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The Purpose of the Fifth Amendment to the Bill of Rights

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I'm thinking that we need a few fun classes on the Bill of Rights to the US Constitution. No. Really. If you'll try to pay attention, I'll try to make it enjoyable.

Why take the time for this? The simple -- and utterly serious -- truth is this: you can't understand US law or what federal courts do without comprehending the US Constitution and its Bill of Rights. It's bedrock. Courts are obligated to uphold the Constitution, and the higher you go in the US legal system, the more likely they are to do so. It's what they are for. I'd call it a job description. So as time permits and I come across ways to address this topic, I'll do so. That way, at least you'll understand certain decisions that otherwise mystify and sometimes outrage you. Like... dare I mention that hated word, spammers? So here I go. I hope you'll come along. Yes. You too, my dear knuckleheads.

Groklaw's JC Carr sent me a link to this very enjoyable video on the Fifth Amendment, which is how I came up with the idea for this new topic. The Fifth Amendment is the one about the right not to incriminate yourself, among other things. But what I want you to look for is the concept and purpose behind it, what its authors were striving for.

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Legal

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