

Terms of Use
Social Media Channels (Limited Public Forums)
Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office
March 2026

I. Terms

- A) **CCSO:** The Sheriff's Office of Clear Creek County, its divisions, units, programs, and projects.
- B) **Authorized Social Media Sites:** Uses of electronic communication and social networking authorized by the CCSO through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content such as text, videos, instant messages, photos, and related items.
- C) **Site Administrator:** CCSO staff person who manages, monitors, and responds to comments on CCSO authorized social media sites.
- D) **Posts:** Information published on the CCSO's authorized social media sites by CCSO site administrators.
- E) **Users:** Members of the public commenting and responding to the CCSO's posts on the CCSO's authorized social media sites.
- F) **Comments:** Information, points of view, links, images, and other material posted on the CCSO's social media sites by users.
- G) **Limited Public Forum:** A space created by a governmental entity that is made available for the limited purpose of discussion of a given topic. The use of the designated limited public forum may be limited to the time provided, purpose indicated, and in conformance with reasonable restrictions upon manner of communication, but access during that time for that purpose may not be restricted according to the viewpoint of a potential speaker.

- II. **Purpose of CCSO's Authorized Social Media Sites.** The purpose of the CCSO's authorized social media sites is to provide platforms for the CCSO to communicate to Clear Creek County residents and other interested persons about Sheriff's Office programs, activities, services, news items, photographs, videos, and related items. To meet this specific goal, the CCSO's authorized social media sites are developed and maintained as **limited public forums**.

The length of time during which a forum may be open for responses, the scope of the topic upon which responses may be made, and the manner of the responses will be limited in conformance with the Terms of Use set forth herein. The CCSO reserves the right to turn off the commenting function within the parameters of the platform on which the comments have been made at the conclusion of any established timeframe or in accordance with the Terms of Use set forth herein.

- III. **Acceptance of the Terms of Use.** The following Terms of Use apply to all authorized social media sites for the CCSO. The CCSO reserves the right to revise, change, modify or remove portions or all of the Terms of Use with

or without prior notice to users. Any updates or changes to the Terms of Use shall be posted on the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office website at <https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/16585/CCSO-Social-Media-Terms-of-Use>, and when possible on the CCSO's authorized social media sites with the date of the most current version.

Use of any of the CCSO's social media sites (e.g., posting comments, liking posts, liking pages, viewing content, etc.) will be deemed acceptance of the CCSO's Terms of Use. Any user who disagrees with any part of these Terms of Use should immediately exit the CCSO's authorized social media site and contact the site administrator for further clarification. Continuing to use the site will be deemed agreement to the site's Terms of Use.

Friending, following, or responses between the CCSO's authorized social media site and a user does not indicate endorsement of that person's actions or comments. Comments posted by individuals on the CCSO's social media site other than by the CCSO's site administrator(s) are not the opinions or viewpoints of the CCSO, and the CCSO does not endorse any third-party comments.

- IV. **Rules for Commenting.** The CCSO seeks to maintain an environment on its authorized social media sites that is topic relevant, courteous, respectful, and appropriate for all ages. The CCSO allows comments on its posts; however, comments supporting or advertising any business or organization unaffiliated with the CCSO may be removed. Comments must also conform with all applicable campaign and political finance laws and regulations.

The CCSO site administrator(s) reserve the right to remove or hide any comments in violation of the following general rules, irrespective of viewpoint of the comment:

1. Contains content that is unrelated to the topic of the specific post, including links and random or unintelligible comments.
2. Contains content involving scam solicitations or comments from bots or other automatic software programs, including links.
3. Contains disinformation or misinformation.
4. Contains profane, obscene, sexual or violent language, content, or links to such content.
5. Contains threats to any person or organization.
6. Contains content that degrades, abuses, harasses, stalks, attacks personally, or violates the legal rights of another or another organization.
7. Contains racist language or targets another individual based upon their status as part of a protected class, including race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, citizenship status, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression.
8. Communicates private personal information (whether the user's or someone else's), including home address, phone number, personal email address, or other personal identifying information.

9. Solicits for, promotes, or advertises a business or product, including spam, or proposes a commercial transaction.
 10. Supports or opposes political campaigns or candidates for elective office, ballot propositions, or religious advocacy or commentary.
 11. Encourages, solicits, or incites illegal activity, including speech integral to illegal activity, or contains any content or language that constitutes an element of any crime.
 12. Includes conduct in violation of any federal, state or local laws.
 13. Contains information that could compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems.
 14. Contains content that violates a legal ownership interest (e.g., patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret) of the CCSO or any other party.
 15. Contains confidential or proprietary information.
 16. Contains information that could interfere, inhibit, or compromise current investigations, law enforcement tactics, or the safety of public safety staff and deputies or officers.
 17. An excessive number of comments from a single user will be reviewed to determine that such number of comments is not intended to intimidate the participation/response of others.
- V. **Photographs, Images, and Videos.** The site administrator(s) may share or repost photos, drawings, cartoons, memes, videos, and GIFs from user comments. Site administrators will attempt to give photo credit to other users when possible. Reuse of shared media is anticipated for any media shared by sponsors of CCSO events, programs, or services.
- VI. **Third Party Terms and Control.** The CCSO neither owns nor controls the third-party platforms that host its authorized social media sites. Platform providers have their own separate policies, terms of use, and standards that govern use on their social media sites in addition to the CCSO's Terms of Use. The CCSO cannot control the removal of comments under the third-party terms and control.
- VII. **Disclaimer.** All information provided by the CCSO on its authorized social media sites is on an "as-is" basis. If users need an official source of information about the CCSO, they should contact the Sheriff Office's Public Information Officer at admin@clearcreeksheriff.us. The CCSO disclaims any liability for advertisements, videos, promoted content, or comments accessible from any external users.

Any inclusion of external content or comments on the CCSO's authorized social media sites does not imply endorsement of or agreement by the CCSO, nor do such comments reflect the opinions or policies of the CCSO. All comments on the CCSO's authorized social media sites by the public are the opinion of that user only. Users participate at their own risk, taking personal responsibility for their comments, usernames, and any information placed on the authorized social media site by such user.

The CCSO's social media sites are monitored by CCSO communications staff as the site administrator. CCSO authorized social media sites are not monitored 24/7 and may not be monitored outside of regular business hours (Mon – Thurs, 7:30am – 4:00pm). The site administrator(s) will respond to comments, messages, and/or reasonable questions as soon as possible and as appropriate. For emergencies, please call 911; users must not report emergencies on CCSO social media sites.

- VIII. **User Privacy.** Users shall have no right to privacy on the CCSO's social media sites. Any comments submitted to the CCSO's social media sites are public records subject to the CCSO's record retention schedule and disclosure, as are their lists of fans (i.e., the individuals who "like" or otherwise show support of a user's comment). Comments are also subject to public disclosure under the Colorado Open Records Act or the Colorado Criminal Justice Records Act. This includes articles, links to other websites, and any other content posted or submitted for posting, including user's name.
- IX. **License to Reuse Comments.** By commenting on a CCSO social media site, users are granting the CCSO and its affiliates, officers, employees, consultants, and representatives, a worldwide, irrevocable, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use, adapt, copy, distribute, transmit, publicly display, translate, and reformat user comments in any existing or future media. Users additionally understand that by posting anything to a CCSO controlled social media site, the user is granting permission to the CCSO to republish such post or to otherwise disclose names or usernames in connection with a user's comment.
- X. **Public Records.** Public record requests may not be made on the CCSO's social media sites. Such requests may be made by completing a records request form available on the CCSO's website at <https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/770/Records-Requests>.
- XI. **Emergencies.** Do not report emergencies or ask for emergency assistance on any CCSO social media site. Such reports or requests for assistance may not be seen for several days following such posting. For emergencies, call 911, and for non-emergencies, call 303-980-7300.