



DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

Social Media Comment Policy

Effective Date: May 28, 2024	Supersedes Date: N/A	Policy Number: 301.18
Reference/Laws/Statutory Authority: ORS; OAR; Dept. Manual, Other rules or regulations, Policies, Rules, and Procedures.		
Applies to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> All Management <input type="checkbox"/> Sworn Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Non Sworn Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input style="width: 600px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>		
Authorizing Authority Signature: Superintendent of State Police		No. Pages 3

I. Purpose

The Department maintains a social media presence on numerous social media platforms to share important public safety information and communicate with our constituents about the people and operations of OSP. The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines about the maintenance of public comments on the Department’s social media platforms. Employees shall be aware of these guidelines.

II. Policy

OSP’s social media accounts should not be used for crime reporting or requesting a law enforcement response. To report an emergency, call 911. For non-emergency assistance, contact our Northern Command Center at 800-442-0776, Southern Command Center at 800-442-2068, or dial *OSP (*677) from a mobile phone.

Because OSP social media accounts are not continuously monitored, posting information on Department accounts will not constitute legal or official notice to the Department, the State of Oregon, or any official or employee for any purpose. The Department does not guarantee that the information contained in public comments is accurate or reliable. The Department is not responsible for any damage or loss based on public comments posted to social media. While OSP welcomes comments, participation in public commentary is at one’s own risk. You are responsible for your comments.

III. Definitions

None

IV. Procedure

- A. When engaging with OSP on social media, you are subject to the host site's Terms of Service (TOS). We encourage you to review the TOS before engaging with social media accounts maintained by OSP. The Department uses social media accounts to engage with all members of the public and moderate discussion on social media to ensure its forums are a safe place for discussion and education for everyone.
- B. OSP does not discriminate against any views; however, we reserve the right to remove any of the following comments:
 - 1. Comments, statements, videos, photos or any other type of media that can be reasonably interpreted to be an expression of hate, prejudice, bigotry, disparagement, or a threat against any person or group of persons distinguished by race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, marital status, veteran status, disability, age, or any other class protected by law.
 - 2. Defamatory comments, false statements, or assertions of fact that could reasonably cause damage to the reputation of another.
 - 3. Threats (a stated or implied intent to inflict harm or loss on another) to any person or organization.
 - 4. Promoting illegal activity (such as attempting to commit a crime, committing a crime, or encouraging others to commit a crime).
 - 5. Promoting or opposing any person campaigning for election to a political office or promoting or opposing any piece of legislation or ballot measure.
 - 6. Violations of legal ownership interest of any other party (i.e., copyright or trademark infringement).
 - 7. Solicitations, advertisements, or endorsements of any financial, business, or commercial entity.
 - 8. Disclosing information that the Oregon State Police is required to keep confidential by law or administrative rule or that may compromise the safety or security of the state, including state employees.

9. Any sensitive personally identifying information such as social security numbers, financial account numbers, or driver's license numbers.
 10. Spam, such as advertisements linking to external sites or images.
 11. Links to malware.
- C. This comment policy may be updated anytime to ensure its continued application is consistent with relevant law and to maintain this forum as a safe place for discussion and education.

V. Rules

- A. Comments made to Oregon State Police social media platforms are subject to disclosure under Oregon public record laws.