



CLEARFIELD

UTAH'S MILITARY CITY



Public Meetings & Social Media Training

- *Limited public forum*
- *Time, Place, and Manner restrictions*
- *Viewpoint Neutrality*
- *Examples to learn from*
- *Best practices*

What is a limited public forum?

- Government owned property that is opened for public use *with restrictions*.
- City council meetings, commission meetings, & government social media pages are all limited public forums.
- Restrictions we can apply are Time, Place, and Manner.
 - Time – Public meeting starts at 7 p.m. You have two minutes to speak.
 - Place – The meeting will happen at x address. The open comment period takes place at start of meeting.
 - Manner – Volume control, physical space (stand in x spots, signs outside, keep walkways open), interruptions, topic (speak on agenda item, no violence or threats, etc.).

Viewpoint Neutral

- **Restrictions must be viewpoint neutral.**
 - A. Posting rules for "no personal attacks about council members" during open comment periods.
 - B. Allowing supportive speakers to pass their allotted time but cutting off critics after their time expires.
 - C. Stopping all speakers that are discussing off topic items during the public hearing for specific agenda items.

Examples to learn from

- Ellen Show – (2:12)
- Raising ethics concerns (1:20)
- Raising concerns about attorney pay
- Star Wars (0:45)

Public Meeting Best Practices

- Always have timer running
- Make sure restrictions are viewpoint neutral
- Enforce restrictions consistently

Social Media Restrictions

- Time, place, and manner restrictions still apply (sort of).
- The comment section is the 24/7 version of an open comment period.
- The only restriction applicable is *manner*.



Steven Barela

And i can help homeowners do this! DM me for a seamless quote!

3w Like Reply Hide



Dave Bruce

What does this unnecessary event cost the taxpayer?
This is legal a foia request

1w Like Reply Hide



Tony Barahona ...



3d Like Reply Send message Hide

What can I hide?

- *Advocating violence or illegal activity*
- *Direct criminal threats as defined by local, state, or federal law*
- *Obscenity*
- *Promoting/advocating for our organization to illegally discriminate*
- *Malware and/or malicious content*
- *Duplicate comments posted repeatedly within a short period of time*
- *Defamation against a person*
- *Violations of intellectual property or copyright laws*
- *Hyperlink to any website other than those we control*

Social Media Best Practices

- Never delete, hide instead
- Don't block if you can help it
- Viewpoint neutral restrictions only
- "Views are my own" disclaimer provides you protection
- Separate accounts for "gov" vs. "personal"
- If not separate, make sure majority of posts are personal and not governmental in nature
 - City Manager case & School Board case



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