

# Administrative Procedure

## Alachua County, FL

Procedure No.:  
Revision No.: 1

Effective: 10/20/2021  
Review/Revision Date:

### Social Media Administrative Order

**SCOPE:** This procedure applies to all employees in permanent positions of the Board of County Commissioners.

#### **PROVISIONS:**

Alachua County social media sites are primarily tools to share information with citizens. It is not the County's intent for posts to be public forums. We do not view these sites as a way to communicate directly with elected officials or County staff.

In light of recent disclosures about the algorithms used by social media to encourage hatred, conflict, misleading and false information, and dangerous behaviors; the County has decided to turn off the comment function on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram posts. The default setting on future posts will be to disallow comments.

The public, when viewing a post on Facebook, will see the following message:

**“Alachua County limited who can comment on this post.”**

The limitation is that only Alachua County can make comments. Unfortunately, Facebook does not allow for a more straightforward message to display automatically.

**On Instagram and Twitter, the comment function is disabled without a clarifying message.**

From time to time, the County Manager, or her designee, may use posts to solicit feedback or to poll residents on specific topics. In these cases, comments may be enabled.