

# HARRIS COUNTY CRIMINAL LAWYERS **ASSOCIATION**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATION

Houston, Texas – September 9, 2016 – Please join the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association (HCCLA) at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2016 for a brief, public celebration of Constitution Day. HCCLA members will read the Bill of Rights and other key Constitutional Amendments on the courthouse steps of the Harris County Criminal Justice Center at 1201 Franklin, Houston, Texas 77002.

This event draws its inspiration from HCCLA's annual public reading of the Declaration of Independence, which has served as a model for yearly readings across Texas.

What: Constitution Day is a federally observed date to commemorate the signing of the United States Constitution in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on September 17, 1787.

As criminal defense lawyers, HCCLA members fight to protect the Constitution and its safeguards, many of which are set forth in amendments to this cherished document. HCCLA strives to remind the public of the importance of their Constitutional rights. HCCLA's public reading of fundamental rights enshrined in Constitutional amendments—including the first ten, known collectively as the "Bill of Rights"—will be a brief and simple gesture for public awareness and education.

**When**: 12:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2016. Event should last approximately 20-30 minutes.

Where: Front steps of Harris County Criminal Justice Center (Criminal Courthouse) at 1201 Franklin, Houston, Texas 77002 (corner of Franklin and San Jacinto, downtown Houston).

**Who**: Event is sponsored by the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association, America's oldest and largest local organization of criminal defense lawyers, with over 750 members. HCCLA President Tyler Flood will lead the reading. Event co-organizers are Houston attorneys and HCCLA members: Jennifer Gaut, Philip Gommels, Gemayel Haynes, Grant Scheiner, and JoAnne Musick.

> Members of the public who attend this event will receive pocket-sized copies of the United States Constitution.

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