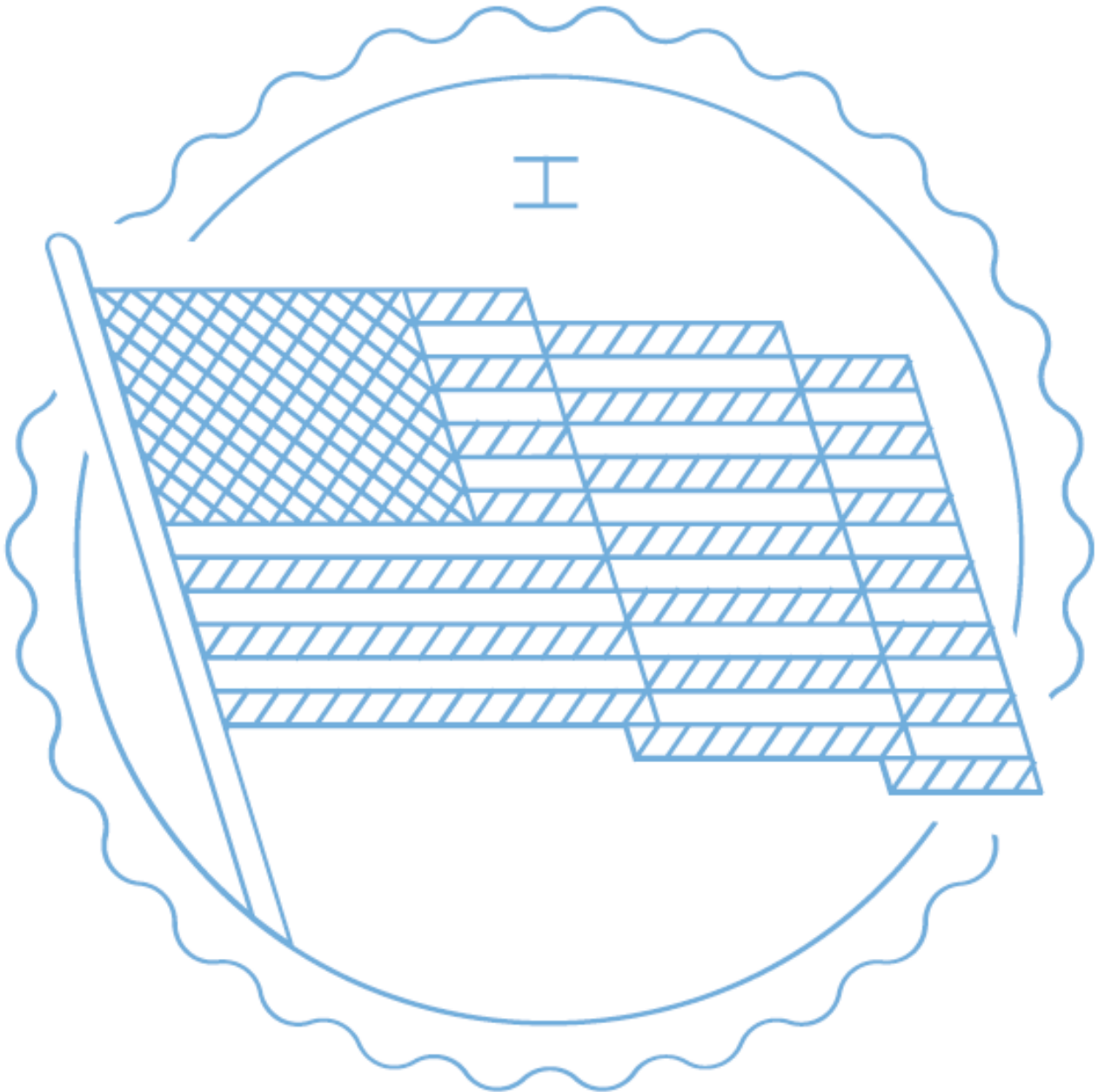


**INTERACTIVE**

**CONSTITUTION**

**MATTERS FOR  
DISCUSSION**

**FIRST AMENDMENT:  
SPEECH**



**NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**



- Can a public school require students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance? (*West Virginia Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943))
- Can a public school prevent students from wearing black armbands at school to protest a war? (*Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969))
- Can a public school prevent students from wearing shirts displaying the Confederate flag? (*Melton v. Young*, 465 F.2d 1332 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1972))
- Can a public school prohibit students from wearing “I ♥ Boobies” armbands as part of a fundraiser for breast cancer research? (*B.H. & K.M. v. Easton Area School District*, 725 F.3d 293 (3d Cir. 2013); *Bethel School District v. Fraser*, 478 U.S. 675 (1986))
- Can a public school punish students for displaying a banner promoting drug use at a school-sponsored event? (*Morse v. Frederick*, 551 U.S. 393 (2007))
- Can a public school punish students for criticizing the school principal on social media outside of school hours? (My Space case).
- Can the government punish Community Party members for advocating the overthrow of the United States government? (*Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357 (1927))
- Can the government punish members of a hate group like the Ku Klux Klan for advocating violence against Jews and African-Americans at a rally? (*Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444 (1969))
- Can the government prevent a hate group like the Ku Klux Klan or neo-Nazis from marching through a predominantly Jewish town? (*National Socialist Party of America v. Village of Skokie*, 432 U.S. 43 (1977))
- Can the government punish someone for burning a cross on an African-American family's lawn? (*Virginia v. Black*, 538 U.S. 343 (2003))
- Can the government impose stricter punishments on violent criminals if it determines they committed a “hate crime” motivated by hatred against certain groups? (*Loosely R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul*, 505 U.S. 377 (1992))
- Can the government punish someone for wearing a shirt with an obscenity on it in a courtroom? (*Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15 (1971))
- Can the government prevent people from protesting at a military funeral with signs displaying offensive messages toward the person who died? (*Snyder v. Phelps*, 562 U.S. 443 (2011))
- Can the government punish someone for sending death threats to a public figure online? How about the President? (*Watts v. United States*, 394 U.S. 705 (1969) (in part))