



City of Florence
A City in Motion

PRESS RELEASE

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FLORENCE POLICE ADDRESS CONCERNS OVER SOCIAL MEDIA RUMORS

FLORENCE – The City of Florence and the Florence Police Department respect our community members as they exercise their rights to demonstrate peacefully. Over the past few days, the Florence Police Department has heard a variety of rumors on social media concerning protestors from out of the area coming to Florence for non-peaceful demonstrations. There have been several variations of this information, all intending to cause alarm in our community. The Florence Police Department has not found anything credible about this information. A number of other local cities and communities have received similar information. In these instances, they have also found nothing credible and there have been no known incidents.

As our nation is facing numerous serious events all at once, the environment is fertile for creating false information to cause alarm. We ask that members of our community not take matters into your own hands based on this misinformation and to stop distributing it. An openly armed citizen on our streets can, and has, caused undue public alarm. It has the potential to create a disastrous situation, accidentally escalate a disturbance beyond anyone's wishes, and it is simply unnecessary.

Social media has become so prevalent in our society that people are not taking a moment to consider making sure information is correct or true. We encourage members of our community to take a moment to review items you see on social media with a critical eye. If you have a concern, please call the Florence Police Department at 541-997-3515. We will evaluate and respond to the information and continue working to keep our community safe.

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