

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER ANNOUNCES SPEAKERS AND TOPICS FOR
WINTER 2017 AMERICA'S TOWN HALL**

Topics include the first 100 days of the Trump Administration, the Affordable Care Act, policing, and amending the Constitution to impose congressional term limits

Guests include *Wall Street Journal* White House Correspondent Carol Lee, Governor Ed Rendell, U.S. Senator Ben Sasse (R-NE), and former U.S. Solicitor General Donald Verrilli

Philadelphia, PA (January 5, 2017) – The National Constitution Center today announced the winter 2017 lineup for its popular *America's Town Hall* series of constitutional conversations and debates. This season's lineup will tackle some of the most pressing constitutional issues confronting the new president and Congress.

On Tuesday, January 17, just before Inauguration Day, the Constitution Center will preview the first 100 days of the Trump Administration, placing the president-elect's plans in historical and constitutional context with leading journalists and commentators. Later in the season, the Constitution Center will examine a range of key issues, including the Affordable Care Act and policing. The winter lineup of confirmed guest speakers includes *Wall Street Journal* White House Correspondent **Carol Lee**, Governor **Ed Rendell**, Senator **Ben Sasse**, and former U.S. Solicitor General **Donald Verrilli**.

The Constitution Center will continue its mission of promoting civil discussion and debate in cities across the nation, traveling to Dallas, TX on March 7 for "Resolved: U.S. Supreme Court Justices Should be Subject to Term Limits," an *America's Town Hall* debate in partnership with American Constitution Society and The Federalist Society.

The National Constitution Center's *America's Town Hall* series features distinguished leaders, scholars, authors, and journalists who speak on the most significant constitutional topics of our time. Many of the Constitution Center's *America's Town Hall* programs are free for Members and reservations are recommended as programs fill quickly. To make a reservation call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org/debate.

Please see below for a complete list of *America's Town Hall* winter programming.

Winter 2017 America's Town Hall Programming:

The Constitution and the Administrative State

9 – 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

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Federal judges and scholars explore important historical and constitutional issues related to the administrative state, including the Founders’ vision for the federal government, the legacy of the New Deal, the development of the administrative state, and current debates over its significance and constitutionality. *Presented in partnership with the Federal Judicial Center.*

President Trump’s First 100 Days: The Constitutional Stakes

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

President-elect Donald Trump will inherit a nation divided at home and threatened abroad. **Carol Lee** of *The Wall Street Journal*, **Ryan Lizza** of *The New Yorker*, **Benjamin Domenech** of *The Federalist*, and **Paul Gottfried** of Elizabethtown College discuss the plans of the incoming administration and assess the prospects for constitutional cooperation with Congress.

Donald Verrilli, Jr.: An Evening with the Former Solicitor General

6:30 p.m., Monday, January 23, 2017

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

Donald Verrilli, Jr., 46th Solicitor General of the United States, discusses his time in office and his experiences arguing landmark cases before the Supreme Court on the Affordable Care Act, same-sex marriage, immigration, and more.

John Adams and the Fear of Aristocracy

12 p.m., Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Long before “the one percent” became a protest slogan, John Adams feared the power of a class he called simply “the few.” Authors **Luke Mayville** and **Richard Alan Ryerson** discuss the second president’s most intimate political thoughts. Includes book sale.

Centennial Anniversary of the Mexican Constitution

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Free

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Constitution, Mexican and U.S. constitutional experts, including **Tom Donnelly**, the Constitution Center’s senior fellow for constitutional studies, and **Raúl Bringas-Nostti**, Universidad de las Américas Puebla professor, explore the similarities and differences between the two documents. *Presented in partnership with the Mexican Cultural Center and the Consulate of Mexico in Philadelphia.*

Should We Amend the Constitution to Impose Term Limits on Congress?

5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Thursday, February 9, 2017

1787 Society Members & Invitation-only

Philip Blumel, president of U.S. Term Limits, **Mark Meckler**, president of Citizens for Self-Governance, **Governor Ed Rendell** (D-PA), **Senator Ben Sasse** (R-NE), **David Strauss**, professor of law at the University of Chicago, **John Vile**, dean and professor of political science at Middle Tennessee State University, and others discuss whether we should call a convention to amend the Constitution and the best arguments for and against term limits. *Sponsored by John Agliano and Howard Rich.*

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Timothy Huebner: The Civil War Era and American Constitutionalism

12 p.m., Monday, February 13, 2017

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Timothy Huebner, author of *Liberty and Union*, provides a re-examination of the Civil War era, exploring how the African American understanding of constitutional equality helped transform a war for the Union into a war for emancipation and equal rights. Includes book sale.

Reshaping Policing for the 21st Century

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

Barry Friedman, director of the Policing Project at NYU School of Law and author of the new book *Unwarranted*, explores with other experts the national conversation around the changing role of police — from neighborhood beat cops to NSA analysts. Includes book sale.

American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition: Opening Party

5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2017

Members & Invitation-only

The Constitution Center hosts an exclusive preview of *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* including light fare, a Town Hall program on the constitutional history of Prohibition, and more. Visit constitutioncenter.org/debate for ticket information.

The Future of the Affordable Care Act

6:30 p.m., Monday, March 6, 2017

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

After the 2016 election, President Obama’s signature domestic achievement may be in jeopardy. Law professors **Josh Blackman** and **Abbe Gluck** join healthcare reporter **Julie Rovner** to explore the ability of the new president and Congress to change the Act, the constitutional stakes, and the next steps for health care reform. Includes book sale.

Traveling America’s Town Hall Program –

Resolved: U.S. Supreme Court Justices Should Be Subject To Term Limits

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2017 – The Debate Chamber at Old Parkland, Dallas, TX

Sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation. Presented in partnership with The Federalist Society and the American Constitution Society.

Geoffrey Stone: Sex, Religion, and the Constitution

12 p.m., Friday, March 31, 2017

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Geoffrey Stone, leading constitutional scholar and author of *Sex and the Constitution*, traces the evolution of legal and moral codes that have attempted to legislate issues as explosive and divisive as abortion, same-sex marriage, pornography, and contraception, from the ancient world to today. Includes book sale.

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14th Annual John M. Templeton, Jr. Lecture

Coming March 2017

Members-only

The annual John M. Templeton, Jr. Lecture on Economic Liberties and the Constitution, featuring some of America’s most important thinkers and policymakers, returns this March.

Visit constitutioncenter.org/debate for updates.

Freedom Day

All day, Thursday, April 13, 2017

The **National Constitution Center’s** third annual Freedom Day encourages people of all ages to explore the future of freedom. An invitation-only symposium featuring America’s thought leaders from the left and the right who will converge in Philadelphia to explore areas where both sides agree and disagree about the future of freedom. Visit constitutioncenter.org/freedom-day for more information and to learn how to participate in the classroom or on campus.

The National Constitution Center’s onsite Town Hall programs are generously supported by the Paul S. Levy Programming Fund.

The National Constitution Center’s traveling Town Hall debates also receive support from a multi-year, multi-project \$5.5 million grant awarded by the John Templeton Foundation.

About the National Constitution Center

The [National Constitution Center](http://NationalConstitutionCenter.org) in Philadelphia inspires citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to learn about, debate, and celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution. A private, nonprofit organization, the Center serves as America’s leading platform for constitutional education and debate, fulfilling its Congressional charter “to disseminate information about the U.S. Constitution on a nonpartisan basis.” As the **Museum of We the People**, the Center brings the Constitution to life for visitors of all ages through interactive programs and exhibits. As **America’s Town Hall**, the Center brings the leading conservative and liberal thought leaders together to debate the Constitution on all media platforms. As a center for **Civic Education**, the Center delivers the best educational programs and online resources that inspire, excite, and engage citizens about the U.S. Constitution. For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org.

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