

**SALT LAKE COUNTY  
COUNTYWIDE POLICY  
ON  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY**

**POLICY 1400-6.2: SOCIAL MEDIA TERMS OF USE**

**Purpose –**

Salt Lake County Government, through its elected officials, and other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards, possesses the discretion to use social media platforms to provide pertinent public information to Salt Lake County residents and other interested members of the general public. This policy establishes terms of use regarding public use of such social media accounts.

**Reference –**

The policy and standards set forth herein are provided in accordance with Countywide Policy 1400-6, which establishes policies regarding social media use. Also at issue are Countywide Policy 2130 - GRAMA and Human Resource Policy 3-300 - Standards of Conduct.

**1.0 Scope**

**1.1** Salt Lake County promotes healthy public discourse and will tolerate a level of decorum that is conducive to orderly government processes. The County, its elected officials and all other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and board do not discriminate based on viewpoint, nor because a comment is posted anonymously or expresses disagreement with County action, policy, custom or practice. Such content will not be flagged, minimized, or removed and no user blocked so long as the content meets the Social Media Terms of Use.

**1.2** An individual who accesses or uses a social media account owned or controlled by Salt Lake County Government, its elected officials, or other department, division, committee, commission, or board (the "User") accepts, without limitation, the following terms of use ("Terms"). The County its elected officials or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, or boards who own or control a social media account maintain the right to modify these Terms without notice. Any change is effective upon posting.

**1.3** A User is also subject to any terms of use of the social media platform provider, over whose terms of use, content, commercial advertisements or other postings, the County, its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, or boards have no control.

## **2.0 Policy Statement**

**2.1** Comment Policy. Posted content (comments, photos, links, or other material, referred to hereafter as "Comments") must relate to discussion of County programs, services, projects, issues, events, or activities. Comments posted on this account will not be edited by the County, its elected officials, or other department, division, committee, commission, or board. The County, its elected officials and other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards, reserve the right to hide or remove Comments that do not relate to the County business, including but not limited to, Comments that:

1. Promote, foster, or perpetuate discrimination based on race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or other form of

discrimination as defined by state or federal law or County ordinance;

2. Use slanderous, or defamatory attacks;
3. Threaten, harass, or use foul or profane language;
4. Encourage or condone illegal conduct or activity;
5. Use obscene or sexual content, or include links to obscene sexual content, including indecent or pornographic material;
6. Disclose private, protected, or confidential material as defined by state, federal law, or County ordinance;
7. Compromise public health or safety, or the health, safety, and security of public systems;
8. Advertise, promote, or solicit any service or products;
9. Use spam, including links to external online sites;
10. Violate a legal ownership interest of any person, including improper use of trademark or copyrighted material;
11. Promote the candidacy of any person, petition, or referendum; and
12. Are repetitively disruptive.

**2.2** Comments posted by a public user are the opinion of the User and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of Salt Lake County, its elected officials, other county departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards, employees, or agents.

**2.3** Comments posted online - to the extent they do not contain information that discloses private, protected, or confidential material in violation of these Terms - are considered a public record subject to public disclosure under the Utah Government Records and Access Management Act ("GRAMA").

- 2.4** Comments made on a social media site do not constitute a legal or official notice or comment to Salt Lake County, or its elected officials and will not be regarded as a request for service.
- 2.5** Comments posted online and that request a copy or copies of public records will not be considered or answered. Public records requests should be made in accordance with Countywide Policy 2030- GRAMA Access to Records.
- 2.6** A social media account owned or controlled by the County, its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, or boards may contain links to websites that are not owned or controlled by the County, its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, or boards. The County is not responsible for content that appears on those websites and may provide links as a convenience only.
- 2.7** The County, its elected officials, and other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards reserve the right to hide, remove, mute, or delete information posted by a User that violates these Terms, or to report to a Provider any User whose conduct may constitute a violation of the Provider's terms of use. Repeated or egregious violations of these Terms may result in denial of access to the particular social media account. Such actions will be taken pursuant to Countywide Policy 1400-6.1 - Social Media Management Policy.

### **3.0 Disclaimers**

- 3.1** Neither the County, nor its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards guarantee that Comments on County owned and controlled social media accounts or sites - including those owned

and controlled by an elected official in his or her official capacity - are monitored regularly; thus, Users should not use such an account to contact or provide notice to the County, its elected officials or other departments, divisions, commissions, committee, or boards, of dangerous conditions on public property. If a dangerous condition exists, contact the appropriate law enforcement department, the fire department, public utilities, or other relevant department.

**3.2** Neither the County, nor its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards guarantee the completeness or accuracy of any information posted on a social media account or site.

**3.3** Information posted by the County, its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards is provided on an "as is" basis and the User assumes the risk of use or reliance on such information. Neither the County, nor its elected officials, or other departments, divisions, committees, commissions, and boards are liable for any injury or damages resulting from viewing, distributing, or copying materials on this account, including without limitation, liability for indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages.

AMENDED, APPROVED, and PASSED this 20 day of July, 2021.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

  
Steve DeBry, Chair

Attest:

  
Sherrie Swensen, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bradley C. Johnson Digitally signed by Bradley C. Johnson  
Date: 2021.08.29 09:28:56 -06'00'

District Attorney's Office