

## Trump Wields Power of Office Against a Critic

Revokes Clearances for  
a Former CIA Officer



A22

*Paper planes*

EDITORIAL

# A FREE PRESS NEEDS YOU

**THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR**  
TUCSON, ARIZ.

"At a practical level, we journalists sit through boring government meetings and learn about public school financing formulas, so you don't have to. It's not as lofty a statement as the First Amendment, but it serves."

**THE ATHENS NEWS**  
ATHENS, OHIO

"And it does have a trickle-down effect. Increasingly when a local public figure responds to a damaging news report, rather than an old-fashioned explanation or denial, it has an immediate on the

In 1787, the year the Constitution was adopted, Thomas Jefferson famously wrote to a friend, "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or have a government without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

entirely right. News reporters and editors are human, and make mistakes. Correcting them is core to our job. But insisting that truths you don't like are "fake news" is dangerous to the lifeblood of democracy. And calling journalists the "enemy of the people" is dangerous, period.

These attacks on the press are particularly threatening to journalists in nations with a less secure rule of law and to smaller publications in the United States, already buffeted by the industry's economic crisis. And yet the journalists continue to do the hard work of reporting and telling the stories that

local news outlets to repudiate the culture of hostility toward the press. We must stand firm with our brothers and sisters in journalism as a family, supporting the First Amendment right to report accurately on government."

**THE TRIBUNE**  
SAN LEUIS OBISPO, CALIF.

"It's reporter Nick Wilson who is a 76-year-old man in need of a transplant who didn't expect a five-year wait for an organ. To Nick's story, an anonymous source came up within the month and

**THE ST. IGNACE NEWS**  
**THE MACKINAC ISLANDER**  
SAINT IGNACE AND MACKINAC, MICH.

"In some respects, an aging population about the fundam freedom remote Internet. Many more than to believe press from our other political

**THE ST. LOUIS POST-DEMOCRAT**  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

"Trump is irreparable attacks

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