



CONVENTION of STATES

HISTORIC SIMULATION

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG • SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2016

Welcome to the Simulated Convention Viewing Project. This effort will provide our grassroots volunteers the opportunity to be part of the first ever Simulated Article V Convention of States held in Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. While the convention will be held on September 21st to the 23rd, we will be live streaming this on Friday, September 23rd from 9 am - 4 pm EST. For those in other time zones, you will have access to this event LIVE or on demand at: <http://www.conventionofstates.com/cossim>. This allows you to host a viewing and watch all or part of this at a time that is best suited for your guests.

Here are some helpful things to consider if you should choose to host a Viewing. Now before we move on from here, there is freedom to use some, all or none of these suggestions. They are just that, suggestions.

Also, 1 participant makes a Viewing. If you can invite a family member, friend or neighbor, that is great but not necessary.

Some things you may want to do prior to the Viewing:

1. You might want to find out where your legislator stand on the Article V Convention of States Project – just for your information.
 1. If they are on the fence, you may want someone there who can take notes that can be provided to him/her later.
2. If you are inviting others to watch with you, send an email out to "Save the Date" and give them some early "teaser" information that will entice them to become part of this historic event.

How to Host a Simulated Convention Viewing

Finding and Creating the Perfect Setting:

It's always good, if you feel comfortable, to host this in an environment that you are comfortable in, such as your home. If you are not comfortable inviting individuals into your home, there are a variety of locations where this can be done at little or no cost.

1. Your county library
2. Pizza Parlor
 1. Many times they have a back room that is free if you buy a pizza
3. Church

Securing the Right Location in Advance

Wherever you choose to have it, be sure that you plan ahead enough to allow for room for those you have invite. Here are some helpful hints:

1. Planning ahead is always a first step for, not only finding a proper facility, but finding one that will be donated, or at least reduced in price. It is good to begin looking as soon as possible to give you more options.
2. Find a location that will accommodate the number of people who you will have confirmed plus a few extra. Often times, people don't realize how important it is to RSVP and they just show up. Some people will bring friends with them.
3. Be sure that the location is centrally located for the invitees.

Training for Host:

You as a host will want to be sure that you have a grasp of the Article V process so you can help your guests follow along.

2. How to Explain the Article V Process (Provide bullets) for them to use
3. Printed Information: (To be able to follow the amending process)
 1. Schedule
 2. Over-view
 3. Blank pages for notes/amendment ideas

Creating the Agenda and Tone of the Viewing:

1. Starting and Ending on Time
 1. When asking people to attend an event, respect for their time is essential. That is why you should always start on time, even if there are more coming, you want to honor those who made the effort to be on time.
 2. End on time. If others want to hang around after that's their decision but, again, you show respect when you end when you say you will.
2. Agenda - Breaking Into Sections
 1. Meet & Greet - 30 minutes
 1. If serving refreshments this is the time
 2. May have an informal way of getting them all acquainted
 1. Have them each introduce themselves (briefly) and say where they are from)
 2. Explain Procedure - Give an overview of how you will be spending this allotted time together (review the agenda)
 1. You may want to print your agenda and pass it out so they can follow along
 3. Video from Michael Farris and Mark Meckler
 1. [http://www.conventionofstates.com/simulated_convention_of_states# = Watch event](http://www.conventionofstates.com/simulated_convention_of_states#_ga=2.111111111.111111111.111111111.111111111)
 1. Provide note pads for them to take notes
5. Discussion - It is important for the leader to lead the discussion to keep it focused on the Simulated Convention

1. What did they learn?
2. What were some amendments that they liked?
3. Were there any amendments that they didn't agree with?
4. Are there other amendments they would like to see introduced?
5. What was their biggest take away from this?

Marketing:

This historic opportunity should be an easy "sell".

1. Within your invitation, create a curiosity and excitement due to the historic nature of this exercise.
2. Instill a hunger to empower their teams with greater knowledge and understanding.

How to Recruit New Supporters:

1. When trying to recruit new supporters it's always best to do it in person or by a personal phone call. Emails are ineffective as many emails (estimated 80%) are never opened.
2. Sending a hand written invitation is very personal and shows genuine interest due to the time that is taken.
3. Make an appointment with a prospect over coffee and entice them to attend.
4. Make your invitation interesting.
 1. Come up with a catchy "headline" when presenting your invitation.
 1. "When was the last time you saw our Constitution lived out?"
 2. "Did you know that history will be made on September 23rd?"
5. Once you get a "yes" never assume that they won't forget.
6. Follow up the day before to remind them and to energize them to attend.

After the "Viewing" it is important to follow up and get them to become involved with the COS Project.

1. Don't take "no" for an absolute answer. Some just need some time to digest all that they have learned.
2. Provide new information occasionally as part of your follow up.

Viewing Follow Up:

1. What is their call to action?
 1. Sign online petitions
 2. Website for Amendment ideas
2. What will they do with what they have learned?
 1. Teach them how to share their recruiter link
 2. Invitation to join LLT in each state
 3. When will they schedule their Simulated Convention?

Sit back and prepare to be amazed. This event is historic and we want all of you to participate, learn and enjoy watching history in the making.