

Social Media Comments Policy

The purpose of Rutherford 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 your local government through social media by submitting your comments and questions regarding the posted topics and by sharing the Sheriff's Office information with your network.

The Rutherford 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 Sheriff's Office social media sites do not reflect the opinions and position of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office or its officers and employees.

The Rutherford County Sheriff's Office considers its social media platforms to be moderated online discussion sites. As a result, the Sheriff's Office reserves the right to remove comments that contain:

- Profane language or content;
- Content that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination against protected classes;
- Sexual harassment content;
- Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity;
- Spam or comments that include links to external online sites;
- Solicitations of commerce or advertisements including promotion or endorsement;
- Promotions of particular services, products or political candidates or organizations;
- 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.

Violators of this policy may have their comments removed from 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 official Sheriff's Office social media platforms.

The 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 Rutherford County Sheriff's Office Social Media Comments Policy, he or she will contact the Sheriff's Office Legal Adviser / Office of Professional Responsibility, which will review and authorize removal of a comment when appropriate. When appropriate and if possible, a social media administrator will contact the commenter regarding a violation of the Sheriff's Office Social Media Comments Policy to notify the commenter and/or to request voluntary removal of the comment. Appeals regarding the Sheriff's Office Legal Adviser / Office of Professional Responsibility's decision to remove a comment may be submitted via email (opr@rcsotn.org) or phone at 615-904-3098; the Sheriff's Office Legal Adviser / Office of Professional Responsibility will respond to appeals within two business days.