



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM DECEMBER 15 AS BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

WELD COUNTY, CO – During their Monday meeting, the Weld County Board of Commissioners proclaimed Tuesday, December 15, 2015, as Bill of Rights Day to mark the 224th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights in the United States Constitution. The first Bill of Rights Day was held on December 15, 1941, 150 years after the signing of the original document.

Proposed by James Madison, America's fourth president, the Bill of Rights was signed on December 15, 1791, with the intent to assure Americans that their government will protect their liberties and stay within the confined limits of the Constitution. The amendments aim to recognize, affirm and protect fundamental human and civil rights, which include:

1. Freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, right to peacefully assemble and right to petition the government
2. The right to bear arms
3. The housing of soldiers
4. Protection from unreasonable search and seizure
5. Protection of the rights to life, liberty and property
6. Rights of accused persons in a criminal case
7. Right to a fair trial
8. Excessive bail, fines and punishments forbidden
9. Other rights kept by the people
10. Undelegated powers kept by the states or the people

"Bill of Rights Day is a day to not only remember but also honor the basic rights our country was founded on," said Commissioner Chair Barbara Kirkmeyer. "It's important we reflect and appreciate the freedoms we have in this country because of the Bill of Rights."

On December 15, the Commissioners encourage all citizens to observe Bill of Rights Day in a manner that brings to mind the meaning and importance of each of the first Ten Amendments.

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