# North Dakota Highway Patrol Social Media Terms of Use Policy

Welcome to the North Dakota Highway Patrol's official social media accounts. Our social media platforms are not designated for reporting incidents or emergencies. To report an incident, please call state radio at 1-800-773-3259. If this is an emergency, please dial 9-1-1 immediately.

Please understand that you participate in our social media platforms at your own risk. Because they are external, cloud-based sites, NDHP cannot make any guarantees as to the security of the content shared on them. If you would like to contact us with information that must be kept confidential, please email us at ndhpinfo@nd.gov. Posting of any content on any social media platform used by the North Dakota Highway Patrol, by any visitor, follower, subscriber or fan, constitutes ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS of use described here in this policy. Any and all content posted or submitted for posting on our social media platforms is public and subject to public disclosure laws.

## **Moderation of Content**

Our social media platforms function as online discussion sites and are monitored by NDHP's social media team; they serve as limited public forums for discussion. They're consistently monitored during regular business hours, Monday-Friday 8-5PM. Our social media platforms are monitored only periodically outside of regular business hours and on weekends and holidays.

Please be aware of the following:

- The opinions expressed by visitors on NDHP social media platforms along with all user content do not necessarily reflect the views of this agency, its employees or the State of North Dakota.
- The social media platforms of the North Dakota Highway Patrol are intended to be "family friendly," When applicable, the department uses platform provided content moderation/filtering options to limit foul or obscene content. The North Dakota Highway Patrol does not discriminate based on viewpoint but does actively monitor the social media platforms used by the department, and will remove inappropriate content as defined below, without prior notice, and as soon as possible.
- The department shall reserve the right to remove and/or block anyone who posts inappropriate material as determined by the department. Comments will not be

edited by our personnel, but NDHP reserves the right to remove comments that include:

- Obscenity including racial slurs
- Pornographic content
- Content which violates the right to privacy
- Content that could harm the safety or well-being of one of our employees, including personal attacks against employees.
- Comments which may reasonably interfere with, inhibit or compromise law enforcement investigations, police tactics, police responses to incidents and/or the safety of police staff and officers.
- Threats or "Fighting Words"
- Incitement to imminent lawless action
- Solicitations to commit, or speech integral to, criminal conduct
- Fraud
- Defamation (libel/slander)
- Commercial solicitations, promotions, or advertisements
- Hate speech
- Off-topic comments
- "Trolling," "robo spam" and comments by "social bots" (i.e. generated by automatic software programs)
- Malicious or harmful software
- Links to websites that violate one of these listed categories
- Promotion in favor of, or in opposition to, a candidate campaigning for election to a political office.
- Copyrighted material posted without consent
- Furthermore, while we encourage debate and discussion, we respectfully request that commenters be mindful that these sites are open to the public and that commenters be courteous and civil toward one another.
- Denial of Access

NDHP may take steps to have content removed if it falls within one of the foregoing categories. Repeatedly violating these guidelines may result in your permanent removal from North Dakota Highway Patrol social media platforms. If you wish to contest the removal or hiding of your content or your denial of access from our social media accounts, please contact us at (701) 328-4252 or ndhpinfo@nd.gov and request to speak to the Safety and Education Officer.

# Instagram Community Guidelines

When applicable, the North Dakota Highway Patrol reserves the right to report any violation of the Instagram Community Guidelines, located at https://help.instagram.com/477434105621119/ with the intent of Instagram taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

# YouTube Community Guidelines

When applicable, the North Dakota Highway Patrol reserves the right to report any violation of the YouTube Community Guidelines, located at http://www.youtube.com/yt/policyandsafety/communityguidelines.html with the intent of YouTube taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

## Facebook's Community of Standards

All comments posted to the North Dakota Highway Patrol Facebook site are bound by Facebook's Community Standards, located at

http://www.facebook.com/communitystandards, and the North Dakota Highway Patrol reserves the right to report any violation of Facebook's Community Standards to Facebook with the intent of Facebook taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

## Questions

If you have questions regarding information contained herein this Terms of Use, please contact the North Dakota Highway Patrol Safety and Education Officer at (701) 328-4252.

If you are looking for more information about North Dakota Highway Patrol, visit www.nd.gov/ndhp.