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Letter to the editor: Trump administration showing appalling level of ignorance toward law

Clint Nagel
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As retired federal employees and past board members of the Bozeman Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association, we are especially appalled at the level of ignorance and arrogance shown by the newly elected administration as well as the public's apparent complacency.

The Clinton Administration reduced the federal workforce by over 300,000 from 1993 to 2000 during his terms without stomping on federal employees' rights and creating turmoil across the country and abroad.

The accusations of improper spending and abuse have not been supported by the facts and do not justify the strong-armed, illegal tactics being used — supposedly intended to portray strength, action, and meeting an election promise.

Mandate by the people? Hardly — myriad factors contributed to this outcome (including a dislike of and inaction on immigration associated with the previous administration).

That discussion does not matter now. Presently we live at a time where there is a groundswell of support to disregard our Constitution's foundation of power-sharing among three branches of government. It is unfathomable to see the number of our

American citizenry, including our political leaders, who don't understand how our government is supposed to work.

No federal, state or local government official operates outside of the authority and funding levels bestowed by law — set by elected officials through transparent deliberation, agreement and eventual legislation.

They are the ones that set the limits of activity in each branch — not arbitrary, capricious, unilateral actions taken by newly elected officials. Were these officials given the authority to discharge FBI agents because they followed their orders legally or disband whole agencies established by Congress overnight?

Other examples abound. If you are dissatisfied with this administration's radical direction which is overtaking our country, seek the truth and stay connected.

Clint Nagel

Bozeman