

*Office of the General Counsel*  
Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528



**Homeland  
Security**

DATE: March 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Overview of Department of Homeland Security Legal Authorities  
to Use Social Media

**I. Purpose**

This memorandum provides an updated<sup>1</sup> overview of the legal authorities permitting Department Components, both operational and support, to use social media in order to accomplish their respective missions. When consistent with other applicable law and when technologically and operationally feasible<sup>2</sup>, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Components may (and, in many cases, do) rely on these authorities.

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