

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

525 Arch Street | Independence Mall
Philadelphia | PA 19106 | T 215 409 6600 | F 215 409 6650
www.constitutioncenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Emily Murray
Public Relations Coordinator
215.409.6693

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER TRANSLATES U.S. CONSTITUTION, VISITOR'S GUIDE INTO NINE LANGUAGES WITH FORD FOUNDATION GRANT

Philadelphia, PA (June 28, 2004) – By the end of summer, some visitors to the National Constitution Center will find new meaning in the U.S. Constitution. The Center is using a grant from the Ford Foundation to publish the U.S. Constitution and museum visitor's guide in nine foreign languages, which will be available to the public in September 2004. The Center will distribute translated copies of the U.S. Constitution and Visitors' Guide in the languages cited by the National Park Service as the most requested in the region: Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian and Simple Chinese. ALTA Language Services of Atlanta, Georgia, was chosen to translate both documents. Currently the Center provides copies of both documents in English, Spanish, Braille and large print.

"Our mission at the National Constitution Center is to promote greater understanding of the Constitution and its relevance to our lives today," said Richard Stengel, President and CEO of the Center. "What better way to do that than to publish the Constitution and Visitors' Guide in all of these important languages?"

-MORE-

ADD ONE/FORD FOUNDATION GRANT PRESS RELEASE

The grant, awarded to the Center in July 2003, falls under the Governance and Civil Society division of the Peace and Social Justice Program at the Ford Foundation. The grant is designed to increase participation in and understanding of public affairs beyond the act of voting, as well as to strengthen global civil society and the ability of transnational citizens' coalitions to address public policy problems.

ABOUT THE FORD FOUNDATION

The Ford Foundation is an independent, nonprofit grant-making organization. For more than half a century it has been a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide, guided by its goals of strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, promoting international cooperation and advancing human achievement. With headquarters in New York, the foundation has offices in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and Russia.

ABOUT ALTA LANGUAGE SERVICES

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, ALTA has over twenty years of experience in providing language services. ALTA's focus is to provide the highest quality language services delivered using modern communications technology. ALTA employs a wide range of specialists including language trainers, language evaluators, language materials developers, project managers, translators, interpreters, editors, proofreaders, programmers and network and communication specialists.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization established by Congress in 1988 to increase understanding of the U.S. Constitution and its relevance to the daily lives of Americans. It is the first museum in the world devoted to

dramatically telling the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibit components, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates; and as a home for visiting scholars and experts. The National Constitution Center is the first museum in the country designated as a member of the National Archives Experience Alliance Initiative. For more information, please call 215.923.0004 or visit the Center's Web site at www.constitutioncenter.org.

#