



RISE TOGETHER - JUNE 25, 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON POLICY

SAFELY LEVERAGING THE POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA

While social media is a great tool to connect with others and promote the great work of the department, it can present some unique pitfalls to staff. The [Social Media Policy](#) is designed to protect you and the department. A few highlights of the policy include:

- Don't scroll social media while working or with devices provided by the City.
- Don't post statements or use the City or department's logo on personal accounts.
- Don't disclose confidential information.
- Don't use your City email address to register on social networks, blogs or other online tools utilized for personal use.
- Don't use unauthorized images of residents and employees.

While this is a list of don'ts, the policy protects you and the department while allowing us to leverage the power of social media. As public employees, we have to carefully navigate our personal social media with our position. [Lindke v. Freed](#) is a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision concerning a city manager who was posting about city business on his personal account. The court found that the city manager violated a resident's First Amendment rights when he deleted the resident's comments and blocked him from commenting further. While it was a personal social media account, he was using it in a professional capacity; therefore, the court found it was subject to laws and regulations that apply to us at work. Separating your personal social media accounts from your professional role ensures you have control over your personal information and posts.

Some things to think about when you're considering posting about work-related activities on your personal social media:

- Before you post something, read the policy! If you're not sure, the best thing to do is not post.
- Consider sharing and liking the department's posts promoting events to help spread the word about all of the department's good work. This content is approved and authorized by the department.
- You may also want to post a disclaimer on your personal social media account to document that this is a personal account, such as *"This is the personal page of [YOUR NAME HERE] - opinions expressed here are solely my own."*

To access the full policy manual, go to the [intranet's CRPD page](#) and click on the [Administration box](#). You can search for a specific policy on this page.

**You must be on the City network to access the intranet. If you need a copy of the policy, please talk with your supervisor or your HR representative.*

NEWS AND INFORMATION

THANK YOU FOR HELPING RESIDENTS BEAT THE HEAT

Last week, Columbus experienced extremely high temperatures. The department activated our Inclement Weather Guidelines for almost a week and opened cooling centers and extended hours at pools and spraygrounds. With the Juneteenth holiday, that meant some staff worked on a planned day off.

Thank you to all who supported our residents during this challenging time! And to our lifeguards and Parks, Maintenance and Forestry staff who were out in the heat helping residents beat the heat and keeping our parks, trails and facilities looking great.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE CONFERENCE TRAINING, ATTENDANCE AND PRESENTATION POLICY

Planning to attend a conference or submit a proposal to present at the OPRA conference? Check out some revisions to the Conference Training, Attendance and Presentation Policy before you register! Some significant changes include:

- New guidelines for designating attendees for the NRPA, OPRA and other conferences.
- A new approval process for submitting presentation proposals for conferences.
- Revisions to the travel training request form as mentioned in the [June 11 newslettr](#).
- Specifications on how and when to book travel and hotels.

An important date for the OPRA Conference is coming up and proposals for presentations are due by July 19. The new policy specifically outlines the process for submitting presentation proposals and all sections should abide by this process. We are still developing the official "Request to Present Approval Form," but for now, all proposals

7/8/2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30 ●	1	2	3	4	5 ●	6 ●
7 ●	8 ■	9	10	11 ●	12 ●	13 ●
14 ●	15	16	17	18 ●	19 ■	20 ■
21 ■	22	23	24	25 ●	26 ●	27 ●
28 ●	29	30	31	1 ●	2 ●	3 ●



There are no events on this day.

should go to your section head and then to the Executive Team and the Director for approval before submitting to OPRA.

This policy is in addition to the City Wide Employee Travel Expense Policy. All departmental Travel/Training forms, policies and process documents can be found on the CRPD Fiscal intranet site in the [Conference, Training & Travel Folder](#).

KEEP OUR VEHICLES LOOKING GREAT: USE MEMBER ACCESS PASS AT THE CAR WASH

All City of Columbus vehicle drivers are encouraged to use our current vendor for unlimited car washing and vacuuming at Moo Moo Express Car Washes around the city. Most vehicles already have the member access RFID tag on the windshield, or you can get one from Fleet. [Find a Moo Moo Car Wash location](#).

We also have a vendor contract for full detailing services that can be used for a once-a-year deep cleaning. We are working on renewing that contract. Contact your Fiscal representative with questions.

Let's keep our City vehicles looking great!

OUT AND ABOUT

Check out some recent events we've attended or hosted in the community.

FEEDING OUR YOUTH: GO, *LUNCH!* KICK-OFF



On June 13, we visited Glenwood Pool to celebrate the launch of the 2024 summer food program, *Go, Lunch!*. Director Reese, Mayor's Office Chief of Staff Elon Simms and Columbus City Council Member Nancy Day-Achauer served meals to children. Children also enjoyed games and a visit from Columbus Crew mascot Crew Cat.

Programs such as *Go, Lunch!* are important to fight food insecurity - in 2022, 68,480 Franklin County children, or 22.5 percent, were food insecure.

Last year, *Go, Lunch!* served 246,068 meals.

CELEBRATING EQUITY AND ACCESS: DEPARTMENT HELPS WEDGE GOLF CLUB CELEBRATE 70 YEARS



On Saturday, June 15, the Wedge Golf Club celebrated its 70th anniversary at Raymond Memorial Golf Course. The Wedge Golf Club was Columbus' first Black golf club, and it started at Raymond Memorial, which was the first course in Columbus to welcome Black golfers.

The Wedge Golf Club had its first meeting at the newly opened Raymond Memorial Golf Course on June 14, 1954, with 32 members attending.

Seeing more than 40 Wedge Golf Club members golfing at the event on Saturday to recognize the club's 70th anniversary was great!

RECOGNIZING LBGTQ+ RIGHTS: COLUMBUS PRIDE MARCH



Columbus Recreation and Parks Department was present at this year's Columbus Pride March, organized by Stonewall Columbus. Representatives from our department, led by Director Reese, joined other members of the City of Columbus as we marched in recognition of LGBTQ+ rights.

Whether you were marching or cheering from the sidelines, we appreciate your attendance and support!

REINVESTING IN YOU

This year, one of our areas of focus is reinvesting in our staff. In this section, we highlight some of the ways you can grow, personally and professionally, and celebrate those who have reached a professional milestone.

DEI COMMITTEE LUNCH & LEARN

The DEI Committee will host *The Somali Experience* on Tuesday, July 9, from noon-1 p.m. at the Jerry Hammond Center's Continental Room. This Lunch & Learn will feature guest speaker Fatuma Bulle, who will speak about her own experience as a Somali moving to the U.S. Save your spot today—[register online](#) by Monday, July 8.

TRAINING

Check out these upcoming training opportunities.

- [Due July 29: Annual Ethics Training: 50 Years of Promoting Governmental Ethics](#)
- [Tuesday, Aug. 27: OPRA Urban Recreation Institute](#)
- [Tuesday, Oct. 22: OPRA Artificial Intelligence for Parks and Recreation Professionals](#)

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Have you recently earned a degree, award or certification? [Let us know, and we will share your accomplishment in the newsletter!](#)

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

JERMAINE

Section: Community Interventionist, Youth Development

Length of employment: 10 years

What's your favorite aspect of working for the department? We have a strong team, and they're very supportive.

What's your favorite project? Working the Cap City Festivals.

What's your favorite ice cream? Cookies and Cream

What's your favorite book or movie? Malcolm X

BAKER

HE/HIM/HIS

What's one piece of advice you'd share? Trust in the process.



Nominate A Coworker for the Staff Spotlight

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) They will be notified that they were nominated in order to answer spotlight questions.

ARCHIVE

2024



2023



2022



NATURE

[Nature](#)

[Conservation](#)

[Educational Gardens](#)

[Nature Preserves](#)

[Outdoor Recreation](#)

[Parks](#)

[Pollinator Habitats](#)

[Trails](#)



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