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|  MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS | | POLICY NUMBER 09-02 |
| | | AGENCY WIDE |
| SOCIAL MEDIA | | INITIAL DATE 09-01-2018 |
| ACA STANDARDS: | | EFFECTIVE DATE 09-01-2018 |
| STATUTES: | NON-RESTRICTED | PAGE 1 of 3 |

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) to use social media to promote and disseminate information about MDOC in the designated public forums of Facebook and Twitter.

DEFINITIONS:

Social Media – A form of electronic communication through which users create online communications to share information, ideas and other content.

Comments – All public discourse, interaction and communication on social media platforms including, but not limited to likes, comments, shares, messages, tags, replies, and retweets.

SPAM – Unsolicited usually commercial messages sent to a large number of recipients or posted in a large number of places.

PRECEPTS:

The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) will use social media to promote and disseminate information about MDOC in the designated public forums of Facebook and Twitter. Public discourse is encouraged.

MDOC does not discriminate based on viewpoint, but monitors Comments on all of its social media platforms and may hide Comments if they contain, constitute, or link to any of the following:

- Malicious or harmful software;
- Advertisements, promotions, or solicitations of a commercial product or service;
- Confidential, personally identifying, or private information as defined by State law;
- Obscenity;
- Threats of violence or public safety; or
- SPAM.

Users may be temporarily restricted from MDOC's social media platforms for six (6) months for repeated, consistent violations of this policy.

Any user who is temporarily restricted will submit a request for reinstatement to the Legal Department at 633 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202, providing grounds for reinstatement.

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|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| TITLE: SOCIAL MEDIA | | POLICY NUMBER 09-02 |
| EFFECTIVE DATE: 09-01-2018 | NON-RESTRICTED | PAGE 2 of 3 |

All requests will be responded to in a reasonably timely basis. Access will be reinstated if it is determined that the grounds for reinstatement are sufficient.

PROCEDURES:

Only public information is permitted to be posted on any MDOC social media platform. Any posting on MDOC social media platforms becomes public record at the time of posting.

MDOC social media platforms are subject to applicable public records and records management laws.

Any record maintained on or regarding MDOC social media platforms including Comments, is a public record and will be managed as such.

MDOC monitors its social media platforms, but is not responsible for Comments generated by users on these platforms.

User-generated Comments are the opinion of the commenter only and are not government speech.

Comments should be understood to be entirely public and users should not write Comments with any information that they consider or would like to keep confidential.

User-generated posts will be rejected or removed when the content:

- Contains obscenity or material that appeals to the prurient interest
- Incites or promotes violence or illegal activities
- Contains information that reasonably could compromise public safety
- Contains profane speech
- Contains libelous speech

MDOC social media platforms are hosted by third-party websites that have terms of service and policies that are not governed by MDOC or the state of Mississippi.

These third-party websites are not official ms.gov websites. The terms of service and policies that apply for the third-party websites operated by MDOC can be found at the following websites: https://www.facebook.com/legal/terms/plain_text_terms and <https://twitter.com/en/tos>

MDOC will notify the public of this policy, any changes to it and identify the changes.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:

As required by this procedure and through the chain of command.

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|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| TITLE: SOCIAL MEDIA | | POLICY NUMBER 09-02 |
| EFFECTIVE DATE: 09-01-2018 | NON-RESTRICTED | PAGE 3 of 3 |

| ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| All standard operating procedures (SOPs) and/or other directive documents related to the implementation and enforcement of this policy will bear the signature of and be issued under the authority of the Commissioner of Corrections. | | |
| Reviewed and Approved for Issuance | <i>Ronald Vincent</i> | <i>9/15/2018</i> |
| | General Counsel | Date |
| | <i>Debbie E. Hall</i> | <i>9.15.18</i> |
| | Commissioner | Date |