

# The Delray Democrat

## Will You Be Better Off in Four Years Than You Are Today?<sup>1</sup>

*Michael K. Cantwell*

Democracy was on the ballot four years ago, and we dodged two bullets. Not only was Trump defeated, but he was thwarted in his violent and illegal efforts to overthrow the will of the voters, if only barely.

Trump is the only American president to refuse to vacate office after losing. He has threatened a “bloodbath” if he is not elected this fall. And if he is elected this November, it’s likely he will never agree to leave.

Whether or not it was Freudian slip, he contemplated seeking a third term in an [interview](#) if he is elected this November: “If I happen to be president and I see somebody who’s doing well and beating me very badly, I say go down and indict them.”

At least some of the rightwing media has no problem with such a constitutional violation. An op-ed in [The American Conservative](#) titled [Trump 2028](#) breezily dismisses the Twenty-Second Amendment “as an arbitrary restraint on presidents who serve nonconsecutive terms—and on democracy itself.” Would someone please make Orwell fiction again?

The damage that Trump can accomplish in a second term is incalculable. This time he will be supported by [Project 2025](#), a coalition led by the extreme right-wing Heritage Foundation.

Project 2025’s goal is to “take back our government,” although “take over” is a more accurate description. Project 2025 Director Paul Dans [brags](#), “We are not tinkering at the edges. We are writing a battle plan, and we are marshaling our forces.”

Just as the Federalist Society provided Trump with a list of rightwing judicial activists to set the justice system back a century, Project 2025 has assembled a list of some 20,000 apparatchiks to staff a second Trump administration.

We are already reeling from a takeover of the Supreme Court by troglodytes. It’s unlikely our democracy or our planet could survive the establishment of an imperial presidency.

Project 2025 proposes to:

- Slash funding to the Department of Justice
- Dismantle the FBI and the Homeland Security
- Deploy the military for domestic enforcement
- Restrict access to abortion
- Infuse government with Christian nationalism
- Abolish the Department of Education, the NOAA, and the Commerce Department.

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<sup>1</sup> [The Delray Democrat](#), May 2024, page 3.

This is what is at stake this November.