

A Public Notice of Acknowledgment of the Lawful Statehood of Florida

1. Introduction

We, the Officers of the Florida Free State, hereby issue this public acknowledgment and affirmation in accordance with the principles of equity and common law as recognized by the Republic of Florida. We explicitly align ourselves with the **“State Acknowledgment and Affirmation of Union, circa 2011,”** asserting our rightful position as a free and independent state.

2. Affirmation of Our Governance

We the People of the Florida Republic acclaim our establishment of a republican form of governance, guaranteed by **The Constitution of the United States of America** from 1789 and the **Bill of Rights** from 1791.

We acknowledge and affirm our unity with other free and independent states within the **Republic for the united States of America**. By our manifest will and mutual agreement, we commemorate and lawfully protect our God-given unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

3. Upholding Constitutional Law

We the Florida Free State Officers set forth a public acknowledgment and agreement with the **“State Acknowledgement and Affirmation of Union, circa 2011”** as it states the following:

“We the People on Florida Republic, a free and independent state, establish and continue a republican form of governance guaranteed by United States Constitution circa 1789 and Bill of Rights circa 1791; and

***We the People on Florida Republic** hereby acknowledge and affirm that we are in union with people on other free and independent states comprising Republic for the united States of America; and by manifest will and mutual agreement of We the People on this free and independent state, we enjoy and lawfully protect our God given unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and*

***We the People on Florida Republic** uphold constitutional laws, lawful treaties and lawful contracts; and enforcement thereof for this free and independent state and union for Republic for the united States of America; and*

***We the People** hold that all officials, elected or appointed, for Republic for the united States of America, agree to protect the God given unalienable rights endowed to the people and to honor and protect the freedom and independence of states in union at all times in accord with Declaration of Independence circa 1776, Constitution circa 1789, Bill of Rights circa 1791, and a republican form of governance, at all levels, shall be recognized, adhered to, and preserved.”*

4. Recognition of Lawful Statehood

Under the guidance of the lawfully elected Interim Governor, Michael Clay Bishop, who has steadfastly retained his office and oath since January 22, 2011, we the Officers of the Florida Free State affirm our status as a free state.

We firmly refute any attempts to impose territorial status, as falsely asserted by the illicit application of the Northwest Ordinance, which seeks to revert our statehood to a territory, contradicting our advancement since 1789.

5. Renunciation of Unlawful Impositions

It is our unequivocal intention to formally renounce the imposition of the Northwest Ordinance of 1789, enacted prior to our statehood and imposed upon us by Interim National Representatives, with aims to strip the lawful statehood from the Free State of Florida.

Such actions undermine our state Constitution and diminish the lawful remedies available to our elected leadership, Governor Bishop, facilitating the prompt conduct of lawful elections for our representatives.

6. Rejection of Overreach

We categorically reject the overreach of National Representatives attempting unlawful usurpation of our constitutional status, unjustly alleging abandonment to unlawfully alter our statehood status in eternal union with our sister states.

Furthermore, we challenge this legality within constitutional law, referencing the ruling from *Strader v. Graham*, 10 How. 82 (1850), where the Supreme Court stated in part:

“The question presented to the Court was, whether the Ordinance of 1787, which prohibited slavery in the territory northwest of the Ohio River, confer jurisdiction on the Court. It was held that the Ordinance ceased to be in force after the adoptive Constitution came into play. Chief Justice Taney clearly articulated: ‘The Ordinance of 1787 cannot confer jurisdiction upon this Court. It was itself superseded by the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, which placed all states of the Union upon a perfect equality, which would not be if the Ordinance continued to be in force after its adoption.’”

7. Notification to National Representatives

Therefore, it is our obligation to formally notify the National Representatives to desist from their unlawful attempts to forcibly categorize our state as a territory or undermine our Governor’s authority to begin lawful constitutional processes to establish a representative government.

All procedures aimed at reverting the **Free State of Florida** to a territorial status through an outdated Ordinance must cease immediately.

8. Signatories of Florida Free State Interim Officers

This document is endorsed by the undersigned: ---

March 15, 2025

Michael Clay Bishop B.S. D.C. (Retired)
Interim Governor of Florida