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PolitiFact fact-checks politicians' claims where they make them – on Medium

PolitiFact, the Pulitzer Prize-winning fact-checking division of the *Tampa Bay Times*, will sort through political posts on the publishing platform Medium to bring voters the truth.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation is investing \$140,000 to add PolitiFact's truth-sorting context to Medium, the platform politicians are using to deliver their messages directly to voters. During the hotly contested 2016 presidential campaigns, candidates Jeb Bush, Hillary Clinton and Marco Rubio are among the candidates who have used Medium.

"Typically, a candidate says something that ends up broadcast on TV or radio, or published in a print or online publication. Fact-checkers then analyze that claim and post their findings in a separate print or online space. With Medium, we can do one better," said PolitiFact Executive Director Aaron Sharockman. "Medium's platform offers PolitiFact a new and unique opportunity – to fact-check politicians in the same space where they make their claims."

PolitiFact journalists will analyze the claims posted on Medium's platform and post its findings both on PolitiFact and medium.com. The work also will be promoted through social networks and made available to other journalism and nonpartisan organizations, including newspapers and TV stations across the country.

About PolitiFact

PolitiFact was launched in 2007 to fact-check the 2008 presidential campaign and has since published more than 11,500 fact-checks. It fact-checks television, news and radio pundits through a spin-off website PunditFact, and it has built a national network of fact-checking websites operating in 14 states — including in pivotal presidential primary states such as Iowa, New Hampshire, Florida, Wisconsin, Ohio and Colorado. PolitiFact also is partnering with NBC News and E.W. Scripps Co. to broadcast its fact-checks in 24 local television markets. Among its numerous accolades, PolitiFact won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting, one of 10 Pulitzers the *Tampa Bay Times* has earned. PolitiFact is a division of the *Tampa Bay Times*, a Top Ten newspaper with the largest circulation in the South — an average of 367,936 Sunday and 297,626 daily (AAM Annual Audit 2014).

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