

THE SOUTH CAROLINA BLUES FEDERAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

September 2019

UPCOMING PAC EVENTS

Please RSVP by clicking on the link below.

PAC Jeopardy @ Clemson Rd Friday, September 13

PAC Jeopardy @ Percival Wednesday, September 18

PAC Jeopardy @ GPC Thursday, September 19

PAC Jeopardy @ Atrium Friday, September 20

Book Club Meeting Tuesday, September 24

PAC Jeopardy @ Tower Monday, September 30

Employee Voter Registration Drive

Do you need to register to vote or check to make sure your information is up to date? There's no time like the present!

SC Blues FedPAC is making it easy for you to find information you need to get ready to vote in the primary elections next year. We are hosting a voter registration table at your location.

> 9/23 @ Percival 9/25 @ Tower 9/26 @ GPC 9/27 @ Atrium

To complete your voter registration with us via the SC Election Commission website, you MUST have a valid driver's license or identification card issued by the SC Department of Motor Vehicles. If your address has changed, you MUST update your address with DMV first.

We all have the power to impact elections at all levels of government.





SC BLUES FEDPAC

Political Book Club

Our first book is *The Best and the Brightest* by David Halberstam. Members will read and discuss chapters 15-27 on September 24 from Noon – 1:00 PM in the Atrium dining area.

Employees can join at any time by e-mailing <u>victoria.halydier@bcbssc.com</u>.

Our October book will be All The King's Men by Robert Penn Warren.

www.scbluesfedpac.com | 803-264-3931 | scbluesfedpac@bcbssc.com BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

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Constitution of the United States of America

State delegates met at a convention in 1787 with the sole purpose of amending America's first governing document, the Articles of Confederation.



Instead of developing amendments, they redesigned our government entirely giving birth to the US Constitution. Often called the "Supreme Law of the Land", no law may be passed that contradicts the Constitutions' principles; however, it does allow for changes in Government through amendments. It is the oldest written national constitution in the world.

The Constitution established a federal democratic republic meaning that people govern themselves and the Government's power is derived from its people. A three branch system was developed – executive, legislative, and judicial – and checks and balances were implemented that would keep each branch from having too much power.

The Constitution is organized into three parts; the Preamble, the seven Articles, and the Amendments. *The Preamble* describes the purpose of the document and the Federal Government. Our Government is based on inherent rights of America's people, self-government, and separation of powers. Our rights protect individuals, restrain the government, and develop society. They allow individuals to live freely, equally, and with dignity while adding predictability in knowing what is allowed or not allowed. They provide stability by guaranteeing that a person does or does not have a right to something such as owning property. Rights provide rules for behavior and expectations contributing to the development of our society. They protect dignity and liberties, but also protect from abuse. Our rights allow us to be secure and live as we choose within boundaries defined by our Constitution.

The seven Articles establish how the Government is structured and how the Constitution can be changed. Articles include legislative power, executive power, judicial power, state powers and limits, process of amendment, federal power, and ratification.

Congress has written a total of **33 amendments** to change the Constitution but only 27 have been ratified. The first 10 amendments are called the Bills of Rights which limit the power of the federal government over citizens and states. The next 17 amendments were introduced and ratified over the next 200 years. They revolve around elections, individual rights, Congress' ability to tax, terms of office, and congressional salary.

Fun fact: the Constitution cost \$30 to draft for penmanship by Jacob Shallus.*

Click here to read the Constitution.

*Source: http://mentalfloss.com/article/553604/facts-about-us-constitution