



Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago

*Strengthening Democracy One Classroom at a Time*

## More Perfect Union Institute – Summer 2018

Schiff Hardin LLP ❖ 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 7100 ❖ Chicago, Illinois

July 24-25, 2018

### Agenda — Day 1

#### Institute Objectives – By the end of the institute, participants will:

- Gain a deeper understanding of content related to the Constitution and how constitutional principles are represented in our government.
- Understand how textual content and simulations align to Common Core Standards
- Be able to use a variety of interactive teaching methodologies such as: civil conversation, moot court, legislative hearing, peer teaching, and the use of an outside resource person.
- Learn how to teach and implement *More Perfect Union* lessons to enhance existing curriculum.

#### Tuesday, July 24

##### 9:00-9:15 Welcome, Overview, Introductions

Participants will receive a brief introduction to the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago and the “More Perfect Union” curriculum.

Maggie Hickey, *Schiff Hardin LLP*

Kathy Miller, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*

Tiffani Watson, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*

##### 9:15-10:30 Preamble & Civil Conversation on Barack Obama’s “A More Perfect Union” Speech

In this lesson, participants will paraphrase the Preamble. They will take part in a civil conversation to more deeply delve into the meaning of the Preamble.

Tiffani Watson, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*

##### 10:30-10:40 BREAK

##### 10:40-12:00 Introduction to Federalism Lesson

This session will introduce the concept of federalism, using participants’ daily activities as an avenue toward understanding the powers and roles of different governments.

Ben Silver, *Citizen Advocacy Center*

Dee Runaas, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*

##### 12:00-12:30 LUNCH

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*This institute is a program of the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago. CRFC gratefully acknowledges Schiff Hardin LLP for hosting the More Perfect Union Institute and providing refreshments and lunch for its participants.*

- 12:30-1:30 **How a Bill Becomes a Law Lesson**  
 Participants are introduced to the enacting legislation process and will play the roles of legislators who must make decisions about important pieces of legislation.  
 Andrew Goczkowski, *Office of U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky*  
 Dee Runaas, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 1:30-1:40 **BREAK**
- 1:40-3:00 **Visitors from Outer Space & LIC Lesson**  
 Participants are immersed into a fun, yet challenging activity that motivates students to think about the importance of their constitutional rights and the consequences should they lose them.  
 Julia Derish, *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*  
 Tiffani Watson, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 3:00-3:15 **Debrief & Depart**

## Agenda — Day 2

### Wednesday, July 25

- 9:00-9:15 **Overview, Review, Questions**  
 Dee Runaas, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*  
 Tiffani Watson, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 9:15-11:00 **Who Elects the President: Understanding the Electoral College**  
 Many of us do not understand how the Electoral College functions. This activity will help participants understand how the Electoral College works and will engage them in a simulated commission.  
 Dee Runaas, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 11:00-11:10 **BREAK**
- 11:10-12:30 **The American Jury: A Deliberation**  
 In this session participants will examine the purposes of the jury and will have an opportunity to deepen their understanding of how juries work by participating in a simulated jury deliberation.  
 Natasha Robinson, *Roosevelt University*  
 Tiffani Watson, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 12:30-1:00 **LUNCH**
- 1:00-3:00 **Do Students' Rights End at The Schoolhouse Door?**  
 Participants will participate in a moot court case involving student's First Amendment rights at school — the landmark case of *Tinker v. Des Moines*.  
 Steve Klein, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*  
 Michael Scodro, *Mayer Brown LLP, CRFC Board Member*  
 Dee Runaas, *Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago*
- 3:00-3:15 **Closing Remarks, Questions, Thank Yous**