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Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State

Minnesota Public Benefit Corporation / Annual Benefit Report

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 304A

Read the instructions before completing this form
Must be filed by March 31
Filing Fee: $55 for expedited service in-person or online, $35 if submitted by mail

The Annual Benefit Report covers the 12 month period ending on December 31 of the previous year.
Notice: Failure to file this form by March 31 of this year will result in the revocation of the corporation's public benefit status without further notice from the Secretary of State, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 304A.301

1. File Number 1201862200035

2. Corporate Name: (Required) The Forum for Constitutional Rights, GBC

3. The public benefit corporation's board of directors has reviewed and approved this report.

4. In the field below, enter the information required by section 304A.301 subd. 2 or 3 for the period covered by this report, (see instructions for further information): Note: Use additional sheets if needed. (Required)

Please see attachment.

5. I, the undersigned, certify that I am the chief executive officer of this public benefit corporation. I further certify that I have signed this document no more than 30 days before the document is delivered to the secretary of state for filing, and that this document is current when signed. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature of Public Benefit Corporation's Chief Executive Officer

2/24/26

Date (Must be dated within 30 days before the report is delivered to the Secretary of State for Filing)

Email Address for Official Notices

Enter an email address to which the Secretary of State can forward official notices required by law and other notices:

info@forumforconstitutionalrights.com

☐ Check here to have your email address excluded from requests for bulk data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.

List a name and daytime phone number of a person who can be contacted about this form:

Matt Ehling	651-556-1381
Contact Name	Phone Number

Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.

Does this entity own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed?
Yes ☐ No ☒

Print Reset

The Forum For Constitutional Rights, GBC

Information Required by Minn. Stat. § 304A.301, subd 3.
(Supplement to 2025 Annual Benefit Report)

The Forum For Constitutional Rights, GBC, is a Minnesota general public benefit corporation, organized to provide a general public benefit through its operations.

The Forum For Constitutional Rights, GBC (FCR) was registered by the Minnesota Secretary of State on December 21, 2020. Calendar year 2025 was FCR's sixth year in business, and fifth full year of operations.

FCR's articles describe the corporation's general public benefit purpose as follows:

> "The Forum For Constitutional Rights, GBC ... shall be a general public benefit corporation organized and operated to pursue a general public benefit, focused on providing public education about constitutional history and constitutional rights, including but not limited to First Amendment rights. Public education activities undertaken by the Corporation may include, but are not limited to, publishing and filing of amicus briefs in court cases pertaining to First Amendment and free speech issues."

To carry out this purpose, FCR engages in commercial activity in order to generate revenue sufficient to support the following activities:

1. Publishing books, pamphlets, electronic media, or similar, related to U.S. Constitutional history (either state or federal), or related public affairs issues that pertain to constitutional rights, governmental power, or other constitutional matters;

2. Filing amicus (friend-of-the-court) briefs in state and federal litigation that involve state or federal constitutional issues - including free speech issues.

FCR is non-partisan in its focus, and seeks to elevate the discourse about constitutional matters by highlighting the enduring principles that flow from America's constitutional tradition — such as free speech and due process protections. FCR seeks to maintain support for these ideas across the political spectrum, in order to ensure that these foundational concepts remain central to America's civic life.

In its amicus briefing practice, FCR supports plaintiffs irrespective of their political persuasion or other political considerations, and focuses solely on whether plaintiffs are

seeking to protect and secure rights and principles guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America, or by the constitutions of the individual states.

Third-Party Standard

Certification: The board of directors of FCR ("Board") certifies that it has chosen a third-party standard as required by Minn. Stat. § 304A.301 to guide its operations. The third-party standard applies to FCR's operations described in this report. The chosen third-party standard was derived from the following source:

1. The Constitution of the United States of America, including all amendments ratified and adopted by the people of the United States of America.

Selection of Standard: The Board selected FCR's third-party standard upon FCR's organization in 2020, and FCR continued to rely on that standard during the 2025 operating year.

Determination: The Board has determined that the entity that promulgated the third-party standard adopted by FCR (the people of the United States of America) is independent from FCR. The United States Constitution ("USC") is based on principles promulgated during debates that occurred after the American Revolutionary War, and it - and its amendments - have been ratified and adopted by successive generations of American citizens during the two-plus centuries that have followed. FCR is not, and has not been, a party to the debates over, or ratification of, the USC or any of its amendments.

Application of Standard: The Board certifies that FCR is applying the third-party standard in a manner consistent with the standard's application in FCR's prior report. Further detail on the application of the standard is provided in the "narrative of operations" section of this report.

Narrative of Operations

Pursuit of public benefit: 2025 was FCR's fifth full calendar year of operations, and the corporation undertook four key initiatives related to its public benefit purpose:

1. Filing amicus briefs in Minnesota court cases;

2. Tracking and prioritizing ongoing constitutional law-related litigation for future amicus participation;

3. Gathering material and conducting research for future 1A Publishing

manuscript offerings, and;

4. Publishing opinion pieces on issues pertaining to governmental power, and the U.S. Constitution.

All publishing and legal activities undertaken by FCR were related to the pursuit of FCR's general public benefit purpose, as further described herein.

Achievement of public benefit: FCR's activities achieved and/or supported its public benefit purpose in the following ways:

1(a). Consistent with its mission to file amicus briefs in cases with significant implications for constitutional law and governmental power, FCR joined friend-of-the-court briefs filed in three separate, but related cases: *Perkins Coie, LLP v. U.S. Department of Justice*; *Jenner Block, LLP v. U.S. Department of Justice*; and *Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, LLP v. Executive Office of the President*.

During the early days of the Trump administration, President Trump issued executive orders targeting law firms that represented clients who opposed the President in various legal matters.

Under the executive orders, Trump directed federal agencies to terminate security clearances held by attorneys from the targeted firms; to terminate active federal contracts with those firms; and to limit attorney access to federal government buildings.

Concerned about the executive branch taking punitive actions against law firms based upon who they represent, the Forum for Constitutional Rights joined scores of other organizations and individuals in three amici briefs filed by the Press Freedom Defense Fund. The briefs challenged the president's executive orders in all three cases.

On May 2, 2025, the district court judge in the *Perkins Coie* case found that the executive order at issue "violates the Constitution and is null and void." On May 23, 2025, the judge in the *Jenner Block* case likewise found that the challenged executive order "violates the Constitution" and he "enjoin[ed] its operation in full."

2. FCR has conducted research regarding amicus briefs that FCR may wish to file in future months. FCR has identified several ongoing cases involving actions taken by the Trump administration, including First and Fourteenth amendment issues. Such cases include *Associated Press v. Taylor Budowich*.

The Board has determined that FCR's pursuit of amicus participation in these cases are consistent with FCR's mission, and align with the third-party standard that guides FCR's work.

3. Consistent with its mission to engage in publishing activities that pertain to constitutional history, constitutional rights, or governmental power, FCR conducted further research relating to the late M. Gene Wheaton, an individual who was central to the exposure of the "Iran-Contra" scandal of the mid-1980s. That scandal involved multiple questions pertaining to constitutional law, as well as governmental power. Mr. Wheaton, and the various historical matters he intersected with, was the subject of "The Wheaton Papers: Volume 1" released by 1A Publishing in 2022. (1A Publishing is a "dba" name used by FCR for its publishing operations.) FCR's current research into Mr. Wheaton's activities will be made available in a subsequent, second volume of the "The Wheaton Papers."

FCR also continued work on two other manuscripts to be released by 1A Publishing — including a historical overview of important federal constitutional law cases, and an examination of a specific high-security U.S. military facility, and the impact of its secrecy protocols on governmental processes.

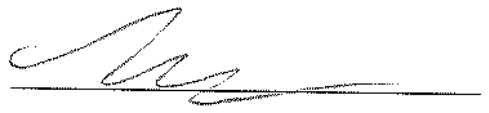
4. FCR published an "op-ed" piece in The Minnesota Reformer on November 17, 2025, entitled "Using the military to police Americans used to alarm conservatives — for good reason." The piece focused on the U.S. Supreme Court's review of the *Trump v. Illinois* case; the Trump administration's use of active duty troops inside the United States; and the controversies that have flowed from the domestic use of military assets and tactics in the past.

The Board has determined that FCR's pursuit of publishing projects that pertain to constitutional rights, constitutional history, and governmental power is consistent with FCR's mission, and aligns with the third-party standard that guides FCR's work.

Circumstances that hindered efforts: During 2025, FCR encountered no circumstances that hindered efforts toward achieving its public purpose.

Certification of Approval: As required by Minn. Stat. § 304A.301, the Board certifies that it has reviewed and approved this report.

Signed,



Matt Ehling
Chair, Board of Directors
The Forum For Constitutional Rights

February 24, 2026

Work Item 1634687700032
Original File Number 1201862200035

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
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Steve Simon
Secretary of State