

# U.S. OATHS OF OFFICE

## The President of the United States Oath of Office

*"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." - Constitution of the United States, Article II, Section 1*

**NOTE:** The President's oath is contained in the Constitution itself, the only oath to have been so prescribed. The Vice President of the United States takes the oath below.

### **Individuals, Except the President, Elected or Appointed to an Office of Honor or Profit (The Vice President, Senators and Representatives, Members of the Several State Legislatures, and all Executive and Judicial Officers, Including all Civil and Military Officers, Both of the United States and of the Several States)**

*"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter." - United States Code, Title 5, Part III, Subpart B, Chapter 33, Subchapter II, § 3331*

### **Oath of Enlistment**

*"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice." - United States Code, Title 10; Act of 5 May 1960 replacing the wording first adopted in 1789, with amendment effective 5 October 1962*

### **Other Officials**

**(Largely Follows the Above Formats With Appropriate Substitutions and Additions)**

*I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, (and the Charter of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, e.g.), and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of (mayor of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, e.g.) to the best of my ability.*

**NOTE:** In the United States the oaths of office are sworn or affirmed without recourse to any religious scripture, although this is allowed. The Constitution specifies in Article VI: *"The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all the executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States (emphasis added)."* The phrase "So help me God" is traditional, only.

**BECAUSE WE  
TOOK AN  
OATH TOO**

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