AJC Touts Bold, Front Page Lies about Political Coverage

ATLANTA GA – On the eve of Georgia early voting, the Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC) published a series of blatant front page lies touting its “balanced”, “deep” and “equal” gubernatorial campaign coverage while blacking out the candidacy and platform of Libertarian Ted Metz in that same coverage.

On the front page of its October 14th Sunday paper, the AJC published a notice to its readers entitled “Balanced Coverage”. It stated: “AJC’s election reporting is focused on providing you with a deep understanding of the candidates and the key issues facing Georgia voters. We are covering each race from all angles, giving equal weight to the candidates as you prepare to vote in the Nov. 6 election.”

The notice continued: “Today we are running separate side-by-side stories that paint a portrait of the candidates for governor – Stacey Abrams and Brian Kemp. To present that information in a balanced manner, we’ve paid close attention to the photographs and any additional material that accompanies each story”

Nowhere in nearly four pages of coverage was any mention that there is a third candidate running for governor. Metz is the first and only other gubernatorial candidate who qualified to have his name on the ballot. The Libertarian Party chairman is participating in the Atlanta Press Club debates and WSB TV debates. He has been covered by Atlanta Progressive News, CBS46, Fox5, and WSB-TV.

When reached for comment, Metz explained: “The AJC not only blacked out my candidacy in that spread but they also blacked out the ethical, agronomic and accountability issues that make me the better choice to unify Georgians.” He went on to say: “Such a blatant omission makes that coverage untrustworthy and renders it fake news. The real question is: What is behind that blackout?”

Deputy Managing Editor Leroy Chapman said the AJC included Metz in previous articles and its online Voter Guide. A search for “Metz” on the AJC web site produced one quote in a general article about Libertarians. The AJC has never published an article about Metz or his gubernatorial platform and most subscribers are now left with a misinformed opinion that only two candidates are in the race.

The AJC has steadily lost subscribers over the past decades as more voters turn to web based news and social media for deeper and fairer political reporting.

Authors Note: Mr. Favorito has never been a member of the Libertarian Party