

BILL OF RIGHTS - ARTICLE 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or **abridging the freedom of speech**, or of the press; or the **right of the people peaceably to assemble**, and to **petition the government for a redress of grievances**.

BILL OF RIGHTS - ARTICLE 5

No person shall ... be deprived of **life, liberty, or property**, without **due process of law**....

CIVIL RIGHTS ACT

United States Code

Title 18--**Crimes** and Criminal Procedure



Statute 242. **Deprivation** of rights under **color of law**

Whoever, under **color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation**, or custom, willfully subjects any person in any State ... to the **deprivation of any rights**, ... secured or **protected by the Constitution** or laws of the United States, ... shall be fined under this title or **imprisoned** not more than one year, or both; and... if such acts include the use, attempted use, or threatened use of a dangerous **weapon**, ... shall be fined ... or **imprisoned** not more than ten years, or both; and **if death results** from the acts committed in violation of this section or if such acts include **kidnapping** ..., shall be fined ... or **imprisoned** for any term of years or **for life**, or both, or **may be sentenced to death**.

Color of law: the appearance, **without** the substance, of a legal right. – Blacks Law Dictionary