Citizen of the States (legally defined) ©2009 Dan Goodman

citizen of the states

a. The term citizen of the states is equivalent to the term citizen of the several states.

"Fortunately we are not without judicial construction of this clause of the Constitution (that is, Article IV, Section 2, Clause 1). The first and the leading case on the subject is that of *Corfield v. Coryell*, decided by Mr. Justice Washington in the circuit court for the district of Pennsylvania in 1823. 4 Wash C. C. 371.

'The inquiry,' he says, 'is, what are the privileges and immunities of CITIZENS OF THE SEVERAL STATES? . . .'

This definition of the privileges and immunities of CITIZENS OF THE STATES is adopted in the main by this court in the recent case of Ward v. Maryland. \ldots

Having shown that the privileges and immunities relied on in the argument are those which belong to citizens of the states as such, and that they are left to the state governments for security and protection, and not by this article placed under the special care of the Federal government, we may hold ourselves excused from defining the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States which no state can abridge, until some case involving those privileges may make it necessary to do so." <u>Slaughterhouse Cases</u>: 83 U.S. 36, 75-76, 78-79 (1873).

http://supreme.justia.com/us/83/36/case.html#75

b. "The Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, ratified in 1868, creates or at least recognizes for the first time a citizenship of the United States, as distinct from that of the states." <u>Black's Law Dictionary</u>, 5th ed., at page 591.

c. "The proper construction of this amendment (the 14th Amendment) was first called to the attention of this court in the *Slaughterhouse Cases*, 16 Wall. 36, which involved, however, not a question of race, but one of exclusive privileges. The case did not call for any expression of opinion as to the exact rights it was intended to secure to the colored race, but it was said generally that its main purpose was to establish the citizenship of the negro, to give definitions of citizenship of the United States and of the states, and to protect from the hostile legislation of the states the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, as distinguished from those of citizens of the states." <u>Plessy v. Ferguson</u>: 163 U.S. 537, 543 (1896), overruled on other grounds, <u>Brown v. Board of Education</u> <u>of Topeka</u>: 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

http://supreme.justia.com/us/163/537/case.html#543

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(Usage)

I am a citizen of the several States or a citizen of the States, under Article IV, Section 2, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States (of America).

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