

In 1787, Delaware leaders and citizens came from all walks of life.

Delaware's population of 60,000 included farmers, tenants, hired hands and slaves.

## By the People.

Delaware citizens ratified and signed the Constitution

On December 7, 1787, thirty Delaware citizen delegates voted unanimously to ratify the new U.S. Constitution, making Delaware the first state to do so. Five of these citizens signed the Constitution on behalf of all Delawareans. They were: (clockwise from top) George Read, Gunning Bedford, Jr., John Dickson, Richard Bassett, and Jacob Broom.



They all envisioned a future of freedom.

# We the People

## Delaware was the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution!

*Delaware*  
George Read  
Gunning Bedford, Jr.  
John Dickson  
Richard Bassett  
Jacob Broom  
James M. Smith

**Delaware Day-  
December 7**  
celebrating  
**The State that  
Started  
a Nation**



Celebrate freedom of thought and expression – at your public library!

Today, all Delawareans enjoy liberty for all.

Delaware's population is a wonderful mix of people from all walks of life – living, learning and working together and enjoying the liberties made possible by our forefathers.



## For the People.



We the People of the United to form a more perfect Union, insure domestic **Tranquility**, common defence, promote the and secure the Blessings of and our Posterity, do ordain this Constitution for the United States of America.

States, in Order establish **Justice**, provide for the general Welfare, **Liberty** to ourselves and establish this

Delaware helped forge a nation that remains free and strong.