

# Declaration of Principles

## Morris Patriots

*Morris Patriots hereby sets forth these principles to which we pledge ourselves  
and against which we will measure ALL elected officials:*

### **Constitutionally Limited Government**

We believe in the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence as written; we believe in States Rights and that the States granted intentionally limited powers to a federal government, reserving all other powers to the States and to the People; we believe that the rights and obligations of the Constitution are reserved to the legal citizens of the United States.

### **Fiscal Responsibility & Integrity**

We believe that we as individuals and all elected officials have a moral obligation to conduct ourselves in a fiscally responsible manner, with Integrity; and that the raising and spending of funds by government at any level should be transparent; that elected officials and public employees have a direct moral obligation to stewardship of public funds.

### **Free Markets**

We believe in the American tradition of competitive free enterprise, including the risks of success and failure; we believe that businesses should succeed or fail on their own decisions and should not be protected from failure through the use of public funds; we believe that trade among foreign nations should be based on equal terms.

### **Civic Responsibility**

We believe that every citizen has a civic responsibility to understand the role of government and the source of its powers; to monitor its decisions and behavior; to actively participate in the political process, and to hold each elected and appointed person accountable for his or her actions.

### **Moral Conduct & Personal Honor**

We believe, as did the founding fathers, that God is the source of our rights and freedoms and that God holds us to be personally responsible for moral conduct; we believe this obligation is heightened (not dismissed) in public service, and that we have a personal obligation to help and protect one another.

We believe in individuals freely giving in charity – a tradition documented by America's longstanding history of voluntary giving which exceeds that of all other nations.

### **Not Party Affiliated**

While we recognize American politics presently operates within a two-party political system, tea party organizations are not aligned with either Republicans or Democrats. Rather, we judge and support candidates, elected and appointed officials on the basis of the principles enumerated above.

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