Key Documents of Liberty

This is a collection of some of the most important legal documents, charters, constitutions, and declarations in the western tradition.

The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789)

- Pocket Guide to Political and Civic Rights
- 1750: The Code of Hammurabi (Johns translation)
- 1750: The Code of Hammurabi (King translation)
- 1117: Articles of the Communal Charter of Amiens
- 1215: Magna Carta
- 1215: Magna Carta (Latin and English)
- 1602: Coke, Preface to the 2nd Part of the Reports (Pamphlet)
- 1619: Laws enacted by the First General Assembly of Virginia
- 1620: The Mayflower Compact
- 1621: Constitution for the Council and Assembly in Virginia
- 1628: Petition of Right
- 1629: Agreement of the Massachusetts Bay Company
- 1637: Providence Agreement
- 1638: Act for Church Liberties (Maryland)
- 1638: Act for the Liberties of the People (Maryland)
- 1639: Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
- 1640/1: The Triennial Act
- 1641: Massachusetts Body of Liberties
- 1641: The Act for the Abolition of the Court of Star Chamber
- 1641: The Act for the Abolition of the Court of High Commission
- 1641: The Tonnage and Poundage Act
• 1689: English Bill of Rights
• 1692: Shower, Reasons for a New Bill of Rights (Pamphlet)
• 1701: Pennsylvania Charter of Liberties
• 1736: Brief Narrative of the Trial of Peter Zenger
• 1744: Williams, Rights and Liberties of Protestants (Sermon)
• 1763: Otis, Rights of British Colonies Asserted (Pamphlet)
• 1769: Resolutions of the Stamp Act Congress
• 1766: Mayhew, The Snare Broken (Sermon)
• 1774: Declaration and Resolves of the 1st Continental Congress
• 1776: Declaration of Independence (various drafts)
• 1776: Hutchinson, Strictures upon the Declaration of Independence
• 1776: Paine, Common Sense (Pamphlet)
• 1776: Virginia Bill of Rights
• 1776: Witherspoon, Dominion of Providence over the Passions of Men (Sermon)
• 1778: Articles of Confederation
• 1785: Madison, Memorial and Remonstrance against Religious Assessments
• 1786: Jefferson, Virginia Bill Establishing Religious Freedom
• 1787: Selections from the Federalist (Pamphlets)
• 1787: US Constitution
• 1787: Virginia and New Jersey Plans
• 1787: Wilson, Address to the People of Philadelphia (Speech)
• 1788: Amendments recommended by the Several State Conventions
• 1789: French Declaration of the Rights of Man
• 1789: Madison, Speech Introducing Proposed Amendments to the Constitution
• 1790: Hamilton, First Report on Public Credit
• 1790: Jefferson, Memorandum on the Compromise of 1790
• 1790: Price, Discourse on the Love of Our Country (Sermon)
• 1791: Hamilton, Opinion as to the Constitutionality of the Bank of the US
• 1791: Jefferson, Opinion against the Constitutionality of a National Bank
• 1791: Madison, Speech on the Bank Bill
• 1791: US Bill of Rights (1st 10 Amendments) – with commentary
• 1793: French Republic Constitution of 1793
• 1793: Helvidius (Madison), No. 1 (Pamphlet)
• 1793: Pacificus (Hamilton), No. 1 (Pamphlet)
• 1796: George Washington's "Farewell Address" (Speech)
• 1798-1802: US Bill of Rights Amendments (XI-XXVII)
• 1798: Alien and Sedition Acts
• 1798: Counter-resolutions of Other States
• 1798: Kentucky Resolutions
• 1798: Kentucky Resolutions (Jefferson's Draft)
• 1798: Virginia Resolutions
• 1799: Report of the Virginia House of Delegates
• 1801: Jefferson, 1st Annual Message
• 1801: Jefferson, 1st Inaugural Address
• 1802: Jefferson, Letter to the Danbury Baptist Association (Letter)
• 1830: French Charter of 1830

<http://oll.libertyfund.org/pages/key-documents>