

JULY 2026

COUNTY CLERK'S SOCIAL MEDIA USER POLICY

For immediate assistance please contact the office directly at 217-384-3720 M-F 8AM-4:30PM except for County Holidays.

The County Clerk's office has three active social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube) that serve as limited public forums. For those social media accounts that the County Clerk sponsors as limited public forums, the County Clerk has the right to limit the content posted to those accounts to the topics of those accounts.

The County Clerk's office also has the right to remove comments that are off-topic and, if necessary, block users that abuse their use of any such account.

The County Clerk's office recognizes that social media (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.) has become a highly valuable tool for communication among and between the County Clerk's office and its residents, businesses, visitors, media outlets, other governmental agencies, and others. The County Clerk's office respective social media accounts are intended to provide news, information, notices, emergency announcements, and limited forums for the exchange of ideas and information of importance to the County Clerk's office and its surrounding community. The County Clerk's admin staff retain the sole authority for operating, maintaining and managing the County Clerk's office social media accounts and pages.

USE POLICIES APPLICABLE TO LIMITED PUBLIC FORUM ACCOUNTS

Content Restrictions and Site Monitoring: For its limited public forum accounts, the County Clerk's office reserves the right to reject or remove any content that the County Clerk's office deems in violation of this Social Media User Policy or in violation of any law applicable to the posting of comments on government social media accounts. Social media account posts and comments containing any of the following content will be subject to removal at the County Clerk's office.

sole discretion: Comments or posts that:

1. Are unrelated to the topical scope of the particular page.
2. Contain defamatory or profane language.
3. Threaten any person's life, health or safety or physical harm to property.
4. Promote, foster, or perpetuate discrimination based on race, color, creed, class, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, physical and mental disability, personal

appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, prior arrest or conviction record or source of income.

5. Contain sexual content including, but not limited to, links to other websites or social media accounts that contain sexual content.
6. Contain solicitations for commerce.
7. Contain or that link to other websites or social media accounts that contain personally identifiable information such as address, telephone/mobile phone number, social security number, driver's license number, or other sensitive information.
8. Contain election misinformation/disinformation.
9. Contain content that encourages illegal activity.
10. Infringe on any person's copyrighted photographs, music, video, artwork, graphics, or other material without the express written permission of the copyright owner.

The County Clerk's office monitors its social media accounts and comments posted by visitors to these accounts to ensure that the content is constructive and suitable to all visitors to the respective accounts and pages. While social media is a 24/7 medium, the County Clerk's office cannot monitor the comments posted to the County Clerk's office social media accounts and pages on a 24/7 basis. As the County Clerk's office social media accounts are not monitored on a 24/7 basis, users are advised not to use any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts to request information, services, or any other situation which the user believes requires immediate attention by the County Clerk's office.

Removal of Improper Content; Blocking Use of Social Media Account

To the extent technology reasonably permits, the County Clerk's office shall have the sole and exclusive right to remove any comments from its social media accounts and pages that clearly violate the restrictions listed above without notice to the person who posted such content. The County Clerk's office shall also have the right to block persons from future use of one or more of the County Clerk's office social media accounts and pages who violate the Content Restrictions listed above on two or more occasions.

The County Clerk archives all content that has appeared on our Social Media Accounts, whether they be deleted or not.

Confidentiality of Content:

Any content posted to any of the County Clerk's social media accounts shall be deemed public information that is available to and viewable by the public. Any user of any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts and pages shall have no expectation of privacy or confidentiality in their use or posting of any content to such account or page. To the extent that any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts include or allow for information sharing beyond the particular social media account used by the user, the user recognizes that any content he/she posts to the County Clerk's office social media account may be shared or made available beyond the County Clerk's office social media account to which the user posted such information.

USE POLICIES APPLICABLE TO LIMITED PUBLIC FORUM AND NON-PUBLIC FORUM ACCOUNTS

Disclaimers: The County Clerk's office shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or injury of any kind a user may sustain arising out of or relating in any way to any use of any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts. The County Clerk's office and its elected and appointed officials and employees make no warranty, representation or guaranty as to the content, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of the information provided on any of the County Clerk's social media accounts including, but not limited to, any information provided by any third person whether posted on a County Clerk's office social media account or by way of a link to another person's website or social media account.

The County Clerk's office shall have no obligation to undertake efforts to detect the presence of any malicious programming or viruses on social media websites. A user of any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts assumes all risks for any download or use of any information contained on a County Clerk's office social media account and links to websites and other social media accounts, which may be provided on a County Clerk's office social media account.

By using any County Clerk's office social media account, the user agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the County Clerk's office and its elected and appointed officers and employees from and against any claims, actions, suits, liabilities, damages, losses, settlements, demands, deficiencies, judgments, fines, penalties, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, the reasonable value of time of the County's Legal Division and the costs, expenses and attorney fees of other counsel retained by the County) suffered by, incurred by, accrued against, charged to, or recoverable by the County and/or any of its elected or appointed officials or employees that arise out of or are related in any

way to your use of this site or to any external links you post on this site to other sites or any content posted on them.

Governing Law:

Regardless of the location of the user of any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts, the laws of the State of Illinois shall govern the interpretation and construction of this Social Media Policy and any claim that a user might assert against the County Clerk's office in connection with the user's use of any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts. By using any of the County Clerk's office social media accounts, the user submits himself, herself, itself to the jurisdiction of the State of Illinois and the venue of the Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, Champaign County, Illinois and any and all actions arising out of the use of any of the County Clerk's social media accounts shall be brought and shall be maintained in the aforesaid circuit court.