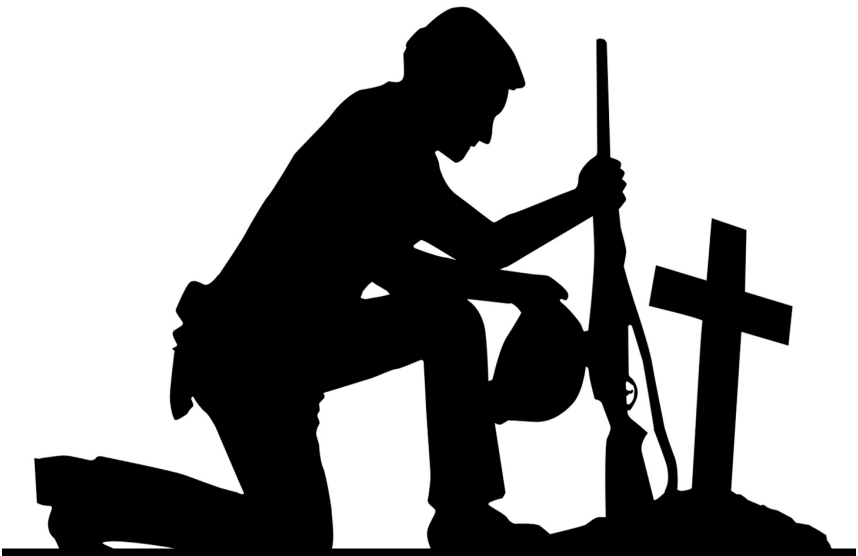
REMOVED

A short study on the decisions behind the Hewett v. City of King lawsuit



What happened in King, North Carolina, why it can happen ANYWHERE, and how to reverse the trend.

AMERICA'S REMEDY

John Ainsworth Cliff Muncy

Cover artwork silhouette created from photo of statue designed by Darrell Calloway and formerly on display at Central Park, King, NC. Photo for graphic work provided by Jennifer Mickey Fulp, used with permission. Special thanks to Milo, Jill, and Sara for your contributions to this project.

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Introduction

For many people, residents and nonresidents alike, recent issues in the City of King, North Carolina, have caused a whirlwind of emotion, conflict and heated debate. We would like to challenge all Americans to direct that emotion into developing a better understanding of the history surrounding this issue. To find a viable solution, we must first take time to look at the legal foundation underlying the decisions being made.

In this booklet, we will seek to address the following issues:

- What Happened in King, NC
- The Constitutional Amendment Utilized by the Plaintiff
- Similar Cases Applying the Same Amendment
- History of Our States Prior
- Meaning and Origin of the Fourteenth Amendment via Reconstruction
- Reconstruction and the Supreme Court
- Challenging Reconstruction Once Again
- Bring Back Constitutional Government

What Happened in King, NC

On January 6, 2015, the City of King, North Carolina, made the decision to remove all religious symbols from their veterans' memorial at Central Park. This came after a legal battle lasting over four years in which a local resident, Steven Hewett, a U.S. Army veteran, sued the city in November 2012, stating that the religious symbols at the park allegedly violated his Constitutional rights. As a result, today, the Christian flag and statue of a soldier kneeling at a cross-marked grave are no longer present at the memorial.

The Constitutional Amendment Utilized by the Plaintiff

On July 8, 2014, a Memorandum Opinion and Order was issued by James A. Beaty, Jr., a U.S. district court federal judge for the middle district of North Carolina. The primary purpose of the document was to review findings and to allow the issue to proceed to trial.

On page 42 of the document the judge specifies that all decisions to be made on this case would be analyzed under the Constitution's First Amendment, specifically the **Establishment Clause** which restricts the making of laws which respect the establishment of religion:

C. Establishment Clause

The Establishment Clause provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." U.S. Const. amend. I. "Although applicable originally only against the federal government, the Establishment Clause has been incorporated against the states by the Fourteenth Amendment." Myers v. Loudoun Cnty. Pub. Sch., 418 F.3d 395, 402 (4th Cir. 2005) (citing Everson v. Bd. of Educ., 330 U.S. 1, 8, 67 S. Ct. 504, 91 L. Ed. 711 (1947)). As such, the Court will analyze Plaintiff's claims of the City's alleged violations under the Establishment Clause. The Court will address the purported violations in the following order (1) the Cross Statue, (2) the Christian Flag Display, and (3) the Annual Memorial Events.

At first glance, it appears clear from the very first word that the First Amendment applies only to Congress, not states or localities such as the City of King:

United States Constitution, First Amendment: *"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."*

However, as can be seen in the above excerpt from the Memorandum, Judge Beaty goes on to reveal that though the First Amendment originally applied ONLY to the federal government, it has now been *incorporated* against the states by the Fourteenth Amendment.

The Fourteenth Amendment will now be our focus, because (1) without this amendment, there would be no case brought against King, NC; (2) every issue brought forward by this suit depends on this amendment; and (3) as you will soon discover, our only long-lasting and permanent solution to this issue, not only for King, but for every other small town across the country, rests upon our education about the creation of this amendment, and our decision to challenge it today.

Similar Cases Applying the Same Amendment

The Fourteenth Amendment is the legal foundation for many landmark Supreme Court cases. As relating to happenings in King, NC, the following U.S. Supreme Court rulings also use the Fourteenth Amendment to apply Constitutional federal restrictions to the states.

Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973)
Anti-abortion laws unconstitutional.
Held: State criminal abortion laws in violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment

Stone v. Graham, 449 U.S. 39 (1980)
Display of the Ten Commandments unconstitutional.

Held: Posting of Ten Commandments on public school walls violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment as applied to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment.

Abington School Dist. v. Schempp, 374 U.S. 203 (1963)
School prayer struck down as unconstitutional.
Held: School-sponsored Bible reading in public schools unconstitutional under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, as applied to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment.

Bostic v. Schaefer, No. 14-1167 U.S. Court of Appeals (2013)
Also: General Synod of the United Church of Christ v. Cooper, 3:14-cv-00213-MOC-DLH
Same-sex marriage laws struck down in Fourth Circuit (MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)
Held: Same-sex marriage bans violate the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

History of Our States Prior

Have federal restrictions, such as the religious restrictions of the First Amendment, always been applied to the states? Let's look at a few of our original state constitutions, so that we can gain perspective on our foundation and original intent, prior to the Fourteenth Amendment being adopted.

North Carolina Constitution 1776
XXXII. That no person, who shall deny the being of God or the truth of the Protestant religion, or the divine authority either of the Old or New Testaments, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State, shall be capable of holding any office or place of trust or profit in the civil department within this State.

Constitution of Delaware 1776
ART. 22. Every person who shall be chosen a member of either house, or appointed to any office or place of trust, before taking his seat, or entering upon the execution of his office, shall take the following oath, or affirmation,...
" I, A B. do profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed for evermore; and I do acknowledge the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by divine inspiration."

Constitution of South Carolina 1778
XXXVIII. That all persons and religious societies who acknowledge that there is one God, and a future state of rewards and punishments, and that God is publicly to be worshipped, shall be freely tolerated. The Christian Protestant religion shall be deemed, and is hereby constituted and declared to be, the established religion of this State.

Constitution of Pennsylvania 1776
SECT. 10. And each member, before he takes his seat, shall make and subscribe the following declaration, viz: I do believe in one God, the creator and governor of the universe, the rewarder of the good and the punisher of the wicked. And I do acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration.

Further study will show that, like these examples, many states in the Union originally had some form of specific Christian/Biblical prerequisite for holding office in the state.

This shows us how the states defined themselves. However, did the federal government at the time also agree with this ultimate view of state sovereignty? Let's take a look at the Preamble to the Bill of Rights, which presents the intent of the first ten amendments as illustrating the desire of the ratifying states:

> *"… to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its [the federal government's] powers,"* and to that end, *"that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added…"*

Further study will show that the consistent premise which underlay the entire Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, was that it was a *federal* charter which conceived and defined the parameters of a *federal* government. The Bill of Rights was explicitly *not* intended to limit the powers of the states. And so, the very first word of the first amendment here shows a restriction against "*Congress*," which it directs *"shall make no law…"*.

So how is it today that we have such a long line of examples, this example in King being one of them, where restrictions originally intended for the federal government are now being applied to the states, their localities, and the people? Do the above Constitutions indicate the philosophy of *separation of church and state* as it is being interpreted today; or do they conflict with this modern philosophy? If they do conflict, when did this change and why?

Meaning and Origin of the Fourteenth Amendment

Meaning

Two years after peace is declared following the American Civil War, the Fourteenth Amendment was adopted on July 9, 1868. Let's read it...

> Fourteenth Amendment, Section 1: *"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the*

United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

The seemingly simple language of the Fourteenth Amendment has created much debate regarding its interpretation. As a matter of historical origin, most of us have been taught that the amendment was designed at its inception to give civil rights to blacks. However, it only takes a quick look at the above cases to realize that it does *far* more. To get to another possible intent, let's dig into the dialog of the time.

James G. Blaine, a congressman from Maine in 1861-1881, and a staunch supporter of the Fourteenth Amendment, wrote the following in his book, *Political Discussions 1856-1886*, regarding the intention of the amendment:

> *"And in making this extension of citizenship, we are not confining the breadth and scope of our efforts to the negro. It is for the white man as well. We intend to make citizenship National."*[1] (emphasis added)

He also elaborates in his autobiography, *"Twenty Years of Congress"* (1886):

> *"As the vicious theory of State-rights had been constantly at enmity with the true spirit of Nationality, the Organic Law of the Republic should be so amended that no standing-room for the heresy [of State-rights] would be left."*[2]
>
> *"The first section of the* [Fourteenth] *Constitutional amendment which includes these invaluable provisions is in fact a new charter*

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[1] James Gillespie Blaine, *Political Discussions, Legislative, Diplomatic, and Popular 1856-1886* (BiblioBazaar, 2010), 64.

[2] James Gillespie Blaine, *Twenty Years In Congress: from Lincoln to Garfield, Vol 2* (Henry Bill Publishing Company, 1884), 30.

> *of liberty to the citizens of the United States; is the utter destruction of the pestilent heresy of State-rights, which constantly menaced the prosperity and even the existence of the Republic; and is the formal bestowment of Nationality upon the wise Federal system which was the outgrowth of our successful Revolution against Great Britain."*[3] (emphasis added)

Blaine is claiming here that the Fourteenth Amendment was intended to nationalize citizenship. Not only this, he says that in doing so, this amendment destroys what he refers to as the "heresy" of State-rights. Let's read another excerpt from Blaine's book, and we can see two different types of citizenship emerge from the wording of the Fourteenth Amendment:

> *"*[The Fourteenth Amendment's] *opening section settled all conflicts and contradictions on this question by a comprehensive declaration which defined National citizenship and gave to it precedence of the citizenship of a State. 'All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and of the States wherein they reside' These pregnant words distinctly reversed the origin and character of American citizenship. Instead of a man being a citizen of the United States because he was a citizen of one of the States, he was now made a citizen of any State in which he might choose to reside, because he was antecedently a citizen of the United States."*[4] (emphasis added)

Let's begin to draw some conclusions. We gather, at least from Blaine's writings, that the Fourteenth Amendment was a fundamental change, and in fact a reversal of the nature of citizenship as opposed to what we had prior to this amendment. As such, it also largely represents a very significant change in the

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[3] James Gillespie Blaine, *Twenty Years In Congress: from Lincoln to Garfield, Vol 2* (Henry Bill Publishing Company, 1884), 312

[4] James Gillespie Blaine, *Twenty Years In Congress: from Lincoln to Garfield, Vol 2* (Henry Bill Publishing Company, 1884), 313

relationship of our states to the federal government. In his words, the Fourteenth Amendment represents "the utter destruction of [...] State-rights."

As can be seen in the constitutions we mentioned earlier, prior to the Fourteenth Amendment, states had ultimate control within their own borders, and the First Amendment didn't apply to the states or towns like King, North Carolina, because the nature of our citizenship and our Constitution prevented the federal government from interfering in matters and decisions left to the states. This concept is also seen in the Tenth Amendment, which **preceded** the Fourteenth:

> *"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."*

America was originally a Union of demi-sovereign states with state citizens. State citizenship was our first and primary citizenship as opposed to being national (Fourteenth Amendment) U.S. citizens. Prior to the Fourteenth Amendment, America had true State-rights and the federal government's authority over citizens was virtually nonexistent. As a result, decisions on divisive matters like religion, abortion, and same-sex marriage would be left completely to the states. However, the Fourteenth Amendment nationalized American citizenship, and now allows federal control wherever the court determines, in its judgement, that the (nationally dictated) 'rights' of a national U.S. citizen supersede the lawmaking process of the state or locality in question.

If the Fourteenth Amendment was, in fact, intended to nationalize our citizenship and invert our form of government (place the federal government OVER the states), does this conflict with the intention of the framers of the Constitution?

In today's vernacular, the words "Federal" and "National" often appear to take on the same meaning. However, historically this

was not the case, as each of these two terms held very distinct definitions. The term "federal", from the root "foedus", meaning "covenant", referred to a federation of several sovereign, equal states, with the federal government having limited control. A "national" government, on the other hand, was a nation of one people under a single rule.

The Federalist (now known as The Federalist Papers) is a collection of articles and essays originally published in 1787-1788 by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay to promote ratification of the U.S. Constitution. Today, the Federalist Papers are frequently utilized by federal judges to determine original intent of our Constitution. When it came to deciding whether our Constitution and form of government would be "federal" or "national", Federalist Paper #39 says the following:

> *"Each State, in ratifying the Constitution, is considered as a sovereign body, independent of all others, and only to be bound by its own voluntary act. In this relation, then, the new Constitution will, if established, be a federal, and not a national constitution."*[5] (emphasis added)

Federalist 39 continues to explain what a national government looks like, in order to clarify that the new Constitution did not fall under this definition.

> *"The idea of a national government involves in it, not only an authority over the individual citizens, but an indefinite supremacy over all persons and things [...] Among a people consolidated into one nation, this supremacy is completely vested in the national legislature.* [...] *In this relation, then, the proposed government cannot be deemed a national one; since its jurisdiction extends to certain enumerated objects only."*[5] (emphasis added)

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[5] Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Isaac Kramnick, *The Federalist Papers* (illustrated, reprint, revised by Penguin Books Limited, 1987)

To summarize, we've learned that a nationalized system of government has indefinite control, while a federation of sovereign states leaves decision making largely to the states. Also, the U.S. Constitution was intended for a federal union of several sovereign states with state citizens, not a nation of one consolidated people under congressional control. While the states originally had ultimate control within their own borders, the Fourteenth Amendment supersedes this sovereignty by nationalizing American citizenship and eliminating true state-rights.

Now it starts to become clear why First Amendment religious restrictions originally imposed upon Congress alone are being applied to the state of North Carolina, and subsequently to the City of King. With the Fourteenth Amendment, nationally dictated rights of a national U.S. citizen, when decided by the courts, now have the ability to trump state-rights and small town decisions.

Origin

The Fourteenth Amendment was only the second post-Civil War amendment to our Constitution. To understand how the Fourteenth Amendment came about, we need to understand a few things about the events leading up to its ratification. Let's take a brief look at the Civil War timeline which precedes the amendment.

> **March / April 1861:** Lincoln declares the seven Southern States' ordinances of secession null and void based upon the position that States cannot leave the Union.
>
> **July 1861:** Both Houses of Congress pass Resolutions stating the object of the War is not for any purpose of "...oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights and established institutions of those States, but to defend and

maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and all laws made in pursuance thereof, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired." (Further Reading: *The Congressional Globe: The official proceedings of Congress* Published by John C. Rives, Washington, D.C., July 26, 1861)

April to May 1865: The Confederate Army surrenders to overwhelming opposition.

December 1865: The eleven previous Confederate States are considered back in the Union to the degree that they participate in the amending of the National Constitution abolishing slavery through the Thirteenth Amendment (Dates of Ratification: Virginia, Feb 9, 1865; Louisiana, Feb 17, 1865; Tennessee, Apr 7, 1865; Arkansas, Apr 14, 1865; South Carolina, Nov 13, 1865; Alabama, Dec 2, 1865; North Carolina, Dec 4, 1865; Georgia, Dec 6, 1865. The amendment was fully ratified on Dec 6, 1865 and subsequently ratified by Florida, Dec 28, 1865, and Texas, Feb 18, 1870.)

April 2, 1866: Peace is declared by presidential proclamation. (No. 1, 14 Stat. 811; excluded Texas, included later in August 1866)

June 13, 1866: The Fourteenth Amendment is proposed by the 39th Congress and is rejected by all southern States except Tennessee.

March 2, 1867: The first Reconstruction Act is passed by Congress, in times of peace, over the president's veto, declaring that no legal governments exist in any of the former Confederate States (except Tennessee, which ratified the Fourteenth Amendment). By that Act, Congress annuls those ten southern States by decree and institutes a program to erect and populate new states in their stead.

Prior to the war, Congress dictates that the war is not for conquest, but to preserve the Union. The war is fought, the Thirteenth Amendment passed abolishing slavery, peace is declared, and the Fourteenth Amendment is sent to the southern states as participating, lawful members of the Union. These states reject the amendment. Then, two years after the war is over, a year after peace is declared, and over a presidential veto to the contrary, Congress annuls the southern states by force of arms, under the Reconstruction Acts, abolishing those legally constituted member states of the Union and erecting new states in their place -- states whose voting bodies are composed specifically by Congress to adopt the Fourteenth Amendment. It is interesting to note that Tennessee is not directly reconstructed, as this was the only former confederate state to voluntarily ratify the Fourteenth Amendment. This further illustrates what Reconstruction was truly designed to do: to facilitate the institution of the Fourteenth Amendment by any means necessary.

> *The First Reconstruction Act (March 2, 1867) (opening paragraph): "WHEREAS no legal State governments or adequate protection for life or property now exists in the rebel States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, and Arkansas; and whereas it is necessary that peace and good order should be enforced in said States until loyal and republican State governments can be legally established: Therefore,..."* (emphasis added)
>
> *Continued, Section 5: "...and when said State, by a vote of its legislature elected under said constitution, shall have adopted the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, proposed by the Thirty-ninth Congress, and known as article fourteen* [Fourteenth Amendment] *and when said article shall have become a part of the Constitution of the United States said State shall be declared entitled to representation in Congress, and senators and representatives shall be admitted therefrom..."* (emphasis added)

Article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution says,

> *"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government..."* (emphasis added)

Section 3 of the same article says,

> *"New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union, but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State;* [...] *without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress."*

In the case of the Reconstruction Acts and the Fourteenth Amendment, the 39th Congress made the decision to ignore Constitutional requirements with these states which were already in the Union, and instead chose to annul and abolish these states and create new states which would, in turn, adopt the Fourteenth Amendment on July 9, 1868.

We conclude from this timeline and facts presented that the Fourteenth Amendment was not only a congressionally coerced amendment, but that these Acts and the adoption of this amendment violate the Constitution on a number of levels.

Consider these questions:

1. Does Congress possess, or has it ever possessed, Constitutional authority to annul and abolish states in the Union, in times of peace, and erect new states in their place?
2. Would any state have entered the American Union knowing that Congress had the power to annul said state at its pleasure?
3. Were the Reconstruction Acts and this method of amending the Constitution with the Fourteenth Amendment in accordance with Article V of the

Constitution which specifies the prescribed amendment process? Is it in accordance with the last section, which says, "that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate."?

Reconstruction and the Supreme Court

The United States Supreme Court has been coined as a "bulwark" against federal intrusion on state authority and violations of the Constitution. The constitutionality of the Reconstruction Acts, which resulted in the Fourteenth Amendment, has been before the Supreme Court on a number of occasions. All have been met with obstruction of justice. Two such cases are as follows:

In *Georgia v. Stanton, 73 U.S. 50* (1868) the state of Georgia filed suit against the Secretary of War and two of his generals based on the question of whether the federal government could annul state governments and replace them with new ones. The court held that it did not have jurisdiction over the subject matter, as it deemed the issue a *political* question.

Another particularly noteworthy case was that of *Ex parte McCardle*, 74 U.S. 506 (1869). William McCardle, a Mississippi newspaper publisher, was arrested and jailed for publishing articles which opposed Reconstruction.

McCardle invokes habeas corpus and eventually reaches the Supreme Court. Attorney General Henry Stanberry, who would normally defend the United States, refuses to defend Reconstruction, as he himself had written the opinion advising President Johnson (who later vetoed the Acts) that they were unconstitutional from the start.

Secretary of War Ulysses S. Grant is called to hire another attorney to represent the United States. He calls on a sitting senator, Lyman Trumbull of Illinois. McCardle is defended by

Jeremiah Black, former Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court (1851-1855), former United States Attorney General (1857-1860), and former United States Secretary of State (1860-1861). McCardle's counsel also included several other hard-hitting defense attorneys.

The McCardle case was argued and rested before the Supreme Court. However, because it was feared that a decision would overturn Reconstruction, Congress passed a law which repealed the appeal provisions of the Habeas Corpus Act of 1867, removing from the Supreme Court the jurisdiction to make a ruling on the case.

There are very few cases in American history in which Congress has abused its judiciary oversight powers to prevent the Supreme Court from ruling. The McCardle case is one of them.

Challenging Reconstruction Once Again

The Reconstruction Acts changed the body politics (states and electorate) of not only the southern states, but also indirectly altered the body politics of the northern states as well through the Acts' facilitation of the Fourteenth Amendment. Today, all American states are essentially federal satellites, creations of Congress, with national, Fourteenth Amendment U.S. citizens -- in the words of Blaine, a citizenship status subject to the "indefinite supremacy" of Congress and a national form of government. Even States which entered the Union after this time period can take issue here because citizens of these more recent states are nationalized as well, and these states did not enter the Union on equal footing with their original, lawful sister states.

The whole of the problem seems daunting at first. By today's standards, it's an old issue, after all. And today's situation seems well established and accepted. However, from a legal standpoint, these Acts which pressed on us the Fourteenth Amendment, nationalized our citizenship and annulled our lawful states have

never received a proper adjudication by the courts. By legal standards, the issue is still unresolved, but it remains so only because it lacks participants.

> *"An unconstitutional act is not a law.* ***It confers no rights. It imposes no duties. It affords no protection.*** ***<u>It creates no office.</u>*** *It is in legal contemplation as inoperative as though it had never been passed. Therefore an unconstitutional act purporting to create an office gives no validity to the acts of a person acting under color of its authority."* (emphasis added) ~Norton v. Shelby County, 6 S.Ct. 1121

In order to bring something before the courts, there must be a conflict. If a law is to be challenged as unconstitutional, it must first be violated by someone who is injured by that law. A national U.S. citizen is not injured by Reconstruction or the Fourteenth Amendment. In fact, a national U.S. citizen is the very "creation" and "beneficiary" of these Acts. The only person who can legally challenge this legislation is a state citizen of a lawful state body politic.

In the mid-to-late 90s, this situation was realized by a group of individuals in North Carolina. Study on the topic continued until it was eventually decided that they would seek to re-establish the original state of North-Carolina and reclaim their right to state citizenship. Re-establishment of the state was based on the concept that Congress' annulling of the original state body politic and creation of a new state body politic composed solely of national citizens was an unconstitutional act, therefore null and void; and that a legal challenge could be made as to the lawfulness of this new state of North Carolina created by Congress -- the state most people participate in today.

On December 1, 1997, the "Declaration of Re-establishment" for the pre-Reconstruction state of North-Carolina was signed and sealed. The state was re-established on the North-Carolina Constitution of December 18, 1776, with business immediately

attending to the repeal of North-Carolina's ordinance of secession, outdated voting restrictions on blacks and women, and similar issues. Notice of the re-establishment was given to President Bill Clinton and North Carolina de facto governor Jim Hunt.

The re-established state of North-Carolina, or North-Carolina American Republic, commonly referred to as the NCAR, has a growing body of participating citizens, regular elections, officers and representatives, and regular meetings of the State's General Assembly.

The re-establishment of the state and its concurrent population by state citizens creates an injured party which has standing to legally challenge the Reconstruction Acts. Today, NCAR citizens have reached every level of the North Carolina judicial system and have even had a case approach the U.S. Supreme Court, though it was not accepted.

The majority of cases brought to the courts by NCAR state citizens are mostly violations of things like vehicle registration, driver license, and the like. However, as we have seen mentioned, Reconstruction and the Fourteenth Amendment created a grand litany of violations which a state citizen could use to challenge these acts.

Bring Back Constitutional Government

The primary purpose of this booklet is to begin to develop a better understanding of the root causes behind the unfortunate recent events that played out in King, North Carolina, so that we can participate in a long-term solution. As much as we would like to provide a fast and easy solution to the immediate issue, as you can see, there is a root cause which underlies our current predicament, and this predicament affects the entire country. If our system of government remains unchanged at the

foundational level, state sovereignty and individual rights will continue to be trampled, and we can rest assured that King, North Carolina, will not be the last occurrence. We have a duty to the truth -- to uncover it and to defend it.

Henry David Thoreau, a mid 19th century American author, poet, philosopher, and historian, once said, *"There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root."*[6]

The North-Carolina American Republic is striking at the root of this overthrow, and educational groups, like John Ainsworth's America's Remedy, have vowed to bring this little-known education of our history to the American public -- but we need your help.

Don't take our word for it. We first encourage you to study these topics for yourself. As with any new information of significant value or consequence, we should always endeavor to confirm the data we've been given.

Tell Others. The simple act of word of mouth can be an enormous benefit to any movement. Sharing what's happening in simple conversation, through email, or social media -- these are all good ways to help spread the word. America's Remedy has an ever-increasing number of resources to help share the information quickly and easily.

Educational Seminars and Presentations. Following the events in King, NC, John Ainsworth of America's Remedy provided a two-hour educational presentation to local residents. Oftentimes seeing things presented in an interactive format, with question and answer, can be a fantastic way to really dig into the topic as a group. Organizing an educational presentation in your area is easy, and America's Remedy is happy to help.

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[6] Henry David Thoreau, *Walden* (Thomas Y. Crowell & Company, 1910), 98

Give. We want to bring this message to every city, every small town in North Carolina, and other states across the country, and we need your financial support. Please consider a donation of $25, $50 or $100 to America's Remedy or the North-Carolina American Republic. All resource purchases on the America's Remedy website also go toward the cause. Your gift allows us the resources required to spread the word and fight the fight.

There are many ways to participate, even outside of actually becoming a state citizen yourself. From writing about us to showing up at events, to showing up on a state citizen's day in court, or showing up at a presentation or state meeting. Everyone has their unique gifts and talents. How do you think you could help us? We would love to get your ideas.

Fill out the card on the back page of this booklet and send it to us, or visit us online and drop us an email. We would love to hear from you.

North-Carolina was our state. It is still our state. A revolution has occurred and it's time for a peaceful counter-revolution to restore lawful government. Will you join us?

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