

Operating Guidelines

Section: Human Resources

Subject: Social Media & Social Networking

Policy #: 312

Date Issued: March 10, 2016

Date Revised: October 3, 2017

Purpose

To provide general guidance to Fire Department members on the use of Electronic Social Media and Networking as it pertains to Fire Department activities.

Procedure

312.1

The unauthorized release of privileged information through an electronic social media (Facebook, My Space, Twitter, Instagram etc...) is unacceptable and will be treated the same as the release of information to traditional media (see Policy #315).

312.2

Firefighters must carefully assess items "posted" to social mediums making certain that they represent the firefighter's personal view point and can not be construed as the viewpoint of the Fire Department.

312.3

Firefighters will not use their status as a member of the Fire Department to validate their personal opinions posted to electronic social mediums.

Responsibility

It shall be the responsibility of every Fire Department member to carefully assess their use of Social Media to ensure their behavior does not reflect negativity on the values and standards of the Fire Department.