

Actions Individual Lawyers and Citizens Can Take to Defend Democracy

A compilation of resources as provided by the Bar Association of San Francisco, Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG), the Task Force for American Democracy (TFAD), the Washington State Bar Association, and the Women Lawyers on Guard Action Network

- Vote and encourage your family, friends, and colleagues to vote.
- Get involved with your community:
 - Join a Volunteer Attorney Program:
 - [Task for American Democracy Volunteer Program](#)
 - [L4GG Volunteer Program](#)
 - [ACLU “People Power” Grassroots Volunteer Initiative](#)
 - [Democracy Rising Collaborative - Project HALO](#)
 - [Election Official Legal Defense Network \(EOLDN\)](#)
 - [Lawyers Defending American Democracy \(LDAD\) “Meeting the Moment” Initiative](#)
 - [Protect Democracy](#)
 - [RISE UP: Federal Workers Legal Defense Network](#)
 - [We the Action Volunteer Program](#)
 - [Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law](#)
 - [Nonprofit Legal Defense Network](#)
 - Review the [Democracy Rising Collaborative Toolkit](#)
 - Become a poll worker in your community and encourage others to do the same.
 - Check in with your local bar association on where they may need help defending democracy and the rule of law.
 - Follow local election board proceedings and any proposed rule changes. Understand how they support or possibly don't support election integrity.
 - Work in an “information center on elections” answering voters' election related questions, both before and on election day.

- Give talks in your community on issues ranging from the rule of law to building trust in your community and in elections.
 - [**A Guide for Leading Community Discussions: What Is the Rule of Law and Why Is It Fundamental to American Democracy?**](#)
 - [**A Guide for Leading Community Discussions with Lawyers and Law Firms: What Lawyers Can Do to Defend the Rule of Law, Our Democracy and Our Elections**](#)
 - [**A Guide for Leading Community Discussions: Restoring Respect In Public Discourse: An Appeal to the Legal Profession and All Americans**](#)
- Host a Listening Tour or an Election Law Forum in your community. There are templates from the Task Force Force for American Democracy that contain sample invitations, agendas, and breakout sessions.
 - [**Toolkit: How to Host a Listening Tour in Your Community**](#)
 - [**Toolkit: How to Host an Election Law Forum in Your Community**](#)
- Get to know your local election board members and the board's legal counsel and offer to help if/when appropriate.
- Tour your local election facilities such that you know how elections are administered in your community and then use that knowledge to defend the process and refute false information.
- Host a lunch & learn in your firm or in your community about local election administration and invite an election board member or election clerk to give a presentation and to take questions.
- Use your legal research and litigation skills on high-impact democracy and civil rights cases — representing former federal employees fighting unlawful terminations, immigrants challenging dangerous detention conditions, and nonprofits pursuing wrongfully terminated federal funds — with full infrastructure, supervision, and malpractice coverage provided for those who may be retired or working independently through the [**Pro Bono Litigation Corps**](#).

- Train and deploy as part of a rapid-response program conducting remote and in-person legal screenings for detained immigrant facilities nationwide through the [Detention Bridge Project](#). Open to attorneys across practice areas - no immigration experience required.
- Help nonprofits, Tribal governments, and underserved communities defend billions in federal funding through limited-scope consultations on grant compliance, audits, agency investigations, and improper terminations through the [Fund Protection Clinic](#). Full training and supervision provided; no prior experience required. Or help some of them prepare breach-of-contract claims to recover damages due for the unlawful terminations in the [Court of Federal Claims Clinic](#).
- Join other legal professionals in your community to reaffirm your oath, emphasizing your duty to uphold the Constitution and the rule of law.
 - Make a pledge to commit to be in a classroom on Constitution Day, Sept. 17, 2026, to teach an interactive civics lesson. Take the pledge [here](#).
- Be a democracy leader in your area:
 - Stand up for our:
 - Judges, court workers, and our justice system
 - Election workers and election processes
 - American democracy and the rule of law
 - Make sure you're knowledgeable on the Constitution, the rule of law, and democracy.
 - Work to improve public dialogue in your community by role modeling and working to encourage ways for members of your community to disagree better despite political differences.
 - Give a talk on why democracy matters.
 - Sample Speech: Motivating a General Audience to Stand Up for Democracy ([Short Version](#)) ([Long Version](#))

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- Actively dispel election misinformation and disinformation in your community as it arises. Condemn violence of the threat of violence, especially as it relates to our elections and our judicial system.
 - Join L4GG's [State Legislative Advocacy Academy](#), a free, expert-led training for lawyers ready to shape policy at the state level, where many of the most consequential democracy and rights battles are now being fought.
 - Stay informed:
 - Subscribe to the [Impact Docket](#), a free, weekly action brief curated specifically for lawyers and updated to reflect the landscape as it shifts.
 - Sign up for rapid-response SMS alerts by texting "COMMUNITY" to [771-203-4895](#). When time-sensitive legal mobilization is needed, L4GG will reach you directly with exactly what's needed and when.
 - *Share this list with your colleagues and fellow members of the bar and encourage them to get involved in the above activities.*