

A photograph of four young people (three women and one man) standing outdoors and looking at a smartphone held by one of the women. They are all smiling and appear to be engaged in a shared activity. The man on the far left is wearing a grey hoodie. The woman next to him is wearing a red sweater. The woman in the center is wearing a green hoodie and holding the phone. The woman on the far right is wearing a grey hoodie. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

It's no joke!

FALSE REPORTING ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR
FORTIFYFL

Making a threat on social media

When any person who communicates a threat to kill, do great bodily injury, conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism, in any way or form that other people can view it, including through:

- Direct messages or posting status updates on any social media platform
- Snapchat stories or messages
- Videos on platforms such as YouTube or TikTok
- Gaming servers or chats such as Discord, Steam or Twitch
- Anonymous chat rooms or posting sites such as Whisper and AskFM

What happens if your child makes a threat on social media?

You do not have to have any intent or ability to carry out the threat. Merely communicating a threat is enough to warrant a felony charge.

If you communicate a threat to kill, do great bodily harm, conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism in a way that another person can view it, you are committing
a **second-degree felony** under section 863.10, Florida Statutes.

Some consequences
your child could face
are...

Mandatory school expulsion for a year

Placement in an alternative school

Inability to graduate with friends

Inability to attend functions like prom and
football games on any campus in the
district

Paying restitution costs for the police
investigation

Criminal charges

What if your child or you see a concerning
or threatening post on social media?

Report it on FortifyFL.
See something, say something.

What should be reported on FortifyFL

Submit tips about **potential crimes or threats** which are sent directly to law enforcement and designated school personnel.

Remember:

- More tip details improve the chances that a situation can be resolved.
- This means including WHO did WHAT, WHERE it happened and WHEN.

Anyone submitting a tip about a threat, including information about a known false report, can *identify themselves or choose to remain anonymous when submitting.

*If you identify yourself in the submission, that information will not be made public.

False reports on FortifyFL are no joke!
Any false report could lead to....

An investigation.

If it is found that any person, parent or child, knowingly submitted a false tip through FortifyFL involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity, information on the device used to make the claim will be provided to law enforcement, and the person may be subject to criminal penalties.

Remember...

All threats will be taken seriously and will result in severe consequences up to and including arrest, restitution, and expulsion. You are urged to discuss this issue with your children.

False threats, even if intended as a joke, can result in life-altering

**When speaking to your child about
posting on social media or falsely
reporting a threat,
remember to tell them...**

It's no joke!