

FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION

Free Press. Free Speech. Free to Create.

FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION LLC

THE FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION COVENANT

Why First Amendment Television Exists

Adopted: July 2026

Status: Foundational Governing Document

Authority: This Covenant establishes the institutional purpose, philosophy, and governing principles of First Amendment Television LLC. All corporate policies, production standards, editorial practices, and strategic initiatives shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with this Covenant.

I. PURPOSE

First Amendment Television exists to identify, document, preserve, and communicate the stories that become institutional memory.

We believe that societies preserve themselves not only through laws and constitutions, but through the stories they choose to remember and the records they choose to keep.

Our purpose is to create those records with integrity, discipline, and respect for future generations.

II. OUR CALLING

We are not in the movie business.

We are in the institutional memory business.

Motion pictures are our medium.

Memory is our mission.

Every production begins with one question:

Will this still matter when today's headlines have been forgotten?

If the answer is no, we have not yet found the right story.

III. WHY WE WERE FOUNDED

First Amendment Television was founded because something essential was disappearing.

Organizations lose their founders.

Families lose their elders.

Communities lose their witnesses.

Institutions lose the people who remember why they were created.

History rarely disappears through catastrophe.

It disappears quietly.

One interview.

One photograph.

One videotape.

One conversation at a time.

We exist to interrupt that process.

IV. OUR PHILOSOPHY

We do not produce content.

We produce records.

Content is consumed.

Records are preserved.

Content follows trends.

Records establish history.

Content fills time.

Records give time meaning.

FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION

Free Press. Free Speech. Free to Create.

Every project undertaken by First Amendment Television should be capable of standing as part of the historical record of the people, institutions, and communities it represents.

V. OUR METHOD

Journalism taught us something Hollywood sometimes forgets.

Reality is dramatic enough.

For more than fifty-seven years, our founder worked in environments where facts mattered.

Wars.

Civil rights.

Political campaigns.

Natural disasters.

Communities in moments of transformation.

Those experiences established principles that continue to govern this company.

Observe before concluding.

Verify before publishing.

Listen before judging.

Respect complexity.

Document before interpreting.

Our films may be fictional.

Our humanity is not.

VI. OUR RECORD

These principles are not aspirational.

They have guided our work for decades.

The Providence Effect, documenting transformation through faith and education, received six major festival awards.

Common Enemy, examining violence and community responsibility, received the Gold Camera Award.

Different stories.

The same discipline.

First Amendment Television did not create these standards for investors.

They are the continuation of a professional practice developed through decades of journalism, documentary production, and institutional storytelling.

VII. OUR STANDARD

Every production shall be evaluated against four governing questions.

Is it true to human experience?

Will it matter ten years from now?

Does it respect its audience?

Would we be proud to leave it behind?

Projects that cannot satisfy these questions remain in development until they can.

VIII. OUR GOVERNANCE

Creative freedom requires disciplined stewardship.

The Executive Producer, in consultation with the production leadership team, is responsible for ensuring that every project remains consistent with this Covenant, the Editorial Constitution, the “Evidence Before Imagery” standard, and the company’s published institutional principles.

Commercial opportunity alone shall never determine production.

Institutional integrity remains the governing standard.

FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION

Free Press. Free Speech. Free to Create.

IX. OUR STEWARDSHIP

Stories deserve stewardship.
People deserve stewardship.
Capital deserves stewardship.
Investors entrust more than financial resources to First Amendment Television.
They entrust time.
Reputation.
Opportunity.
We believe financial stewardship and editorial stewardship are inseparable.
Budgets are records.
Schedules are promises.
Deliverables are obligations.
Every dollar invested should strengthen both the production and the institution that produces it.

X. OUR AUDIENCE

We do not regard audiences as consumers.
We regard them as participants in the preservation of memory.
We trust viewers to think.
To question.
To compare.
To remember.
Our responsibility is not to manufacture agreement.
Our responsibility is to earn trust.

XI. OUR FIRST DECLARATION

The principles contained within this Covenant find their first narrative expression in Come Get Your Father.
As the inaugural narrative feature of First Amendment Television, the film represents more than a production.
It represents a declaration of purpose.
Its themes of family, dignity, responsibility, and reconciliation embody the values upon which this institution was founded.
The film is not merely our first feature.
It is our first institutional statement.

XII. OUR FUTURE

First Amendment Television is not being built to produce a single successful motion picture.
It is being built to become a permanent cultural institution.
Each completed production should increase the value of the library.
Each project should strengthen the reputation of the company.
Each generation should inherit a richer record than the one before it.
Success will be measured not only by commercial performance, but by whether our work continues to inform, educate, and inspire long after its original release.

XIII. OUR COMMITMENT

Many production companies begin with a screenplay.
First Amendment Television began with a question.

FIRST AMENDMENT TELEVISION

Free Press. Free Speech. Free to Create.

What stories will future generations wish someone had preserved?

Our answer is simple.

We will identify them.

We will document them.

We will preserve them.

We will communicate them.

And we will do so with the discipline, integrity, and independence worthy of the permanent record.

First Amendment Television LLC

The Record Comes First. Everything Else Follows.