United States Amendments 1-27

**Amendment I** – Freedom of Religion, Speech and the Press; Rights of Assembly and Petition.

**Amendment II** - Right to Bear Arms
The amendment was adopted so that Congress could not disarm a state militia.

**Amendment III** – Housing of Soldiers
Grew directly out of an old complaint against the British, who had forced people to take soldiers into their homes.

**Amendment IV** – Search and Seizure
You may not be searched or have property seized without probable cause and/or a search warrant.

**Amendment V** - Rights of the accused (Self-incrimination, Double Jeopardy, Due Process, Just Compensation)

**Amendment VI**- Rights to a Fair Trial (Speedy and Public Trial by Jury*, Tried in state where crime was committed, Informed of charges against accused, Witnesses, Right to a lawyer)

**Amendment VII**- Rights in Civil Cases (Trial by jury in civil cases over $20)

**Amendment VIII** – Cruel and Unusual Punishment
Bails, fines and punishments must be humane and fit the crime committed

**Amendment IX** – Rights Retained by the People
Any rights not listed in the Constitution are still protected

**Amendment X** – Powers Retained by the States and the People
States or people have all powers not given to national government. (ie: marriage)

**Amendment XI** – Lawsuits Against States
It is impossible for the citizen of one state to sue another state. (So, Salem can’t sue Iowa)

**Amendment XII** – Election of President and Vice President
(1804) Provides that members of the electoral college (called electors), vote for one person as president and one person as vice president.

**Amendment XIII** – Abolition of Slavery
1st CIVIL WAR AMENDMENT - Slavery is illegal

**Amendment XIV**- Civil Rights
2nd CIVIL WAR AMENDMENT - Slaves receive Citizenship and protection of due process
Amendment XV – African American Suffrage
3rd CIVIL WAR AMENDMENT - African Americans receive the right to vote...note that there is no mention of gender...

Amendment XVI – Income Taxes
Congress has the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes

Amendment XVII- Direct Election of Senators
The states have the power to directly elect senators to represent them. (before this, the state legislature decided who the senators were)

Amendment XVIII- Prohibition of Liquor
(1919) Forbade people to make, sell, or transport liquor.

Amendment XIX- Women’s Suffrage
Gives women the power to vote

Amendment XX- Terms of President and Congress
Moves the date that newly elected presidents and members of Congress take office close to election time. President: January 20th, Congress: January 3rd

Amendment XXI- Repeal of Prohibition
Repeals the 18th amendment.

Amendment XXII- Limitation of Presidents to Two Terms
No person can be elected president more than twice.

Amendment XXIII- Suffrage in the District of Columbia
Allows citizens of Washington D.C. to vote in the presidential elections. However, they cannot vote for members of Congress.

Amendment XXIV- Poll Taxes
Forbids making voters pay a poll tax before they can vote in a national election.

Amendment XXV- Presidential Disability and Succession
If president is removed, dies, or resigns, the vice president becomes president. The president fulfills a vice president vacancy, by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Amendment XXVI- Suffrage for 18-Year-Olds
Voting age moved to 18

Amendment XXVII- Congressional Pay Raises
Any increase in congressional pay does not go into effect until after the next regular election of the House of Representatives.