



FOURTH ESTATE

Core Journalism Principles, Standards and Practices



TRUTH

Principle: We do our best to report the truth in as much complexity, diversity and clarity as possible. Inherent in that approach is accuracy, with a first allegiance to the facts as opposed to any particular point of view.

Standard: We report and edit with truth as our most important consideration, and correct our failures to meet that standard as quickly and as fully as possible

Practice: We provide detailed attribution of ideas and language not original to us. We link as thoroughly as possible to sources that we've used to assemble our journalism and that we believe will be useful to consumers in learning more about relevant topics. As much as we strive to be as independent as possible (with a first allegiance to truth), we bend over backwards to be transparent about our biases and/or vested interests whenever relevant.



TRANSPARENCY

Principle: We regard transparency about how we work as the best evidence of the reliability of our journalism. Transparency is a key ingredient in achieving a number of our objectives, including accuracy and accountability to the communities we serve.

Standard: Consumers of our journalism are able to assess its worth by evaluating its foundations.

Practice: Articles published on our platforms are edited by at least one person (in addition to the author). Social media posts to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. are usually published without such review.

Our publishing platforms contain prominent links to a description of these guidelines, along with clear instructions on how to hold us accountable and help us correct our mistakes.



COMMUNITY

Principle: We seek to equip individuals and communities with the news and information they need to make wise decisions. This service-oriented approach includes a commitment to minimize harm, especially to vulnerable stakeholders, in the course of telling as much of the truth as possible.

Standard: We report the news in ways that reflect its importance to the community and the news consumers that we serve.

Practice: In practical terms, this means we don't content ourselves with shining light on problems but also work hard to uncover solutions useful to the communities we serve

As a solution-oriented organization and we only increase our value to our members, our communities and the news consumers that we serve.