



## **Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners Policies Regarding Public Engagement With Board Social Media**

The Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners (Board) uses social media for a limited public forum. The Board established the following social media comment protocols to reduce legal risks and help maintain a safe place for discussion and education. The Board believes these protocols are reasonable and will not result in discrimination based on an individual's viewpoint. Posting to a Board social media account of a communication that compliments, criticizes, or discusses the decisions, actions, and policies of the Board is permissible unless done in a manner that violates these protocols.

The Board hereby notifies the public of the following disclaimers about public engagement for its social media accounts:

*Posting of communication made through this account will not constitute legal or official notice to the Board, the state, or any official or employee of the Board or the state for any purpose. The Board does not guarantee that the information contained in public comments is correct. The Board is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from reliance on this information. The Board welcomes comments, but participation in public commentary is at your own risk. You are fully responsible for your comments. The Board advises that those commenting not include their private/personal information. This comment policy may be updated at any time to ensure that its continued application is consistent with relevant law and the Board's goal of maintaining this forum as a safe place for discussion and education.*

*The Board does not guarantee or warrant that any information contained in public comments posts to its social media is correct. As such, the Board disclaims any liability for any loss or damage resulting from any reliance on such information. You participate at your own risk, taking personal responsibility for your comments, your username, and any information provided. Any opinions expressed in public comments do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Board. Any information posted here is considered public information and may be subject to monitoring, moderation, or disclosure to third parties.*

*Communications made through social media will in no way constitute a legal or official notice or comment to the Board or any official or employee of the State of Oregon for any purpose.*

The Board hereby informs the public of its Terms of Service (TOS) regarding comment moderation:

*When engaging with the Board on social media, you are subject to the Terms of Service (TOS) of the host site. We encourage you to review the host site's TOS prior to engaging on social media accounts maintained by the Board. If you decide to post content, please keep in mind that state social media accounts are used to engage with all members of the public and are family-friendly so keep any posts you make clean. Also be advised that the state moderates discussion on social media to ensure that its social media forums are a safe place for everyone. The Board does not discriminate against any views but reserves the right to remove or hide posts containing any of the following:*

- *Comments that discriminate against a group of persons distinguished by race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, national origin, marital status, veteran status, disability, age, or any other class protected by law.*
- *Comments that are vulgar, abusive, offensive, threatening, or harassing of any person or organization.*
- *Comments that defame which are false statements that are assertion of fact that cause damage to the reputation of another. This does not include opinions.*
- *Comments that include sexual content or links to sexual content.*
- *Comments that are off topic from the post or from the identified purpose of the forum.*
- *Comments that suggest or promote illegal activity (such as attempting to commit a crime, committing a crime, or encouraging others to commit a crime).*
- *Comments that promote or oppose any person campaigning for election to a political office or that promote or oppose any ballot measure.*
- *Comments or posts that violate a legal ownership interest of any other party (i.e. copyright or trademark infringement).*
- *Solicitations, advertisements, or endorsements of any financial, business, or commercial entity.*
- *Comments that disclose information which the Board is required to keep confidential by law or administrative rule or that may compromise the safety or security of the state, including state employees or Board members.*
- *Content that includes sensitive personal identifying information, including, but not limited to social security numbers, financial account numbers, or driver license numbers.*
- *Spam*
- *Links to malware.*

The Board may at times include a link to an outside entity in a social media post. The public is advised as follows:

*Links to external internet sites do not constitute the Board's endorsement of the content of those sites or policies and statements contained herein. Also, links are often updated or deleted, and the user is cautioned to conduct research before following a link contained in a Board post or elsewhere.*