

FOUNDATION FOR FREEDOM | CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY TOOLKIT

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE TEAM GUIDE

Building Specialized Local Teams to Turn Constitutional Education into Sustained Community Action

2026 RESOURCE LIBRARY

IDENTIFY • CONNECT • EDUCATE • ORGANIZE • SERVE • ACT

Purpose

A Constitutional County effort becomes durable when it is larger than one meeting, one ordinance, or one small group of activists. The Sphere of Influence strategy organizes citizens according to the parts of community life where they already have relationships, experience, credibility, and access.

Each Sphere Team develops relationships, learns how its sphere actually functions, identifies constructive opportunities, shares accurate constitutional information, recruits additional citizens, and connects its work to the larger County Team.

Core principle: do not merely ask, “Who agrees with us?” Ask, “Who can we build a respectful relationship with, what can we learn, and where can informed citizens make a lawful and constructive difference?”

The Four-Pillar Foundation

The Constitutional County strategy gives special attention to County Commissioners, the Sheriff, the Supervisor of Elections, and the local judiciary because each affects constitutional government in a distinct way. Florida law also requires care not to duplicate powers allocated exclusively to county constitutional officers. Sphere Teams therefore influence, educate, observe, petition, and build relationships; they do not assume governmental powers they do not possess.

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1. How the Sphere Strategy Works

Build one countywide leadership team that coordinates the overall strategy.

Identify major spheres of local influence and assign a Team Leader to each priority sphere.

Recruit people who already have natural relationships or credibility within that sphere.

Map the key people, organizations, institutions, meetings, issues, and decision points.

Set a small number of measurable 90-day goals.

Report progress to the County Team regularly.

Share contacts and opportunities across spheres without duplicating effort.

Move from relationship to education to practical action.

2. Recommended Spheres of Influence

SPHERE	WHO / WHAT IT INCLUDES
Faith & Churches	Pastors, ministry leaders, Christian schools, faith-based organizations, prayer networks, and congregations.
County Commissioners & Local Government	County Commissioners, county administration, advisory boards, county departments, and public meetings.
Sheriff & Law Enforcement	Sheriff, command staff, deputies, municipal police leadership, retired officers, and public-safety networks.
Elections	Supervisor of Elections, election staff, poll workers, poll watchers, canvassing processes, civic voter-

	education groups.
Judiciary & Legal	Attorneys, retired judges, court observers, legal educators, law-school contacts, constitutional scholars, and bar/community legal networks.
Education & Parents	Parents, teachers, school-board members, private schools, homeschool networks, colleges, student organizations, and education advocates.
Business & Property Owners	Business owners, chambers, trade groups, developers, farmers, property owners, employers, and professional associations.
Media & Communications	Local newspapers, radio, television, podcasts, online media, newsletters, social-media communicators, and citizen journalists.
Cities & Municipal Government	Mayors, city commissioners/council members, city managers, municipal boards, and neighborhood organizations.
State Legislature & Public Policy	State representatives, senators, legislative staff, policy organizations, and issue coalitions.
Civic & Community Organizations	Veterans groups, service clubs, neighborhood associations, taxpayer groups, nonprofits, and issue-based organizations.
Youth & Emerging Leaders	College students, young professionals, youth ministries, civic leadership programs, and future candidates.

3. Sphere Team Structure

Sphere Team Leader — coordinates the team, sets meetings, tracks goals, and reports to County Team leadership.

Relationship Lead — identifies and develops contacts with key people and organizations.

Research Lead — verifies facts, policies, meeting schedules, legal authorities, and public records.

Communications Lead — prepares concise outreach, educational materials, and follow-up.

Action Lead — coordinates attendance, presentations, petitions, events, public comments, or other approved activities.

Members / Volunteers — contribute according to relationships, expertise, availability, and specific projects.

A Sphere Team can begin with only two or three committed people. Do not wait for a large organization before starting.

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4. The Sphere Mapping Exercise

Each team should create a one-page map of its sphere.

Who are the principal decision-makers?

Who influences those decision-makers?

Which organizations already operate in this space?

Who on our County Team already knows someone in the sphere?

What public meetings, events, newsletters, associations, or networks provide access?

What are the three most important current issues?

What constitutional principles are genuinely relevant?

What concerns or objections are we likely to encounter?

What resources from the Constitutional County Toolkit would be useful?

What would a realistic success look like in 90 days? In one year?

5. Relationship First

The most effective Sphere Teams should become known as informed, reliable, respectful citizens—not people who appear only when they want a vote or demand.

Introduce yourself before asking for major action.

Ask questions and learn the other person's responsibilities and constraints.

Look for shared concerns before emphasizing disagreements.

Provide concise information rather than overwhelming people with documents.

Keep commitments and follow up when promised.

Thank people who meet with you even when they disagree.

Do not publicly characterize someone as a supporter without permission.

Protect long-term relationships from short-term frustration.

6. Faith & Churches Team

Mission: connect constitutional liberty, civic responsibility, religious freedom, and service to the community while respecting each congregation's theology, leadership, and legal obligations.

Build relationships with pastors and ministry leaders.

Offer educational presentations on the biblical and historical foundations of liberty when invited.

Provide nonpartisan constitutional education and voter-participation resources.

Develop prayer and civic-engagement networks.

Invite churches to community educational events.

Identify members with legal, law-enforcement, education, business, media, or government experience who may serve other Sphere Teams.

Be careful to distinguish issue education from candidate campaign activity, especially for tax-exempt organizations.

7. County Commissioners & Local Government Team

Mission: build informed relationships with Commissioners and county staff and advance lawful constitutional policy through the county process.

Use the County Commissioner Outreach Guide.

Track Commission agendas, workshops, ordinances, appointments, and major policy issues.

Meet Commissioners individually.

Identify a potential sponsor for Constitutional County measures.

Understand the county attorney's role and ordinance process.

Recruit citizens who can provide credible testimony on specific issues.

Follow implementation after a resolution or ordinance is adopted.

8. Sheriff & Law Enforcement Team

Mission: develop constructive relationships with the Sheriff and law-enforcement community around constitutional policing, due process, public safety, and lawful intergovernmental cooperation.

Use the Sheriff Outreach Guide.

Attend community meetings and public Sheriff's Office events.

Learn the Sheriff's actual statutory responsibilities before proposing action.

Invite law-enforcement perspectives into constitutional education.

Discuss emergency powers, due process, search and seizure, surveillance, and interagency cooperation factually.

Respect operational security and active investigations.

Build the relationship before a constitutional controversy occurs.

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9. Elections Team

Mission: promote lawful, transparent, observable, and verifiable elections through education, trained participation, public records, and constructive engagement with the Supervisor of Elections.

Use the Election Integrity Resources guide.

Meet the Supervisor or staff and learn county procedures.

Attend publicly noticed Logic and Accuracy testing, canvassing, and audits where permitted.

Recruit and train lawful poll watchers or observers through the appropriate process.

Review official audit and election reports.

Use evidence-based public-record requests.

Correct misinformation rather than amplifying it.

Respect the Supervisor's independent constitutional and statutory authority.

10. Judiciary & Legal Team

Mission: strengthen constitutional literacy, due process, legal accuracy, and public understanding of the role of courts.

Recruit attorneys, retired judges, legal researchers, and knowledgeable citizens.

Review Toolkit legal claims for accuracy and identify disputed propositions.

Develop plain-language constitutional education.

Track significant local and state court decisions affecting county authority or individual rights.

Educate citizens about court structure, due process, standing, jurisdiction, and lawful remedies.

Observe public court proceedings where appropriate.

Do not pressure judges concerning pending cases or attempt improper ex parte communication.

11. Education & Parents Team

Build relationships with parents, teachers, school leaders, homeschool networks, and education organizations.

Track school-board meetings and policies.

Provide accurate information on parental rights, student rights, speech, religious liberty, privacy, curriculum transparency, and due process.

Recruit parents for constructive public participation.

Distinguish school-district authority from County Commission authority.

Create age-appropriate constitutional education opportunities for young people.

12. Business & Property Rights Team

Connect with business owners, property owners, chambers, professional associations, and trade groups.

Identify regulatory, licensing, zoning, taxation, emergency, privacy, and property-rights concerns.

Invite business leaders to explain real-world impacts of proposed policy.

Develop concise economic-impact and property-rights information.

Recruit credible business voices for Commission hearings.

Focus on lawful county remedies and distinguish state-preempted issues.

13. Media & Communications Team

Build a current list of local reporters, editors, radio hosts, podcasters, newsletters, and community pages.

Develop short factual news releases and media advisories.

Prepare spokespersons before interviews.

Maintain a resource page with primary documents.

Correct errors calmly and promptly.

Use photographs, short videos, interviews, and citizen stories ethically.

Never sacrifice factual accuracy for a dramatic headline.

Coordinate messaging across Sphere Teams without making every message identical.

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14. Cities & Municipal Government Team

Map mayors, council/commission members, managers, attorneys, and advisory boards in each municipality.

Identify constitutional issues actually within municipal authority.

Attend city meetings and workshops.

Adapt educational materials to municipal rather than county powers.

Build city-level allies who can support broader constitutional education.

Do not assume a county ordinance automatically controls municipal government; verify the applicable legal relationship.

15. State Legislature & Public Policy Team

Know the state representative and senator for each part of the county.

Track legislation affecting county authority and constitutional rights.

Develop concise bill summaries using official legislative sources.

Schedule district-office meetings.

Coordinate testimony, calls, letters, and coalition activity around specific legislation.

Share local examples that help legislators understand practical consequences.

Maintain professional relationships even when legislators vote differently than requested.

16. Civic, Veterans & Community Organizations Team

Map service clubs, veterans groups, neighborhood associations, taxpayer organizations, nonprofits, and civic forums.

Offer speakers and educational programs.

Listen for local concerns that overlap with constitutional accountability.

Invite organizations to co-host nonpartisan educational events.

Recruit experienced community leaders for specialized Sphere Teams.

Build broad coalitions around specific principles rather than requiring agreement on every issue.

17. Youth & Emerging Leaders Team

Create constitutional education that connects principles to issues young adults actually encounter.

Recruit students and young professionals into research, media, technology, and event roles.

Develop mentorship relationships with experienced civic leaders.

Encourage respectful debate and primary-source research.

Provide opportunities to attend public meetings and observe government firsthand.

Identify future candidates, board members, attorneys, educators, law-enforcement officers, and community leaders.

18. 90-Day Sphere Team Plan

PERIOD	RELATIONSHIP GOAL	EDUCATION GOAL	ACTION GOAL
Days 1–30	Map 15–25 key contacts; make 5 introductions.	Learn the sphere's structure, authority, issues, and terminology.	Choose one achievable project.
Days 31–60	Hold 3–5 substantive meetings.	Share targeted Toolkit resources; host one small briefing if useful.	Recruit 3–10 additional participants or allies.
Days 61–90	Deepen relationships with key decision-makers and influencers.	Address questions/objections with verified information.	Complete one measurable action and report results to County Team.

19. Monthly Sphere Team Report

- ☐ Sphere / Team Leader
- ☐ Number of active members
- ☐ New relationships established
- ☐ Meetings held
- ☐ Important information learned
- ☐ Current issue or opportunity
- ☐ Toolkit resources used
- ☐ Actions completed
- ☐ Obstacles / concerns
- ☐ Help needed from County Team
- ☐ Next 30-day goal

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20. Countywide Coordination

Sphere Teams should operate independently enough to move quickly but remain coordinated enough to reinforce one another.

Hold a monthly County Team leadership meeting with Sphere Team Leaders.

Maintain one shared contact map with appropriate privacy safeguards.

Use one calendar for important public meetings and events.

Identify cross-sphere opportunities—for example, a business owner who is also a church leader or an attorney who can assist the Judiciary Team.

Coordinate major public campaigns before launch.

Agree on factual standards and approved core documents.

Resolve internal disagreements privately and professionally.

Celebrate measurable progress, not simply activity.

21. Fast Track vs. Long Game

Not every sphere moves at the same speed. Some counties may have immediate support for a resolution or ordinance; others need months or years of relationship-building.

Fast Track — Use when credible sponsors, legal review, public support, and a realistic path to action already exist. Concentrate Sphere Teams around the immediate objective.

Long Game — Use when relationships are weak, officials are unfamiliar with the proposal, legal concerns remain unresolved, or public support is insufficient. Focus on education, recruitment, trust, leadership development, and smaller wins.

22. Standards for Every Sphere Team

- ☐ Tell the truth and verify claims.
- ☐ Use primary sources whenever possible.
- ☐ Distinguish fact, opinion, legal argument, and disputed interpretation.
- ☐ Respect constitutional and statutory limits on each office.
- ☐ Do not harass, threaten, intimidate, or personally attack officials or opponents.

- ☐ Do not present rumors as evidence.
- ☐ Protect sensitive personal information.
- ☐ Follow public-meeting, lobbying, election, records, and ethics rules.
- ☐ Correct material mistakes.
- ☐ Seek peaceful, lawful remedies.
- ☐ Build relationships that can survive disagreement.

23. Sphere Team Startup Worksheet

Sphere: _____

Team Leader: _____

Core Members: _____

Top 10 Contacts: _____

Three Current Issues: _____

Three Existing Relationships: _____

Primary Toolkit Resources Needed: _____

90-Day Relationship Goal: _____

90-Day Education Goal: _____

90-Day Action Goal: _____

First Meeting Date: _____

Next County Team Report Date: _____

24. County Sphere Dashboard

SPHERE	LEADER	TEAM SIZE	90-DAY GOAL	STATUS
Faith & Churches				
County Commissioners & Local Government				
Sheriff & Law Enforcement				
Elections				
Judiciary & Legal				
Education & Parents				
Business & Property Owners				
Media & Communications				
Cities & Municipal Government				
State Legislature & Public Policy				

Civic & Community Organizations				
Youth & Emerging Leaders				

25. Recommended Toolkit Resources

What Is a Constitutional County?

Constitutional County Strategy Overview

How to Organize a Constitutional County Team

County Commissioner Outreach Guide

Sheriff Outreach Guide

Constitutional Compliance Committee Model

Citizen Constitutional Complaint Form

Petition for Redress Template

Sample Constitutional County Resolution

Model Constitutional County Ordinance

Election Integrity Resources

Florida Legal Guardrail

Florida's Constitution establishes elected county constitutional officers, including the Sheriff and Supervisor of Elections. Florida law also prohibits a county from creating or expanding a governmental unit for the purpose of exercising powers allocated exclusively to specified

constitutional officers. Sphere Teams should therefore be organized as citizen outreach and education teams, not as substitute governmental authorities.

Educational & Organizational Notice

This guide is provided for civic education and lawful grassroots organization. It is not legal advice. Government authority, lobbying requirements, election rules, public-record laws, nonprofit restrictions, ethics rules, and local procedures vary by activity and jurisdiction. Teams should verify current law and obtain qualified advice when an activity raises legal or regulatory questions.

BUILD THE RELATIONSHIP. GROW THE TEAM. DEVELOP LEADERS. TURN PRINCIPLES INTO LAWFUL LOCAL ACTION.

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