

Misc. Government Law Issues

Limited Designated Public Forum and the 1st amendment

- ❖ [Local government Web sites and the First Amendment](#), *Government Law*, November **2001**, Vol. 38, No. 3
 - **Trad. Pub Forum** -> **Designated Pub Forum** -> **Limited Pub. Forum** -> **Non-Public forum**
(parks, streets) (TWC Jobs website)
[time, place & manner restrictions ok] [limited subj & speakers ok] [must be viewpoint neutral]
 - [Putnam Pit v. City of Cookeville](#), 221 F.3d 834 (6th Cir. 2000) (Links on website must be “content neutral”)
 - What is a 1) public library, 2) public art gallery, 3) public theater
- ❖ [Pleasant Grove City v. Summum](#) 129 S.Ct. 1125 (**2009**) (Government Speech Doctrine—park monuments)
 - [Sutcliffe v. Epping School Dist.](#), 584 F.3d 314 (1st Cir. 2009) (web site links)
 - [Illinois Dunesland Preservation Society](#), 584 F.3d 719 (7th Cir. 2009) (pamphlets in park)
- ❖ QUESTIONS:
 - Can Gov link to selected websites promoting a certain viewpoint?
 - Can Gov embed video from private website promoting a certain viewpoint?
 - Screening Facebook posts (can gov screen for content)?
 - Deleting Facebook posts?

Domain Name Ownership (HCSOjobs.com)

- ❖ Sheriff pays technology vendor \$170K to redesign website
 - Sheriff invests \$350K in domain name advertising
 - Vendor claims \$23K still owed
 - Vendor redirects website domain name’s URL to non-working web page with message “call the billing department”
- ❖ [Man Buys Expired Police Website to Gripe About Speed Cameras](#)
- ❖ CASE LAW: **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**