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Ladies and Gentlemen:

I read recently in the Salt Lake Tribune that one of your reporters has been put on a restricted flying list. Instead of using a kiosk at the airport to check in as the rest of us do, this gentleman must stand in a long line to see a ticket agent, and then go through a difficult process of identifying himself, before flying. He has attempted to find out why he has been put on this list, without success.

Last year I was the Libertarian Party candidate for Attorney General of the State of Utah. Your newspaper was kind enough to allow me to interview with your editorial board. In their editorial endorsing my Democratic opponent, the reference to me was brief: "Libertarian Andrew McCullough is a candid man and we appreciate his blunt talk, but many of his ideas are not in the mainstream."

My non-mainstream ideas include ending the "surveillance state" which allows government to watch our every move, and to interfere in our personal lives. I campaigned against the drug war, which puts thousands of our younger people in jail every year without good reason. I campaigned against the government's use of warrantless searches and other intrusive means of keeping tabs on its citizens. No, my "blunt talk" was not "in the mainstream". That is why it was so important.

Those who are causing your reporter endless torment are those who are "in the mainstream". Perhaps there is now one more person who understands the folly of staying safely in the center while the government gets out of hand.

Your reporter has my sympathy. So does your editorial board.

Sincerely yours,

W. Andrew McCullough

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