



***KNOW YOUR RIGHTS,
PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.
CALL THE MADDOX LAW FIRM!***

1 - 2 0 3 - 9 7 2 - 5 8 6 1

Criminal Defense Rights

THE MADDOX LAW FIRM, INC.

125 Elm St, Suite 1 New Canaan, CT 06840
TheMaddoxLawFirm.com



1ST AMENDMENT **1ST AMENDMENT**

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

The 1st Amendment protects our right to speak and express ourselves. It protects our right to gather in groups. It guarantees our right to seek the assistance of local, state, and federal government administrative offices and other political or quasi-governmental organizations to remedy problems that may impact our families, jobs, privacy, and the quiet enjoyment of our homes. This protection does not protect violent, tumultuous, riotous, or objectively dangerous conduct.



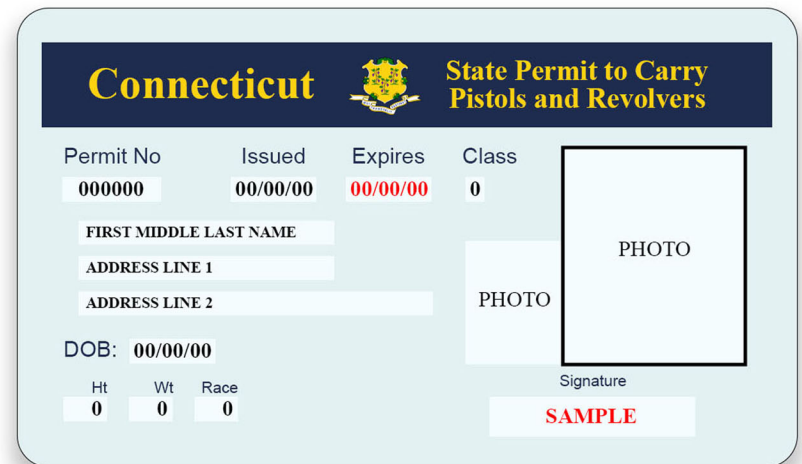



2ND AMENDMENT

2ND AMENDMENT

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

In the criminal defense context, the 2nd Amendment is relevant for people with a firearm permit in Connecticut. As of October 1, 2023, Connecticut is a “concealed carry” state, meaning a permit holder must not openly carry a firearm, but rather keep it hidden from view. The 2nd Amendment does not protect carrying a firearm at or near a school, government buildings, or certain public places in Connecticut where prohibited. The 2nd Amendment can be necessary for a claim of self-defense, but you must understand that the law of self-defense in Connecticut and its application is limited. In Connecticut, the 2nd Amendment does not protect individuals convicted of certain crimes, not limited to felonies.



Connecticut  **State Permit to Carry Pistols and Revolvers**

Permit No	Issued	Expires	Class
000000	00/00/00	00/00/00	0

FIRST MIDDLE LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS LINE 1 _____

ADDRESS LINE 2 _____

DOB: 00/00/00

Ht	Wt	Race
0	0	0

PHOTO

PHOTO

Signature

SAMPLE



3RD AMENDMENT

3RD AMENDMENT

No Soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the owner's consent, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

The 3rd Amendment was written in response to Great Britain's Quartering Act of 1765 which placed soldiers in private homes. Dovetailing with the 4th Amendment, the 3rd reminds us of the sanctity of our homes and the boundary between where we live and where government intrusion ends.





4TH AMENDMENT

4TH AMENDMENT

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

This Amendment is one of the most profoundly important of our Republic's legal principles. It creates a privacy boundary between us and the government. It specifically states that a warrant cannot be issued to search our persons, homes, or private effects without a judge finding probable cause to search. Note the use of the word "unreasonable," though, and the fact that our federal and state case law provides significant discretion to police, prosecutors, and judges when it comes to probable cause and the even lower standard of "reasonable suspicion."





5TH AMENDMENT

5TH AMENDMENT

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

There is so much in this vitally important Amendment. It is most commonly understood for its protection against self-incrimination. We cannot be forced to speak to law enforcement or make statements of any kind at any point in a criminal investigation or prosecution. It is always the government's burden of proof. Exercise and be confident in your right to remain silent. The 5th Amendment also protects us from being prosecuted for the same crime twice. In other words, once you've been tried, you can't be tried again for the same crime. Finally, the 5th Amendment ensures we have whole, unfettered, open access to our laws and their administration to fight any government effort to take our property, liberty, or life.





6TH AMENDMENT

6TH AMENDMENT

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

The 6th Amendment is about confrontation and fair trial. By confrontation, we speak about cross-examining witnesses, testing the accuracy of documents and physical evidence, and presenting evidence on our behalf. We are guaranteed the right to have our case heard in an area at or near where we live. We are guaranteed a fair-minded jury and the right to subpoena witnesses to appear. We also have a right to an attorney; this last right was later expanded in the seminal case of Gideon v. Wainright to ensure that if someone could not afford an attorney, that one would be appointed.





7TH AMENDMENT

7TH AMENDMENT

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

The right to have your case tried in front of a jury, which will decide the factual evidence in your case and what testimony can be relied upon, is fundamental in our great nation. The 7th Amendment also establishes the very high authority of a jury; although a verdict is subject to appeal on legal grounds, a jury's decision is considered final. In Connecticut, juries are described as the judges of the facts.





8TH AMENDMENT

8TH AMENDMENT

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

The 8th Amendment ensures we have a right to reasonable bail after arrest. A judge ultimately determines reasonable bail. It is common to fight in court over the amount and conditions of bail. This Amendment also protects against excessive punishments and conditions ("cruel and unusual"). It provides prisoners with certain protections during their confinement. These rights include humane living conditions, adequate medical care, and physical safety.





9TH AMENDMENT **9TH AMENDMENT**

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

This is a catch-all Amendment that invokes the mindset of the writers and thinkers when these Amendments were drafted. One of the concerns then, and even now, was protecting the individual from government overreach. Power is in the people, and the philosophies that embody our natural rights were very much in focus in the 9th and 10th Amendments.





10TH AMENDMENT

10TH AMENDMENT

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Beginning in the 18th century, the debate for decades, and to a more subtle degree in the following centuries, was how to balance central government authority with the authority of the individual states. This Amendment states plainly that the States' power is essential for the individual and as a buffer against the excessive central government.

