



## GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY INTERPRETER PRACTITIONERS

ASLIA Victoria outlines the following guidelines relating to the appropriate use of Social Media (Twitter, Facebook and all other social media platforms) in order to uphold trust and professional conduct:

- All interpreters are required to comprehend and adhere to the ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct.
- Interpreters be cognisant of the intent outlined in the ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct and ensure these are upheld in relation to assignments undertaken, regardless of the assignment being private or public.
- In relation to both paid and volunteer interpreting assignments, all practitioners must refrain from engaging in the following activities on Social Media:
  - Revealing any form of identifiable assignment information including location and client names (direct or implied).
  - Publishing of photographs (including but not limited to the venue, interpreting colleagues, and of deaf/hearing clients).
  - Engaging in a post concerning services provided at an assignment, including the posting of comments, opinions and 'sharing' or 'liking' of posts.
  - Promotion of events where you are providing interpreting services.
  - Expressing the desire to interpret at a specific event or for an organisation/group/individual.

Any breach of these guidelines is deemed by ASLIA Victoria to undermine the trust of our consumers and may harm either the reputation of the individual practitioner and/or the profession as a whole.

Interpreting agencies, booking clients and organisations may at times use your image on social media for promotional purposes. If an interpreter engages in publishing this activity independently, consumers and external bodies may perceive this as self-promotion. As service providers, our purpose is to facilitate access, not to draw attention to ourselves, personally.

Regardless of perceived privacy settings on social media accounts, any post becomes instantly available to a vast audience and is permanently in the public domain. It is not appropriate to share or comment on specific assignment related information.

It is imperative that the boundaries of the interpreter-consumer relationship are adhered to. This encompasses the need to have a clear distinction between personal and professional content that is posted online.

Before posting anything online:

- Consider the ethical and professional impact of the content.
- Consider whether you would verbalise the same information or show the content to the general public. i.e. is the information you are sharing YOUR information.
- Consider how posted information may be perceived by all stakeholders.
- Consider how your personal posts and comments unrelated to your work may be perceived.
- Consult the ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct  
<https://aslia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/ASLIA-Code-of-Ethics.pdf>

#### Professional Accountability

- 1.1 Confidentiality
- 1.2 Professional Conduct
- 1.4 Integrity of Service

#### Integrity in Professional relationships

- 4.1 Professional Relationships

