

**RESOLUTION NO. 438- 2025**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 230-2020 AND ADOPTING AN UPDATED SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA FOR COUNTY BUSINESS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida (hereinafter "BOCC") recognizes the need for use of social media to promote public awareness and boost participation and understanding of the County's programs, policies, and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the BOCC recognizes the inexpensive and effective method and popularity of the use of various social media platforms including, but not limited to, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, Flickr, and NextDoor (collectively "Social Media") by and amongst County elected officials and officers, County employees, and the public; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, the County adopted a Social Media Policy via Resolution No. 230-2020, and expends funds archiving social media for purposes of complying with Florida's public record retention requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, through this resolution, the BOCC seeks to adopt an updated Social Media Policy, attached hereto as "Exhibit A," and hereby rescinds Resolution No. 230-2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the BOCC has determined that having a Social Media Policy provides greater efficiency in government business by outlining the procedure and expectations of the County's use and presence on Social Media; and

**WHEREAS**, the BOCC finds and determines that updating its Social Media Policy serves a public purpose, and is in the best interest of Monroe County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1:** That the foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this resolution. The updated Social Media Policy, attached hereto as "Exhibit A," is incorporated herein and made a specific part of this resolution.

**Section 2:** That the County Commission has adopted an updated Social Media Policy and hereby rescinds Resolution No. 230-2020.

**Section 3:** That the County Administrator, or designee, is hereby authorized to implement the updated Social Media Policy.

**Section 4:** That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby rescinded to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 5:** That if any clause, section, other part or application of this resolution is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, in part or in application, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion or applications of this resolution.

**Section 6:** That this resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, at a meeting of said Board held on the this 15th day of October, 2025.

Mayor James K. Scholl	<u>Yes</u>
Mayor pro tem Michelle Lincoln	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Craig Cates	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner David Rice	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Holly Merrill Raschein	<u>Yes</u>



Attest: Kevin Madok, Clerk

By: Eve M. Lewis  
As Deputy Clerk

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: James K. Scholl  
James K. Scholl, Mayor

Approved as to legal form and sufficiency:

By: Eve M. Lewis Digitally signed by Eve M. Lewis  
Date: 2025.09.29 11:37:59 -0400  
Eve M. Lewis, Asst. County Attorney

FILED FOR RECORD  
2025 OCT 21 PM 1:47  
CLK, CIR, CI,  
MONROE COUNTY, FLA

## **“EXHIBIT A”**

### **Social Media Policy Monroe County, Florida (Revised Oct. 2025)**

#### Purpose:

This Social Media Policy (“Policy”) establishes the policy and practices addressing the use of social media for official Monroe County (“County”) business by elected officials, officers, and employees. Additionally, this Policy provides information regarding the general use of social media for County business. The purpose of the County’s use of social media is to increase and promote public awareness and maintain open and professional communication between the County and the public.

#### Definitions:

For purposes of this Policy, “Social Media” means and includes websites and/or applications that enable users to create postings, convey messages, or otherwise share information, ideas, messages, text, images, GIFs, pictures, audio, videos, or other content (collectively “Content”). Websites or applications may include, but are not limited to, Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr, X, Flickr, NextDoor, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

#### Objectives:

The County’s intent regarding its use of social media is not to create a public forum (nor a limited public forum), but instead to provide a means to disseminate County information to educate and inform the public through the effective and inexpensive communication tools of social media in compliance with applicable open meetings (“Sunshine Law”) and Public Records Laws. As such, the County’s social media does not contain discussions, chat rooms, listservs, or other interactive communication forums or tools. These one-way communications are authored by the County and distributed through social media to provide the public with information pertaining to certain issues affecting the County.

#### Disclaimers:

Information shared through the County’s social media will be archived pursuant to relevant state laws and County policies. The County strives to post accurate and relevant content, but does not guarantee the accuracy of any information posted on its social media and assumes no liability for damages resulting from any inaccuracies. The County does not guarantee that its social media will be uninterrupted, permanent, or error-free. The County reserves the right to discontinue its use of social media at any time.

#### Implementation & Oversight:

This Policy shall govern and supersede all previous policies and practices on the subject of the County’s use of social media. Any questions regarding this Policy or its application should be directed to the County’s Public Information Officer. The County’s Public Information Officer is hereby designated to create, maintain, and monitor the County’s Social Media pages and content. The Public Information will regularly monitor social media accounts for compliance with this Policy. The Public Information Officer will provide access information to the County Administrator upon his or her request.