

The First Amendment Center works to preserve and protect First Amendment freedoms through information and education. The center serves as a forum for the study and exploration of free-expression issues, including freedom of speech, of the press and of religion, and the rights to assemble and to petition the government. With offices at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., in the John Seigenthaler Center; and Washington, D.C., at the Newseum, the First Amendment Center is an operating program of the Freedom Forum. It is associated with the Newseum and the Diversity Institute.

FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER

firstamendmentcenter.org

A guide to programs and contacts

firstamendmentcenter.org

Fast, authoritative information on issues, laws, legislation



The **First Amendment Center Online** offers one-stop access to information about the First Amendment. Useful for journalists, lawyers, policy makers, educators and the public, it's the Web site of first choice for anyone who needs research information, has a question, or wants daily news, analysis, commentary, overviews, trends and case law about a wide array of First Amendment topics.



Web team members:
Brian Buchanan, Eugenia Harris,
Nikki Troia (seated)

Plus, **The First Amendment Library**: the only comprehensive online compilation of all First Amendment Supreme Court cases.

Contact: **Brian Buchanan** at 615/727-1543 or bbuchanan@fac.org.

'Inside the First Amendment'

Insightful, timely newspaper columns



"**Inside the First Amendment**" is a weekly newspaper column that tackles difficult topics head-on — offering thoughtful and thought-provoking commentary about matters ranging from religion in public schools to free-speech issues involving art and music to press censorship and U.S. Supreme Court decisions. The column is written by First Amendment scholar and author Charles Haynes and First Amendment Center Vice President/Executive Director Gene Policinski. "Inside the First Amendment" is available without charge on the Web or by e-mail from the First Amendment Center.



Charles Haynes

Contact: **Brian Buchanan** at 615/727-1543 or bbuchanan@fac.org.

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555 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20001 202/292-6288

ABOUT THE FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER



Gene Policinski
Vice president/
executive director

The First Amendment Center was founded by John Seigenthaler on Dec. 15, 1991, the 200th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution.



John Seigenthaler
Founder

It has offices at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and in Washington, D.C. The center is nonpartisan and does not lobby or litigate.

CONTACTS

For more information on the following First Amendment Center programs and resources, please contact:

Brian Buchanan

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bbuchanan@fac.org

- firstamendmentcenter.org
- Inside the First Amendment

Gene Policinski

615/727-1600
gpolicinski@fac.org

- State of the First Amendment
- Media interviews
- Freedom Sings™

Tiffany Villager

615/727-1341
tvillager@fac.org

- First Reports
- Moot Court

Charles Haynes

202/292-6293
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- Religious liberty
- Education programs

State of the First Amendment

Annual survey of American attitudes on freedom

The [State of the First Amendment](#) survey reminds Americans of the fragility of First Amendment freedoms and reinforces the idea that the First Amendment — as the cornerstone of American democracy — must be protected. Reports and commentary on all of the State of the First Amendment surveys are available online at [firstamendmentcenter.org](#) — click on “State of the First Amendment reports” in the right-hand navigation.

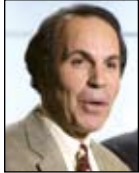
Contact: [Gene Policinski](#) at 615/727-1600 or gpolicinski@fac.org.



Media interviews

Commentary and analysis on newsworthy First Amendment issues

Nationally recognized experts — including Executive Director Gene Policinski, scholars Charles Haynes, Ron Collins and David Hudson, and a legal-research team headed by Tiffany Villager — are available for interviews and programs.



Ron Collins



Tiffany Villager



David Hudson

Contact: [Gene Policinski](#) at 615/727-1600 or gpolicinski@fac.org.

Freedom Forum/American Press Institute First Amendment Seminars

The Freedom Forum and the American Press Institute partner in a program to enhance newspaper professionals’ understanding of and appreciation for the First Amendment.

Contact: [Gene Policinski](#) at 615/727-1600 or gpolicinski@fac.org.

Moot Court Competition

The First Amendment is the focus of the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition. Recognized as one of the nation’s finest constitutional law competitions, this annual event features a current First Amendment controversy.

Contact: [Tiffany Villager](#), 615/727-1341 or tvillager@fac.org.

National FOI Day

Annual program of speaking and discussion by specialists in various aspects of freedom of information, updating developments in FOI over the preceding year.

Contact: [Ron Collins](#), 202/292-6292 or rcollins@freedomforum.org.

First Amendment education programs

Working with schools and communities throughout the nation, the center uses consensus guidelines and conflict mediation to promote public support for First Amendment principles and ideas. The center’s religious-freedom programs educate Americans about the history, meaning and significance of the First Amendment’s religious-liberty clauses. The programs help Americans find common ground across religious differences using the guiding principles of religious freedom.

Contact: [Charles Haynes](#), 202/292-6293 or chaynes@freedomforum.org.

Justice & Journalism

A series of discussions between judges and journalists on access, news-media accountability and other issues.

Contact: [Gene Policinski](#) at 615/727-1600 or gpolicinski@fac.org.

First Reports

In-depth analyses

[First Reports](#) are a series of in-depth analyses by experts on current First Amendment issues, available at [firstamendmentcenter.org](#).

Titles available:

- *Implementing a Flag-Desecration Amendment to the U.S. Constitution*
- *Internet Filters and Public Libraries*
- *Balancing Act: Public Employees and Free Speech*
- *The FCC’s Regulation of Indecency*
- *Government Secrecy vs. Freedom of the Press*
- *Student Expression in the Age of Columbine*
- *The Privacy Problem*



Other publications available through [firstamendmentcenter.org](#) cover a range of speech, press and religious-freedom topics.

Contact: [Tiffany Villager](#) at 615/727-1341 or tvillager@fac.org.

Freedom Sings™

Multimedia experience that blends music and freedom

[Freedom Sings](#) is a critically acclaimed multimedia experience with an all-star cast of musicians. The presentation features music that has been banned or censored or has sounded a call for social change, and it invites audiences to take a fresh look at the First Amendment. This entertaining, irreverent and inspiring program is packed with live music and video, showcasing hit songwriters and Grammy Award winners devoted to sharing the power, passion and poetry of music.



The Freedom Sings band performs.

Visit [freedomings.org](#) or contact [Gene Policinski](#) at 615/727-1600 or gpolicinski@fac.org.