

WHERE'S THE LINE?

YOU Are the Answer to What Ails America

Class 4 Handout · Hiring the Fiduciaries · iGovern.us

A six-week course: the 5-Minute Method to restore American self-government

CLASS 4 AT A GLANCE

The Principle: Government is a trust; officers are FIDUCIARIES — trustees bound to the highest duty in our law: utmost good faith and loyalty, our interests above their own. “Magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them.” (Va. Declaration of Rights, 1776)

The Hiring Standard: “Most wisdom to discern, and most virtue to pursue, the common good” (Federalist 57) — tested in three qualifications: CHARACTER · KNOWLEDGE · ABILITY.

The Warning: “Suspect every one who approaches that jewel” (Patrick Henry). Screen out the lovers of power and money (Franklin).

Homework: Map out the contact information for each of our five State agents, learn three things about one of them, follow and subscribe to the social media/website feeds of all five.

“Where’s YOUR Wallet?”

At speaking events I borrow the fattest wallet in the room, set it on the podium — then ask to keep it behind the podium (“I’m a politician, you can trust me”), then to take it home for a couple of weeks. The room always erupts: “Give it BACK!” What does the wallet represent? Money, identity, access, the ability to go places. Yet every two years we hand people we barely know something far greater — our **life, liberty, property, and the structure that protects them** — and we almost never check what they do with it. When you look at your wallet this week, remember what else you’ve handed over — and to whom.

Fill in the Blanks: The Wallet

1. The wallet lesson: we entrust our _____, _____, and _____ to State agents we barely know.
2. Every _____ years we hand our sovereignty to elected officials — and rarely follow up.
3. Government is a _____, delegated by the People — “and by whom it is always _____.” (Paine)

What Is a Fiduciary?

A fiduciary is a trustee who puts the interests of the person they represent **above their own** — held to the highest duty known in our legal system: utmost good faith and loyalty. We choose the guardians of our children and the trustees of our life savings with intense care. Our State agents hold more than either — so the same care applies. The six fiduciary duties, translated to public office: **loyalty** (no serving two masters), **good faith** (honesty in everything), **care & skill** (real competence), **obedience to the trust**

instrument (the Constitution, under the Article VI oath), **disclosure** (a full and honest accounting), and **defense of the trust** (the Class 3 duty to interpose when other agents encroach).

"All power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people; ... magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them."

— Virginia Declaration of Rights, Art. II (1776)

"The federal and State governments are in fact but different agents and trustees of the people ..."

— James Madison, Federalist No. 46

Fill in the Blanks: Fiduciary

4. A fiduciary is a _____ who prioritizes the interests of those they represent over their own.
5. Fiduciary duty is the _____ duty known in our legal system.
6. The officer's "trust instrument" is the _____, under the Article _____ oath.
7. The People are the _____ in the trust relationship; elected officials are the _____.

The Hiring Standard: Character • Knowledge • Ability

"The aim of every political constitution is ... first to obtain for rulers men who possess most wisdom to discern, and most virtue to pursue, the common good of the society; and in the next place, to take the most effectual precautions for keeping them virtuous whilst they continue to hold their public trust."

— James Madison, Federalist No. 57 (1788)

1 • CHARACTER — the will to do right when it costs. "The public cannot be too curious concerning the characters of public men" (Samuel Adams). "In selecting men for office, let principle be your guide ... look to his character" (Noah Webster). "Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad" (William Penn, 1682). The old counsel: "able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness" (Exodus 18:21).

2 • KNOWLEDGE — the map: the constitutional structure. "What can be more absurd than that a person wholly ignorant of the Constitution should boldly adventure to administer the government?" (St. George Tucker). The knowledge test is this course: Who's the boss (K1)? Where's the line (K2)? What are the State's eight tools (K3)? What does the Article VI oath require when the line is crossed?

3 • ABILITY — the skill to deliver. "The true test of a good government is its aptitude and tendency to produce a good administration" (Hamilton, Federalist 68). Can they read a budget like an audit? Stand alone against their own party — with a record? Move their chamber? "Leadership is influence — nothing more, nothing less" (John Maxwell). Dick Armey's caution: "Three groups spend other people's money: children, thieves, and politicians — and all three need parental supervision."

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect every one who approaches that jewel."

— Patrick Henry, Virginia Ratifying Convention, 1788

"There are two passions which have a powerful influence on the affairs of men ... ambition and avarice; the love of power and the love of money."

— Benjamin Franklin, Constitutional Convention, 1787

Fill in the Blanks: The Standard

8. Madison's aim: rulers with most _____ to discern and most _____ to pursue the common good.
9. Samuel Adams: the public cannot be too _____ concerning the characters of public men.
10. Noah Webster: let _____ be your guide — look to his _____.
11. St. George Tucker: nothing is more absurd than a person ignorant of the _____ administering the government.
12. Franklin's two dangerous passions: the love of _____ and the love of _____.

The Sovereign's Job Interview

Test	Questions to Ask
CHARACTER	Why are you running — duty or prize? · When have you stood alone on principle, and what did it cost you? · Who funds your campaign, and what do they expect in return? · What would you refuse to do to win?
KNOWLEDGE	What is the purpose of government? · What do the Ninth and Tenth Amendments mean? · What is the State's police power? · How would you describe the constitution in 4 words or less? ("If Government, Which Government?") · What does the oath in Article VI require of state officials when a federal act crosses the jurisdictional line of the State?
ABILITY	What have you ever built, run, or balanced? · How would you go about asserting or defending the jurisdiction of the state when faced with federal overreach? · What coalition have you ever assembled, and what results can you show me?

Verify with the research pipeline: legislative websites (every vote, bill, and committee — e.g., le.utah.gov); campaign-finance disclosures (who funds them); scorecards from groups you trust AND groups you don't; social media (cameras on); caucuses and town halls (cameras off). The Founders nailed notes to trees — you carry a supercomputer.

"Now more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness and corruption."

— James A. Garfield, 1877

After the Hire: Build Your Contact Map

"Leadership is influence — nothing more, nothing less." Influence grows from knowing. Map your five State agents — **State Representative, State Senator, Attorney General, Governor, Sheriff** — and the rings around them: schedulers, chiefs of staff, staff, family, allies. Reaching the people who protect an agent's time is often more effective than reaching the agent. The purpose is not to chew them out Or criticize them — it is to build them up: **Servant Sovereign, not bossy "boss"**.

My Five State Agents (fill in tonight)

1. My State Representative: _____ · contact: _____

2. My State Senator: _____ · contact: _____

3. My Attorney General: _____ · contact: _____

4. My Governor: _____ · contact: _____

5. My Sheriff: _____ · contact: _____

Your Week 4 Call to Action — 5 Minutes

1. **Map:** put the best contact information for your five State agents — **and their staff** — into your phone.
2. **Learn:** pick ONE agent and learn three things about them you don't already know (family, background, priorities, committees).
3. **Follow:** follow all five on social media; sign up for their newsletters and event notices (town halls, district meetings).

Reflect: Which of the three qualifications — **character, knowledge, ability** — does your current State representative most clearly show? Which needs your help to build up or strengthen?

Next week: KNOW #5 — the 3 Ps (Personal, Professional, Persistent): how to delegate your sovereign authority, responsibility and vision through the fiduciaries you've hired (elected).

Answer Key (Fill in the Blanks)

Wallet: 1. life, liberty, property 2. two 3. trust, resumable · Fiduciary: 1. trustee 2. highest 3. Constitution, VI 4. principal, agents · Standard: 1. wisdom, virtue 2. curious 3. principle, character 4. Constitution 5. power, money