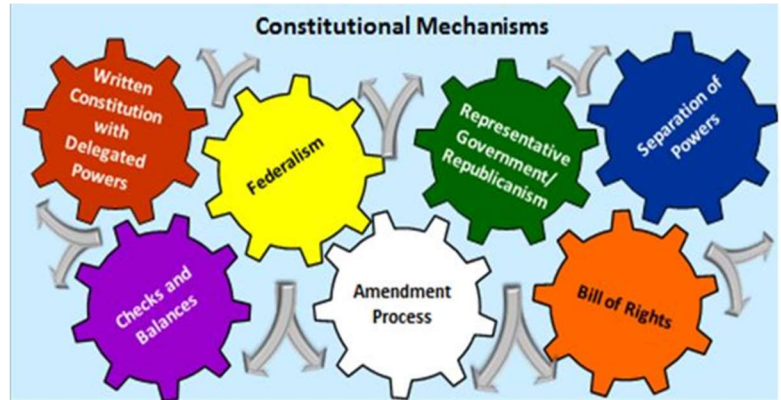


Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Student Handout 3: Exploring Constitutional Mechanisms

**Directions:** Identify which constitutional mechanism(s) is/are at play in the scenarios below. Write your answer in the space provided.



1. In 2016, Americans chose Donald J. Trump as President.

2. The Senate approved of Donald Trump's appointment of Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court.

3. Congress passes laws for the nation.

4. Voters in Virginia elected the first black governor in 1989.

5. New York State cannot sign a treaty with Canada or any other foreign country.

6. Congress cannot make a law that violates freedom of speech.

7. The powers of the national government are distributed among three branches of government.

8. The government cannot imprison a person unless there is evidence that the person has violated the law.

9. State and local governments have authority over public school systems.

10. The Senate can refuse to approve a treaty that the President has negotiated peace.

11. The President can veto a bill approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

12. The Supreme Court interprets and applies the law.

13. At the President's request, Congress declares war.

14. Your five basic freedoms are: Freedom of Speech, Press, Religion, the right to assemble and to petition.

15. There are both state and federal court systems.

16. The Thirteenth Amendment outlawed slavery.