

# The Sovereign Citizen Movement

## Common Documentary Identifiers & Examples

*Note: The names and addresses provided as examples in this document are fictional names and addresses used for illustrative purposes, though based on identifiers used in actual sovereign citizen documents. No identification with actual persons is intended or should be inferred.*

The sovereign citizen movement is a right-wing anti-government extremist movement that dates back to 1970. In its nearly half-century history, adherents of the movement have employed a large number of pseudo-legal arguments and concepts and evolved a number of linguistic and other “tics” that make many documents created by sovereign citizens very identifiable. If noticed and recognized, such identifiers can provide timely warning that the person responsible for the documents may be involved with this extreme movement.

This resource provides examples of many of the most common such documentary identifiers, most of which are unique to members of the sovereign citizen movement. Nevertheless, people should always carefully analyze identifiers only in the context in which they appear and not make assumptions.

This document may also be useful in helping people determine if someone is *not* an adherent of the sovereign citizen movement. In recent years, many people, ranging from vexatious litigators to the mentally ill, have been confused with sovereign citizens, because their documents or filings may be angry, anti-government, or essentially incomprehensible. However, a document that contains none of the identifiers listed here may well be unrelated to the sovereign citizen movement.

Sovereign citizen ideology, in a nutshell, claims that well over a century ago an insidious conspiracy began to infiltrate and subvert the original, legitimate “de jure” government, slowly replacing it with an illegitimate, tyrannical “de facto” government. People who discover this fact can take certain steps to divorce themselves from the illegitimate government—becoming sovereign citizens—and once they have done so, they are essentially immune to the laws, rules, regulations, taxes, and courts of the illegitimate government, which has no jurisdiction over them.

Many sovereign citizen documentary identifiers are thus related to establishing the person as a sovereign or in creating separation and distance between them and the government they perceive as illegitimate.

## SOVEREIGN CITIZEN NAMES

Since the 1990s, sovereign citizens have frequently inserted inappropriate punctuation marks into their names when writing their names or signing their signatures. Not all sovereign citizens do this, and even some sovereigns who do this do not do so religiously, so the absence of such punctuation marks does not necessarily mean the person is *not* a sovereign citizen, but the presence of such marks is a very strong indication that the person is one.

Sovereigns typically employ this punctuation because they think it separates their “Christian appellation” (their first and middle names) from their government given name (their last name). However, some sovereigns do acknowledge that their last name is actually their name, but use the punctuation to separate their first and middle names from their “clan” or “family” name.

Typically, a sovereign will use a comma, a semi-colon, or a colon between their middle and last names. Sometimes a sovereign will even use two commas or other punctuation marks, as if to create even more separation. Sovereigns also frequently employ a dash between their first and middle names.

Some sovereigns will sign with *only* their first and middle names, leaving their last name off entirely.

Examples:

Rebekka Fitzpatrick; Thomas  
 Josè-Roberto: Dominguez  
 Robert-Mason of the Clan Simpson  
 Victoria; Harding  
 Treat-Roger: Davidson  
 Edgar Louis,, Jackson  
 Louise Mary [note: no last name]

Some sovereign documents include the same name written in both “sovereign” style and normal fashion. For example, a UCC filing document might list Cynthia-Kelly; Sincavage on the creditor line and Cynthia Kelly Sincavage on the debtor line. Such usage typically indicates a common sovereign belief that the illegitimate government has created an artificial duplicate of the flesh-and-blood person. The normal name indicates the artificial duplicate while the sovereign-styled name indicates the flesh-and-blood person. Sovereigns use this to claim that references to their normal name are not actually references to them, the flesh-and-blood person, but refer only to an artificial entity that is not them.

## SOVEREIGN CITIZEN SIGNATURES

Sovereign citizens will also frequently use certain language in conjunction with their names and signatures, usually following their names with that language or, in the case of a signature, sometimes including the language below their names.

There are many terms and phrases that can be employed in this fashion, most of which have some connection, however obscure, to actual (though sometimes obsolete) legal terminology. However, sovereigns do not use the language as originally intended but rather use such phrases to mean one or both of two things: 1) that the person indicated has special status as a sovereign or 2) that by signing or using their name, the sovereign is *not* voluntarily entering into a contract with the illegitimate government that would place the sovereign within the jurisdiction of the illegitimate government. In other words, usage of such terms is almost as a magical totem that will protect the sovereign from the illegitimate government.

### Brenda-Sue; Robinson, *sui juris*

*Sui juris* is a Latin legal phrase that essentially means competent to handle one's own affairs. Sovereigns use this as a miniature declaration of sovereign status.

### Anthony Baumgartner, UCC1-308

### Daniel-Ezekiel: Ratner, without prejudice UCC1-207

UCC1-308 is a provision of the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), a body of state law that every state has passed to make financial transactions between citizens and businesses of different states seamless and uniform. UCC1-207 is a reference to the same part of the UCC before it was renumbered some years ago (not all sovereigns are aware of this and continue to use the old reference; others use both old and new together).

Regardless of what it *actually* means, sovereigns think that, if used on a document, it will protect that document from being a "contract" with the illegitimate government that would make the sovereign subject to the jurisdiction of the illegitimate government.

### Connie Sue of the family Britton – *Suae potestate esse*

*Suae potestate esse* is a Latin legal phrase that means having full power over one's dominions; it is similar in nature to *sui juris* and used in the same way by sovereigns: as a concise declaration or emphasis of sovereign status.

## Mario-Michael, Antonelli A Man Upon the Land

Sovereigns will also use variations of an English phrase that means much the same thing as *suae potestate esse*: Man upon the land, Woman upon the land, Man upon the soil, Woman upon the soil, Free Man upon the Land, etc. Again, it is a declaration of sovereign status. This usage is particularly common among Canadian sovereign citizens.

## Gary George Wanamaker, in my natural life Muhammad Anaid-El, Human Being Beverly-Ramona; Huggins, Natural Person Emma Anne, Smith, In Propria Persona

Sovereigns will often attach some sort of phraseology to their name to indicate to the reader that it is the flesh-and-blood person being referred to, as opposed to any artificial duplicate with a similar-sounding name that was created by the illegitimate government.

*In propria persona* is a Latin phrase meaning appearing in person; on documents sovereigns use it as an indicator of the flesh-and-blood person. In court, sovereigns who represent themselves in court will use this phrase to indicate that they are doing so, preferring it to the more standard phrase *pro se*. “I am not representing myself, I am myself,” is the common refrain.

## Edward-Thomas of the Clan Czetarnik, without prejudice

“Without prejudice” is a legal term that means without any loss of rights or privileges. Sovereigns use this as a brief declaration of their sovereign status.

## Karen Marie Redcloud, TDC Eduardo-Diego, Rivera, Under Duress, Threat and Coercion

Sometimes sovereigns will sign a document with the initials TDC after or under their name; this is an acronym standing for “threat, duress and coercion,” and indicates that they are not voluntarily signing the document (a drivers’ license, a mortgage document, a traffic ticket, etc.) and thus 1) their signature is not valid and 2) signing the document in such a fashion does not constitute a contract with the illegitimate government that would put the sovereign under its jurisdiction. Sometimes sovereigns will write out the entire phrase, or variations thereof.

Arnold Everett; Krieger©

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Since 2001, a common sovereign citizen belief has been that a person can copyright his or her own name and that, once so copyrighted, their name cannot be used without their permission. If someone does use their “copyrighted” name without their permission, that person is subject to large fines or other punishments.

Carson-Craig: O’Brien, Secured Party Creditor

James Jonathan Smith, Executive Trustee for the Trust known as JAMES  
JONATHAN SMITH

In 1999, a sovereign citizen guru named Roger Elvick came up with an extremely convoluted set of sovereign citizen pseudo-legal theories known as “redemption theory” or “strawman theory.” One aspect of redemption theory teaches that there are flesh-and-blood natural human beings but also artificial duplicates of each person known as “straw men,” created by the illegitimate government for a variety of nefarious purposes. However, it is possible, by making certain filings, for a sovereign to regain control of his or her “straw man” and use it to his or her benefit. Sovereigns believe that any reference to them that is written in ALL CAPS or that is written last name first, first name last is actually not a reference to them but to their straw man. Actual flesh and blood people, they say, write their names in upper and lower case, first name first.

Many sovereign documents will contain identifiers that attempt to separate the flesh-and-blood person from the straw man or to indicate that the flesh-and-blood person has regained control of the straw man. Among the most common such methods are identifying the flesh and blood person as a secured party creditor (and the straw man as a secured party debtor), identifying the flesh and blood person as a trustee and the straw man as a trust (or grantor and grantee), or simply referring to themselves in upper and lower case and the straw man in all caps. Sovereigns may also refer to themselves as a “lien holder” or a “Postmaster.”

#### **SOVEREIGN CITIZEN MAILING ADDRESSES**

Sovereign citizens are often identifiable because of the peculiar ways in which they write out their mailing addresses, which are often extremely distinctive and certainly very different from the traditional three line address with zip code. Sometimes in a document sovereigns will use a sovereign style for their own mailing address but the traditional address style for the government agency, official or other non-sovereign to whom they are writing.

Most sovereign citizen address styles will attempt to illustrate in some way that the sovereign is somehow not under the jurisdiction of the illegitimate federal government.

Arthur Charles; Vandelay  
11722 Phalangie Court  
Powell, Ohio

Lucy-Carmichael: Desilu  
c/o 3655 Mason Blvd.  
Melbourne, Florida  
postal zone [32941]

Sylvia Berlin  
151<sup>st</sup> St., Apt. C  
Cleveland, Ohio,  
near (42179)

The most common sovereign address/postal identifiers involve zip codes. Most sovereigns believe that use of zip codes creates a contract with the illegitimate government that will result in loss of sovereignty. So some sovereign citizens refuse to use zip codes altogether (a few even demand that their mail be sent “general delivery” to a specific post office).

Many sovereigns, however, don’t want to have to use zip codes but are afraid of their mail not getting to its destination. As a result, some unknown but enterprising sovereign guru came up with the notion that putting parentheses or brackets around a zip code will somehow insulate the document from the zip code and not allow it to become a contract. Thus it is very common for sovereign citizens to put brackets or parentheses around the zip codes on their addresses.

Some sovereigns will state on their address that they are “near” the zip code. Others may use the zip code normally, but put the initials TDC (see above) after it. Some may use the phrase “Zip Exempt” in lieu of a zip code. Sometimes sovereigns will use a zip code but call it something else, such as a “postal code” or “postal zone.”

Phil Harmony  
4013 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia  
State of Pennsylvania

Lucas Julius Ali-El  
6150 Tidewater Drive  
Virginia Republic  
zip exempt

Robert-Hal; Forward  
2826 Hawick Rd.  
El Paso  
Texas state republic  
(79925)

Unlike normal addresses, sovereign addresses rarely use state postal abbreviations. Moreover, in addition to writing out the state name, sovereigns will often attach words such as “state,” “republic” or “commonwealth” to the state name—an attempt to identify themselves as “state citizens” rather than “U.S. citizens.” This is because sovereigns believe that the illegitimate government got people to surrender to its jurisdiction thanks to the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which somehow created a new category of citizenship, “citizens of the United States.” Sovereigns believe that they are not “citizens of the United States” but rather citizens of the states in which they reside.

James-Daryl: [Michaels]  
21 Ellen Drive  
Miami, Florida (33282)  
Non-Federal Zone

Du Yuming  
3700 Soldano Blvd.  
Columbus, Ohio [43228]  
Without the U.S.

Chaunce Michael, Gardner  
489 North Madison Ave.  
Clearwater, Florida uSA  
[37989]

In their addresses, sovereigns frequently try to establish that they are somehow not part of the United States, by declaring that they are in a “non-federal zone” or are using “nondomestic mail.”

In some cases, sovereigns may write an address indicating that it is in the “uSA” or the “united States of America.” Many sovereigns distinguish between the illegitimate de facto United States of America, in which the U in United is capitalized, and the constitutional de jure united States of America, in which the u in united is rendered in lower case.

Alan-Patton; Simpson  
5990 Lillyvale Place  
In care of (c/o)  
West Jordan, Utah state  
84084

Beth-May, Fair  
Natural Born Woman  
T1S R4E Sec. 20,  
W.M. Oregon Country;  
101 SE Division Street  
Portland, Oregon Republic  
[97232]

Claire Michelle; Zeidman  
480 N. Seranado Street  
Terre Haute  
Indiana state republic  
16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
PZ [51071]

Many sovereign citizens distinguish their mailing addresses by putting various amounts of completely extraneous information into the address. This can range from the relatively minor insertion of a “c/o” in situations where it would not really apply all the way to the inclusion of a judicial district or even parcel/lot information related to the property on the address. Some may include latitude and longitude.

Asahara Jackson-El  
1045 Stillwater Rd.  
Tsenocomoco Territory  
(Virginia Republic)  
Continental Americas  
Zip Exempt

Baheeru Rashida-El  
c/o 930 Madison Drive NE  
STE 301  
Yamassee Territory  
(Georgia Republic)  
37771 tdc

Faruuq Al Nuur Ali  
Domicile:  
1119 Gladstone  
De'twah (Detroit)  
Michigan Republic  
Northern Washitaw  
Amaruka  
non-domestic (48402)

In recent years, one of the fastest growing segments of the sovereign citizen movement has been the so-called Moorish movement, a primarily African-American offshoot which began in the mid-1990s as a blending of sovereign citizen theories with beliefs and claims of a longstanding religious sect in the United States, the Moorish Science Temple, and has evolved considerably over the past 20+ years. Moorish sovereign citizens typically have all the beliefs that traditional sovereign citizens do, but add twists and inventions of their own.

One common feature of Moorish sovereign citizen documents is a tendency to create new names for cities, states, or even the United States, such as the Republic of New Kemit for Dayton, Ohio, or Northwest Amexem for the United States. Such nomenclature may be used as stand-alone references, which can often be confusing, but when appearing as part of an address, the traditional name is often given alongside (to allow mail to be delivered).

#### **SOVEREIGN CITIZEN DECLARATIVE STATEMENTS**

Often one of the first steps a would-be sovereign citizen takes into sovereign citizenship is by filing some sort of declaration of status with a county recorder, secretary of state's office, or other recording office. Such declarations might include an announcement of their sovereign status, a renunciation of all "contracts" with the illegitimate government, or a statement to the effect that they are no longer a "citizen of the United States," among other phrases.

However, sovereign citizens also frequently include abbreviated declarations of their special status at the beginning or end of many documents that they create or file, statements that can easily help someone identify a document as a sovereign citizen-related document.



I, Thomas Anthony; Beckwith,  
 Hereby do asservate and aver by my solemn declaration that I am a de jure American, a home born native of New York state, an inhabitant upon the land within the territorial boundaries of San Diego county, thereby a member of the Posterity of We the People, with inalienable rights guaranteed by the Covenant/Contract known as the Constitution for the united States of America, as ratified by the people of de jure character and executed with specific performance pursuant to the principles and laws of Frauds and Perjuries.

To Judge of Said Court:

I, Carol Olive Murphy (hereinafter Murphy) am a native born American/Texian, sui juris, in propria persona (not a corporation), and do reserve under Uniform Commercial Code including 1-308 and all other sections, each and all of my GOD-given Constitutionally protected HUMAN RIGHTS. As commanded by Yahshua the Messiah, Matthew 5:33-37 and James 5:12, let my yea be yea and my nay be nay.

I, Phyllis Clardy Fox, am a natural-born free citizen AKA uSA national, of Idaho State/Republic by birth, thus of America, and a temporary inhabitant living in Arizona State/Republic, thankfully endowed by our Creator God with Unalienable Rights partially enumerated in America's founding organic documents; and I freely choose to obey all American law and pay all *lawful* taxes in *jurisdictions applicable to me* for the common good. I stand in Proper Person, Special, with Assistance. The foregoing, including my STATUS and unalienable rights, are not negotiable.

There are an endless number of variations of such documents.

#### **SOVEREIGN CITIZEN "ACCEPT FOR VALUE" DOCUMENTS**

As mentioned above, "redemption" theory has been a staple of sovereign citizen discourse since 1999. One of the many unusual things that redemption theory teaches is that, if a sovereign citizen receives a document—anything from a traffic ticket to a summons to an indictment—that the sovereign does not like and does not wish to accept or acknowledge, the sovereign can put certain language on the document (many sovereigns simply stamp the language onto the document with a made or purchased stamp containing the appropriate language) and send it back to the originator.

To the sovereign, they have “accepted” the document and converted it into a commercial transaction, which they can then use in connection with mysterious private Treasury Department accounts that exist for each straw man.

Consequently, many sovereign related documents—or, especially, normal documents sent back by sovereigns—may contain “accepted for value” language. This usually consists of the words “Accepted for Value” or “Taken for Value,” one or more of a variety of sovereign-related references ranging from UCC references to references to House Joint Resolution 192 to phraseology related to commercial transactions and contracts. Often there will be a monetary value, usually large (millions, billions) assigned to the “transaction.”

#### **SOVEREIGN CITIZEN “DAVID WYNN MILLER” DOCUMENTS**

One long-time sovereign citizen guru, David Wynn Miller of Wisconsin, has created his own alternative grammar and syntax for the English language. If sovereigns use this language in their legal and other filings, success will ostensibly inevitably follow. Despite the outlandishness of this idea, Miller has been a very popular sovereign guru who has also helped the movement expand into other English-speaking countries.

For the Affiant with the knowledge is with the multiple-notices for the LESSER-Parties of the Affiant’s-status and of their gross-error, coercion, and fraud with their attempts for the twisting of the appearance of the Affiant as the MARGARET PILON DUMONT. For the LESSER-Parties with the knowledge, volition, and malice are with the continuation with the attempts for the perpetration of this fraud for the purpose of the coercion with the obtainment (extortion) of the monies of the Affiant by the LESSER-parties. For the LESSER-Parties with these actions are with the commission of the Federal-Crimes, of the listing within the caes-files of the court-cases of the specifications within this Affidavit.

Millerian syntax is so unorthodox as often to be virtually unparsable, but this has the side benefit of making it extremely recognizable. It is distinguished in particular by the constant and repetitive use of the phrases “for the” and “with the.” Many Moorish sovereign citizens also use Millerian syntax.

## SOVEREIGN CITIZEN MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTARY IDENTIFIERS

- Since 2000, it has been increasingly frequent for sovereigns to use a specific color of ink—typically red—when signing a document. Sovereign citizens may also place a red thumbprint next to the signature. In some cases, the thumbprint is actually made with the signer’s own blood, or a drop of blood is left next to the signature, sometimes described as a “blood sample.”
- Sovereign citizens may occasionally give their documents some sort of identification numbers or designations that are actually postal tracking numbers for certified or registered mail.
- Sovereigns will frequently refer to levels of government, from cities all the way to the United States of America, as “corporations.”
- Some sovereigns believe that they have to include postage stamps affixed next to or underneath their signature.
- Just because a document makes a reference to “Moors” or things that are “Moorish”—for example, the Moorish-American Zodiac Constitution—does not mean that it is sovereign citizen in nature. Adherents of the Moorish Science Temple religious sect who are *not* sovereign citizens may sometimes also create documents that themselves are pseudo-legal or pseudo-historical in nature. Sometimes it may take effort to determine if an individual is a Moorish sovereign citizen, a Moorish Science Temple adherent, or actually both. Similarly, someone with the suffix –El or –Bey after their name need not necessarily be a Moorish sovereign citizen, but could simply be an adherent of the Moorish Science Temple. There is considerable overlap between the religious sect and the extremist movement, despite the efforts of many Moorish Science Temple adherents to warn their co-religionists away from the sovereign citizen movement, but it is by no means a complete overlap. Care should be taken to avoid confusing someone who may only be an adherent of the religious sect with someone who is truly a sovereign citizen.