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**Bill of Rights Scenarios**

**Directions:** Using your Bill of Rights amendments (and paraphrasing), choose which amendment best applies to each case and explain how it applies.

***Case 1***

You are attending a court hearing based on a suit you are filing against your neighbor due to trouble you are having over his/her dog. Recently, you left your garage door open and came home to find many of your belongings, which were stored inside, chewed up and ruined by the mutt. The damage is around $3,000. You explain all of this to the judge and request a civil trial by jury. You feel that a jury will be sympathetic to your frustration with your neighbor, will understand it was your neighbor’s dog that ruined your property, and will thus rule that your neighbor must pay for the damages.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 2***

Susette bought a house and spent years restoring it. She loves her home. One day, she gets a notice that the local government is going to take her property in order to turn her land over to a private company. ­the local government says it can take Susette’s home because the new jobs and tax revenue created by the company will benefit the public.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 3***

Carolyn is arrested for shoplifting a candy bar from a grocery store. At trial, she is found guilty. Th­e judge decides that the right punishment is to cut off Carolyn’s hands so she will not be able to shoplift again Is the police officer right?

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 4***

Congress wants to find ways to cut costs because of the soaring budget deficit. Congress passes a law to require American citizens to house US soldiers in their homes during peacetime?

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 5***

John, a fourteen year old public school student, wears a shirt to school that says “Be happy, not gay” to express his belief that homosexuality is wrong. His dean tells him he must change his shirt or be suspended from school. John refuses, and is suspended for a week.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 6***

Concerned about rising crime, lawmakers for the District of Columbia ban all handguns in the city, and require that shot-guns be kept unloaded and/or disassembled.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 7***

John is waiting in jail for a trial. He doesn’t know why he is on trial, and he is very angry because he’s been waiting for 7 months in jail! John begs the guard to tell him why he is on trial, and also begs him/her to speed up the process. Seven months is too long to sit in a cell, especially when they are clueless as to why!

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 8***

You are a judge, and your best friend since elementary school who is a detective appears before you asking for a warrant to search his/her ex-fiancés home. You know that the ex-fiancé hasn’t done anything wrong legally, but the ex-fiancé broke off the engagement with your best friend, a terrible thing to do. You know your friend really wants a reason to get in there and snoop around, so you approve the warrant.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 9***

As President of the United States of America, you have decided to use your power to eradicate one of your biggest pet peeves…second hand smoke. You meet with your Vice President and explain to him/her that cigarette smoke drives you crazy and that you think it is a bad habit for any American to have. You tell him/her that the national government is going to make all bars and restaurants across America smoke free effective immediately. The Vice President, as always, agrees with everything you say and says that as the President, you can tell the states to do anything you choose.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Case 10***

You are applying for a construction job. At the interview, the manager explains that he/she is interested in hiring you, but worries you can handle the heavy lifting and strenuous work that goes along with the job. He/she explains they only want to hire the healthiest of people. You say that you are healthy and that you can certainly handle any physical requirements of the job. Later, after the interview, you learn that the construction company somehow gained access to your medical records and refuse to hire you due to a back injury you had four years ago.

* Which amendment applies to this scenario? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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