



Comm Skills Virtual Learning

Legal Communication I & II

The Sixth Amendment

April 13, 2020



9-12/Legal Communications I & II
Lesson: [April 13th, 2020]

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will understand the relationship between the Sixth Amendment and criminal procedure.

Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

The first ten Amendments to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. How many of these rights and freedoms can you identify?

Record them on your paper.

Example: *The **Third Amendment** states that soldiers cannot take over a home during war or peace without the homeowner's permission.*

Bill of Rights

How did you do?

Here is a quick link to to check your [results](#):

Fun challenge: Quiz a family member or friend!

Worried that you will have trouble remembering them all?

Check out this catchy [tune](#)!

Vocabulary Activity

Maybe listen to that song a few times, because you do not want to be caught Jaywalking like these people [here](#):

Write your own Jaywalking quiz questions based on 3-5 of the following vocab terms. See who you can stump!

- Acquittal
- Amicus Briefs
- Appeal
- Concurrence
- Double Jeopardy
- Federalism
- Felony
- Judicial Restraint
- Jurisprudence
- Precedent
- Preliminary Trial
- Writ Of Habeas Corpus

Lesson/Activity

Gideon v. Wainwright is responsible for changing the criminal justice system by granting criminal defendants the right to an attorney, even if they can't afford one on their own. The Court ruled that under the Sixth Amendment, state and federal courts were to respect the rights of the accused and allow them the opportunity to defend themselves.

View the following video to establish an understanding of the parties involved in this case.

As you view the [videos](#), note the key points as they relate to the overall case.

Lesson/Activity

Next, we will watch as Gideon explains [what occurred following his arrest.](#)

As you add to your notes, think about how you will explain the circumstance surrounding the arrest of Gideon.

Lesson/Activity

With these questions in mind:

1. Explain the Florida law that determined the appointment of counsel during Gideon's time.
2. Describe the challenge of the role of a judge at the time.
3. How were states across the country dealing with the issue of appointing counsel during this time?

Take notes as we watch this video about state laws that are used to appoint attorneys. Constitutional scholar Akhil Amar and former Solicitor General Paul Clement talk about the Florida law regarding the appointment of counsel during Clarence Gideon's time. Here is the [link](#):

Lesson/Activity

As we learn about Gideon's appeal, record answers to these questions in your notes.

1. Why was Clarence Gideon given a jail sentence?
2. Describe Gideon's experience in prison.
3. Explain the process Supreme Court Justices engage in when selecting cases to hear.

Here is the [link](#):

Read & Respond

Read this [article](#) from the Kansas City Star which discusses the public defender shortage in Missouri. As you read the article, you will analyze the problem.

Create a chart with three columns. Column 1 is Problems. Here you will record the issues and concerns that have emerged as a result of having a shortage of public defenders.

Column 2 is Causes. Here you will record what you believe are the reasons why the shortage exists.

Column 3 is Solutions. In this column, you should brainstorm some possible solutions to the shortage of public defenders.

Additional Resources

[Missouri State Public Defender](#)

[“Missouri’s Public Defender is Sued Again...”](#)

[National Association for Public Defenders](#)