



**PRESS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

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**AJHA releases statement regarding Trump Administration's positions on media**

On Thursday, the executive leadership of the American Journalism Historians Association released an official statement regarding the organization's stance on the policies, positions and statements of the administration of President Donald J. Trump in relation to journalism, democracy and history.

The statement reads:

The American Journalism Historians Association, as the nation's largest organization dedicated to the study of journalism history, is particularly well suited to consider the centuries-old American struggle for free press, truth, and transparency, both in its principles of democracy and of journalism.

In the past, efforts to limit that freedom have moved the United States away from its ideals of liberty and equality. AJHA believes that assaults on journalists and free speech from the highest levels of U.S. government constitute a dangerous attack on this country's fundamental democratic principles and traditions, while simultaneously undermining the very basis of historical truth.

AJHA affirms its position that facts, truth, integrity, and respect for the importance of journalists have been a hallmark of American law and custom for more than two centuries, and must continue to be a bedrock principle of American democracy.

David Vergobbi, AJHA President, University of Utah  
Dianne Bragg, AJHA 1st Vice-President, University of Alabama  
Ross Collins, AJHA 2nd Vice-President, North Dakota State University

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society. For more information on AJHA, visit <http://www.ajhaonline.org>.

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