



Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

"Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas"

Social Media Comments Policy

The purpose of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office official social media platforms is to provide information of public interest to the county's residents, business community, visitors and other members of the general public. We encourage you to engage the Sheriff's Office through social media by submitting your comments and questions regarding the posted topics and by sharing Sheriff's Office information with your network.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Social Media Comments Policy provides people who choose to communicate with the Sheriff's Office via its official social media platforms with guidelines for engagement. Please note that the comments expressed on the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office social media sites do not reflect the opinions and position of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office or its employees.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office considers its social media platforms to be moderated online discussion sites. In addition to the platforms settings which can result in removal, the Sheriff's Office reserves the right to remove comments that contain:

- Defamation to a person or people;
- Name calling and/or personal attacks;
- Hate speech;
- Abusive, vulgar, threatening or harassing comments;
- Profanity, obscenity or vulgarity;
- Nudity in profile pictures;
- Profane language or content;
- Sexual harassment content;
- Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination against protected classes;
- Content that is clearly off topic and/or disruptive; and
- Content that advocates illegal activity, and/or violates any Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Policies
- Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity;
- Solicitations of commerce or advertisements including promotion or endorsement;
- Promotions of particular services, products or political candidates or organizations;
- Comments that infringe on copyrights;
- Content that violates legal ownership interest of any other party, such as copyright or trademark infringement; and
- Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems.
- Spam comments, such as the same comment posted repeatedly;
- Spam, including content that promotes products or services or contains gratuitous links;
- Spam or comments that include links to external online sites;
- Commercial endorsements

Violators of this policy may have their comments removed from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office official social media platforms. Continued or egregious violations of this policy may prompt the Sheriff's Office to further restrict an individual's commenting on its official social media platforms.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office social media platforms are administered by designated staff. When one of the Sheriff's Office social media administrators suspects a violation of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Social Media Comments Policy, he or she will contact the Director of the Public Relations Bureau, who will review and authorize removal of a comment when appropriate. Appeals regarding the Public Relations Bureau's decision to remove a comment may be submitted via email at proud@pcsonet.com or phone at (727)582-6221; the Public Relations Bureau will respond to appeals within five business days.

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