

OUR NATION NEEDS

SAMPLE  
TOOLKIT

FULL TOOLKIT  
AVAILABLE WITH  
SIGN UP HERE.

**LAW**

**HEROES**

**NOW.**



REMINDER:  
WE  
TOOK AN  
OATH

In this moment with democracy on the brink,  
lawyers often ask “What can I do?”

Jump into Community Building & Action-oriented  
Tasks that **Lawyers Can Do Now** →

PRESENTED BY

THE RULE  
OF LAWYERS

A DEMOCRACY RISING  
COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

# IN THIS DOCUMENT:

(CLICK ANY TITLE TO JUMP TO THAT SECTION)

## **PART ONE: *GET IN THE GAME***

Take the first step toward defending the Rule of Law in your community and beyond.

## **PART TWO: *USE YOUR VOICE***

High-visibility and under-the-radar actions that you can take, regardless of how much time you have.

**PARTS 3-5 AVAILABLE IN THE FULL TOOLKIT, [DOWNLOAD HERE.](#)**

## **PART THREE: *READY TO LEAD***

You've done the basics & you're ready for more. Learn how to inspire others to maximize your impact.

## **PART FOUR: *COURAGEOUS ACTION***

Unprecedented times require bold action. Learn effective, strategic ways to take courageous action.

## **PART FIVE: *BE A HERO***

Take action if your redline is crossed. Use your economic power to defend the Rule of Law.



**All materials have been prepared for general information purposes** only to permit you to learn more about how lawyers can defend the Rule of Law. The information presented is not legal advice, is not to be acted on as such, may not be current and is subject to change without notice.

*A LAWYER'S TOOLKIT TO FIGHT FOR THE RULE OF LAW*

# We have witnessed an unprecedented assault on American democracy & the Rule of Law.

While we have seen an impressive effort from civil rights and pro-democracy organizations to fight back by litigating against this lawlessness, the vast majority of the nation's **1.3 million lawyers have remained on the sidelines of the fight** against democratic backsliding.

This is for a variety of reasons, including personal or professional fear, the fact that many attorneys are cautious in nature, questions about whether any one individual can make a difference, and hope that the situation will simply go away. It is also because most lawyers, even if they want to do something, don't know what to do.

Many attorneys are also looking for ways outside of the courtroom where they can participate and lead in this defining moment in our country's history.

Research shows that while litigation is a critical element of defeating government overreach, it is insufficient on its own. **People power** is necessary to stop the assault on the Rule of Law that our nation is facing and to prevent America's descent into authoritarianism.

To that end, this toolkit and accompanying resources describes very clearly what **YOU** can do as a lawyer to save our democracy.



In this moment, when so much that we care about throughout American society is under attack, including the legal profession itself, it is up to us to take a stand for the Rule of Law.



**It is up to us** to make our voices heard.



**It is up to us** to harness our cultural and economic power to hold anti-democratic actors accountable.



**It is up to us** to use our moral authority to mobilize the broader population to protect our democracy.

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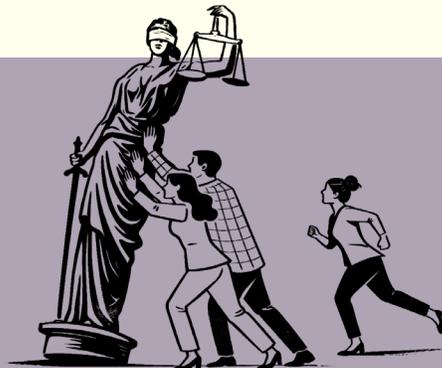
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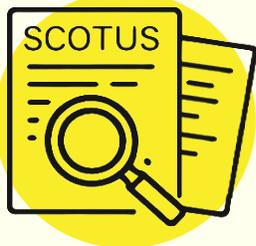
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PART ONE

**GET IN**

**THE GAME**





### Keep informed about key legal issues of the day by reading [Just Security](#),

Steve Vladeck's "[One First](#)" blog, and Joyce Vance's "[Civil Discourse](#)" substack, to name a few important resources.



### Stay up to date on broader democracy issues

by subscribing to newsletters from leading pro-democracy organizations like the [Brennan Center](#) or [Protect Democracy](#) or by reading a book like [On Tyranny](#) by Timothy Snyder or [Autocracy, Inc.](#) by Anne Applebaum. Check out expert [Hardy Merriman's recommendations](#) for how to resist democratic backsliding.



### Create a LinkedIn account

([Here's how](#)) and connect with other lawyers. Follow prominent legal commentators like [Gregg Nunziata](#) and [Mimi Rocah](#) and legal organizations like [Lawyers for Good Government](#). "Like" a post that you agree with. If you really like it, you can repost it and include your own supportive comments.



### Follow the work of important litigation organizations.

Check out [Democracy Forward](#), [Democracy Defenders](#), [ACLU](#), [Public Citizen](#), and [CREW](#).



### Attend a CLE on the Rule of Law.

See this new [CLE series](#) on the ABA's website.



### Attend a live pro-democracy panel, event, or debate.

Your local or state bar association is a good place to check for these. Leading pro-democracy organizations like the [Brennan Center](#) often host briefings on key issues of the day.

↑ **SIMPLE ACTION! CLICK TO JUMP IN**



### Take a look at the U.S. citizenship exam.

[Test Yourself](#) to see if you could pass the test. How did you do in the practice?



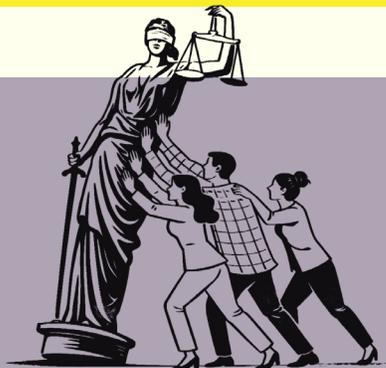
### Listen to a Supreme Court [argument](#)

and follow along when the Court issues its final opinions of the term.

PART TWO

**USE YOUR**

**VOICE**



**I**

## Publicly retake your oath to the Constitution

like thousands of lawyers did [May 1, 2025](#), Law Day. Look [HERE](#) to see the organizations that hosted Law Day of Action events, including the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Durham Bar, Philadelphia Bar Association, among many others. Make your plan for 2026. Connect with others to get the ball rolling in your community.

**III**

## Participate in citizen and bridge-building initiatives.

You can read about those initiatives [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

**V**

## Join a pro-democracy group.

If you're right leaning, check out [Principles First](#) and [Society for the Rule of Law](#). If you're left leaning, check out [American Constitution Society](#) and [People's Parity Project](#).

**II**

## Write an op-ed or letter to the editor in your local paper about the Rule of Law.

[Local media remains](#) an influential way to express your views. It makes a difference!

**IV**

## Attend a peaceful protest in support of democracy

and be sure to make a sign related to the Rule of Law. When you're ready, organize a protest. Be sure to check out the ACLU's Protesters' Right's [Toolkit](#).

**VI**

## Sign on to a [letter](#) in defense of the Rule of Law and the legal profession.

**VII**

**Deans from 119 law schools [signed a letter](#) in 2024 in support of the Constitution.**

Is your school on the list? If so, reach out and see how you can get involved. Check if they will host a Democracy or Rule of Law forum.

***SIMPLE ACTION! [CLICK TO JUMP IN](#)*** ↑

**VIII**

**If you're at a law firm that hasn't taken a position at this moment, organize a letter within the firm encouraging its leadership to take a stand for the Rule of Law.**

**IX**

**If you're a general counsel at a company, meet with other general counsels**

about key Rule of Law issues. If you're a lawyer at a business, consider getting involved with [Integrity Matters](#), [Leadership Now](#), or other pro-democracy business groups.

Take inspiration from [small business leaders](#) in Minneapolis.

THE RULE  
OF LAWYERS

A DEMOCRACY RISING  
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**THE NATION**

**NEEDS YOU.**



Download the full toolkit and become  
a hero for the Rule of Law.

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