developed a system to assist you in the adopting of the ordinance.

How to Make Your County Constitutional

1. Form a Leadership Team

Appoint a County Director and recruit a small, committed team (2–3 people) to lead the initiative. Success may take 4 months—or 4 years—so dedication is key.

2. Assess Your County

Use our demographic tools to evaluate your county and determine whether a short-term or long-term strategy is best.

3. Study the Materials

Review our PowerPoint presentation, videos, the Constitutional County Ordinance, sample resolutions, and proclamations to familiarize yourself with the message and mission.

4. Build Your Base

Reach out to local conservative and liberty-minded groups. Schedule presentations to explain the ordinance and encourage attendees to take immediate action by signing the Petition for Redress.

5. Engage Key Officials

Identify someone with a connection to the Sheriff or a County Commissioner who can arrange an introductory meeting. Learn about the official's priorities and discuss their views on constitutional issues such as:

- o 2nd Amendment Sanctuary status
- Violations of the 1st, 4th, 5th, 10th, and 14th Amendments
- o Title 18 §§ 241 & 242 violations during COVID mandates
- The economic and civil impact of unconstitutional policies
- The opportunity to prevent future overreach through a Constitutional County Ordinance

6. Deliver the Presentation

Cover these key points:

- o God's Law as the foundation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights
- The doctrine of the Lesser Magistrate and bottom-up governance
- How rights have been systematically eroded
- o The 2nd Amendment and how COVID exposed constitutional weaknesses
- Sanctuary County precedents (immigration & gun rights)
- The growth of the 2nd Amendment movement (44 of 67 Florida counties)
- o The Constitutional County Ordinance as a natural progression
- Real-world success in stopping unconstitutional actions
- The importance of enforceability
- o Call to action: ask for their support to pass the ordinance

7. Address Objections

Be prepared to listen and respond respectfully to any concerns or pushback.

8. Secure a Commitment

Ask officials to support bringing the ordinance to the commission once you have majority community backing.

9. Offer Alternatives if Needed

If officials won't yet support the ordinance, propose a resolution or proclamation as a first step to affirm constitutional principles.

10. Build Relationships

Stay involved with commissioners. Support shared initiatives and maintain open communication to build trust—this opens the door for future upgrades from resolutions to ordinances.

11. Support Constitutional Candidates

Identify and promote candidates who honor their oaths and support constitutional governance.

12. Strengthen the Three Pillars

Work continuously to ensure your county's Sheriff, Commissioners, and Supervisor of Elections are true constitutionalists acting in unison to safeguard your rights.

Below is a sample copy of the Petition to Redress Grievances I use in my presentations call to action today that is passed around and filled out to build a base of people who will respond to the calls to action and assist in the adoption process.

An Initiative to Redress and

Protect Citizens of _____ County against

Unconstitutional Federal, State and Local Government Overreach

Each Adult Signatur	e Counts! Ask your adult re	elatives and friends in your County to sign!
Note: We are requesting	that the	County Commissioners adopt the Collier
County Ordinance, as w	ritten, to create a means c	f enforcement by our elected officials and law
enforcement of our Con-	stitutional Rights, here in _	County. The
County Ordinance has been attached to this petition.		
_	action and to be notified o	e petition by email to inform you of our of when the County Commission will be
We the People of	County, hereby pe	etition our County Commission:
To Establish	County as a Bill of	Rights Sanctuary County

We are committed to having our **local law enforcement be empowered to uphold their Constitutional Duty and act as the Lessor Magistrate** to thwart any efforts of federal, state, local, foreign, or global entities from infringing on the rights given to us by God and upheld by the Constitution of the United States.

Our Petition:

Whereas, the Constitution embodies the **Bill of Rights**, protecting citizens' cherished liberties, including their Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Speech, The Right to Peacefully Assemble, The Right to Petition the Government for the Redress of Grievances, The Right to Bear Arms, The Right to be Secure in Their Property and Possessions, The Right Against Self-Incrimination, The Right to Due Process and Fair Trials Before an Impartial Jury, and other essential rights and protections necessary to a free people; and

Whereas, the Constitution reserves all powers not **specifically** granted to the Federal Government to the States and the People; and

Whereas; both State and Federal governmental bodies are strictly prohibited from infringing upon the natural rights of the people, or the State, via both Federal and State Bill of Rights, and

Whereas; numerous violations and abuses of these conditions of governmental authority were observed during the 2020 Covid Crisis in Local, State and Federal Executive Orders, Emergency Proclamations, and the like, and to date have not been redressed, it makes it

	_ County Commission to enact an ordinance protecting the and ensuring Constitutional Compliance.	ır
other elected officials of	s Board of County Commissioners, Constitutional Officers, County have taken a solemn oath to defend the tes of America against all enemies, both foreign and dome	
	ed by the undersigned petitioners that we call on the ordered rd of County Commissioners to pass the proposed "Ba	ill Of
Rights Sanctuary" ordinand Sheriff and other county off	te (with Collier County's Ordinance Wording), empowe ficers to protect the God-Granted rights of the people of scribed in the United States Constitution and provide a	ring our of
	uence for violations of these rights within our Countie	
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Signature:	Date:	
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© Contact Information

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- **www.CSPOA.org**
- Join Our Weekly Meeting: www.meetn.com/flfff
- **Q** Key Resources & Links
- YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/@FLFoundation4Freedom

- **Bill of Rights County Ordinance:**
- **Liberty Sentinel Article**

https://libertysentinel.org/collier-countys-bold-bill-of-rights-ordinance-a-blueprint-for-constitutional-sanctuaries/?utm source=substack&utm medium=email

Wideo Overview #1

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ced4zl3rm4

Wideo Overview #2

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4 -m5viJhA

Wideo Overview #3

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiJGV9Izzjc

