

UPDATED ITEMS FOR CLAIM YOUR POWERS

Prepared by Laurel Singleton, Center for Education in Law and Democracy, May 2012.

- a. 2012: The Stop Online Piracy Act has been proposed to stop theft of intellectual property (music, writing, etc.) on the Internet.
- b. 2005: Your name is John Roberts. You are 50 years old and have just been appointed to a job that you can hold for life as long as you act with “good behavior.”
- c. 2012: The U.S. ambassadors to Afghanistan and Pakistan, key countries in U.S. military operations, are leaving their posts in summer 2012. New ambassadors will be needed.
- d. 2010: Justice John Paul Stevens retires from the Supreme Court. A new justice must be appointed.
- e. 2008: The United States becomes one of the first countries to recognize Kosovo as an independent nation.
- f. 2012: More than half the states are suing the federal government to stop the health care reform law from being implemented.
- g. 2012: The Navy requests nearly \$40 billion to build new ships equipped with all of the latest technology.
- h. 2012: An Arizona law designed to stop the flow of unauthorized migrants across the border from Mexico into Arizona has been challenged as being unconstitutional.
- i. 2009: Vicente Zambada-Niebla, a reputed leader of a Mexican drug cartel, was arrested and extradited to the United States, where he faces federal charges—conspiring to import thousands of pounds of drugs into Chicago.
- j. 1998: Impeachment proceedings are brought against President Bill Clinton
- k. 2007: A bill to provide for human embryonic stem cell research is vetoed.
- l. 2012: A State of the Union message is prepared and delivered.
- m. 2010: A diplomat from Qatar is arrested on a flight from Washington to Denver. When caught smoking in the airplane bathroom, the diplomat jokes about being a shoe bomber and is immediately seized by U.S. marshals on the United Airlines flight.
- n. 2010: In the Citizens United ruling, portions of the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (McCain-Feingold) that limited political expenditures by corporations and unions are struck down.
- o. 2011: The United States takes military action against Libya.

- p. 2012: Michael Bennett of Colorado calls for a bill that would require nonprofit political groups to disclose their donors.
- q. 2012: The United States and five other world powers negotiate with Iranian diplomats regarding nuclear weapons.
- r. 2003: Karen Capato is refused Social Security benefits for her twin sons. They were conceived using frozen sperm from her dead husband. She believes this decision was wrong. (Note: Case was decided in 2012.)