

Allen West: One of the great things that I love about my service in the United States military is that when you take an oath, you don't take an oath to a person. You don't take an oath to a political party. You don't take an oath to an office. You say that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, against all enemies, foreign or domestic, and I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. What you are saying is that you are willing to be a guardian of this Constitutional Republic, which I think is so important. And that's why I think that every person in the United States of America or all across Western Civilization, they need to take an oath and they need to understand what it means. You know, I often ask people, when was the last time you read the entire Declaration of Independence? Or you read a good sampling of the Federalist Papers? Or read the entire Constitution? And if we're not doing those things individually, if we're not going back and re-instituting the study of civics in our schools and middle schools and high schools, not with any jaded perspectives but really studying and understanding the establishment of the rule of law, then people are going to come along and they can say and do anything that they want. I consider it an incredible affront to the fundamental basis of who we are—the three branches of government, separation of power, co-equal branches, checks and balances—when you have a president that stands up at the State of the Union address before both chambers of the House and before the government of the United States of America, on TV, before the people, and says “I have a pen and a phone and I am going to do whatever I have to do”, then we don't have a constitutional republic. Then we have a constitutional monarchy. And if you know your history, on September 17, 1787, on the day that the Constitution was signed, when Benjamin Franklin came out of Constitution Hall, and he was met by a Philadelphia socialite, a woman by the name of Mrs. Elizabeth Powell. And Mrs. Powell asked him, "Well, Doctor, what is it that we have? A republic or a monarchy?" And Franklin replied, "A republic, if you can keep it". And one of the fundamental principles of a republic is the rule of law. And we must stand up for the rule of law.