

Some news isn't anymore

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There was a time when this sort of thing would have been front-page news. There was a time when a news story like this would have dominated network news programs for days on end.

But times have changed.

Oh sure, the story was covered. At least by some outlets, but it did not get the media attention it merits.

You decide:

Frank VanderSloot is a very wealthy Idaho businessman. He is also an ardent supporter of Mitt Romney. Like many wealthy people, Frank VanderSloot has donated a lot of money to candidates he supports, including Mitt Romney. His donation in support of Mitt Romney was noted by the Obama campaign, which publicized it on a website.

Since then two federal agencies have targeted Frank VanderSloot.

The IRS announced in June n two months after the Obama campaign website identified him as a Romney supporter n that it has selected VanderSloot's records "for examination."

Coincidence? Well. Maybe.

Except two weeks after the IRS announced its "examination" of Frank VanderSloot's records, the Department of Labor announced it would audit workers the Idaho millionaire employs on his Idaho-based cattle ranch under federal visa program.

In both cases, this is the first time Mr. VanderSloot has been audited by either agency. So we have two federal agencies targeting the same person shortly after he is identified as a political foe of President Obama.

One would think media-types, given their love for the First Amendment and all, would be all over this. Targeting an American citizen for exercising his rights n you know, First Amendment and all n would be the stuff about which most media-type would froth.

But not so much.

A few newspapers have paid attention and a cable TV program or two, but coverage has been limited. One would think news-types, regardless of political affiliation, would be outraged that the government would launch investigation of an American citizen simply because he opposes the current administration.

That's not to suggest that President Obama has any part in this abuse of power. What seems likely is that supporters of the President, working in the background, arranged for the government to launch the investigations.

But given all that, the media's silence on the matter is baffling. One wonders how the media would have reacted if a wealthy person who donated to liberal causes had been targeted by the federal government under the previous administration? -- Dan Hammes