



## Social Media Policy

### Introduction and Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the policies and procedures of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) regarding the use of social media, audio and video recording devices, smart phones, tablets, cameras, laptops and personal computers in conjunction with DGS events and/or on DGS sponsored social media platforms.

### In this policy:

- 'Social media' means any facility for online publication and/or commentary, including (but not limited to) blogs, social networking sites (such as Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube), or wikis
- 'DGS-sponsored social media platforms' refers to DGS-initiated and managed platforms such as Facebook, wikis, blogs or other services that allow DGS members, officers, board appointees and/or members of the public to create content

### DGS Events

DGS reserves the right to take photographs, videos and/or audio recordings at events and to incorporate them into advertising, marketing and publicity and their DGS-managed social media sites. All participants at DGS events consent to such actions. DGS will not "tag" (identify with name, nickname, avatar, or other identification) attendees on social media sites. DGS attendees may tag themselves, but are requested to not "tag" others without their permission.

DGS permits and encourages the use of various forms of social media, including Facebook, Twitter and live blogging as a means of summarizing, highlighting, excerpting, reviewing, and/or publicizing sessions, events, speakers or DGS in general, provided that:

- Copyright laws are observed
- Only content excerpts are used and that the presentation material is not reproduced in full while using social media
- The speaker is referenced and cited appropriately in each case

In order to protect the intellectual property rights of our presenters we request that participants refrain from all of the following actions without prior consent of the presenter:

- Using audio and/or video recording devices

- Using photographic devices
- Capturing, transmitting, or redistributing syllabus materials or the bulk of the material presented in a session

Cell phones and other mobile devices should be operated in silent mode to avoid distracting the presenter and attendees.

## Administration

DGS respects the right of members and officers to post content to social media sites and in no way seeks to discourage self-publishing and self-expression.

DGS does not allow unauthorized personal or business advertising on any DGS-sponsored social media platform.

DGS will monitor its sponsored social media platforms to insure that commentary and postings are relevant, appropriate, and in keeping with this policy and the mission of the Dallas Genealogical Society and reserves the right to take these (and other) actions:

- Edit or delete inappropriate or offensive postings from DGS-moderated social media
- Permanently deny access to DGS-moderated social media to individuals or organizations who create inappropriate content
- Permanently deny access to DGS-moderated social media to any individual, organization or corporation engaged in activities or commerce that is determined to be offensive, illegal or incompatible with the goals and objectives of the society

*Last reviewed by the Board of Directors: 6 Nov 2021*