

It was recently brought to my attention that a well-known resident and business owner in Warren County had posted something inflammatory and racist on social media regarding a situation in which I was involved. The initial post, in which I was referred to as a “boy” and the Grundy County Deputy who stopped to assist as the “white boy”, was followed by another post that alluded to lynching. In my 24 years as a peace officer, I have never encountered blatant racism and not so veiled threats such as this.

My fellow deputy is a Marine veteran and I served on the Tennessee Drug Task force for 9 years and was elected to serve on the Governor’s Task Force four years ago. For us “boys” who have proudly served our country and communities to incite such vile words from someone with such a base mentality is despicable and cannot go unnoted.

The First Amendment of the Constitution protects even hateful speech to allow for the expression of all ideas, however disagreeable. However, speech that is intended to and is likely to incite imminent lawless action is **not** protected. Alluding to lynching falls under this, in my opinion, especially in light of a recent incident concerning the death of a Black student in Mississippi, though officially ruled a suicide, has brought renewed attention to the history of racial violence in the state and its lasting impact. Tennesseans are well aware of the history of racial violence in our state, including the inception of the Ku Klux Klan 160 years ago in nearby Giles County. For most, this is not a historical fact that we are proud of.

One would think that 61 years after enacting The Civil Rights Act of 1964, bigotry would be all but a distant memory. Unfortunately, it isn’t and these social media posts prove that.

Regardless of where the incident took place, it falls on all people in all communities to do better to be tolerant, accepting and respectful of those not like us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clarence Dalk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a stylized "D".



Josh Harrell · 4h

Rodney Elkins ropes are long and trees are short nowadays i guess. Aint like it used to be...

Reply



**Josh Harrell**

4m · 👤



Does any of my Grundy county friends know this boy and the white boy that rides with him? They come all the way to 127 side of Fred Lusk rd harassing 1 of my drivers that was loading corn in the edge of the field there. Keep in mind they were nearly 2 full miles inside Coffee County. They finally left when he threatened to call CCSD on them. Thanks for any help. Said he was a Capt with GCSD.



Adam Seviers

13 min



Edit



Comment as Sue Straway



12:10

17



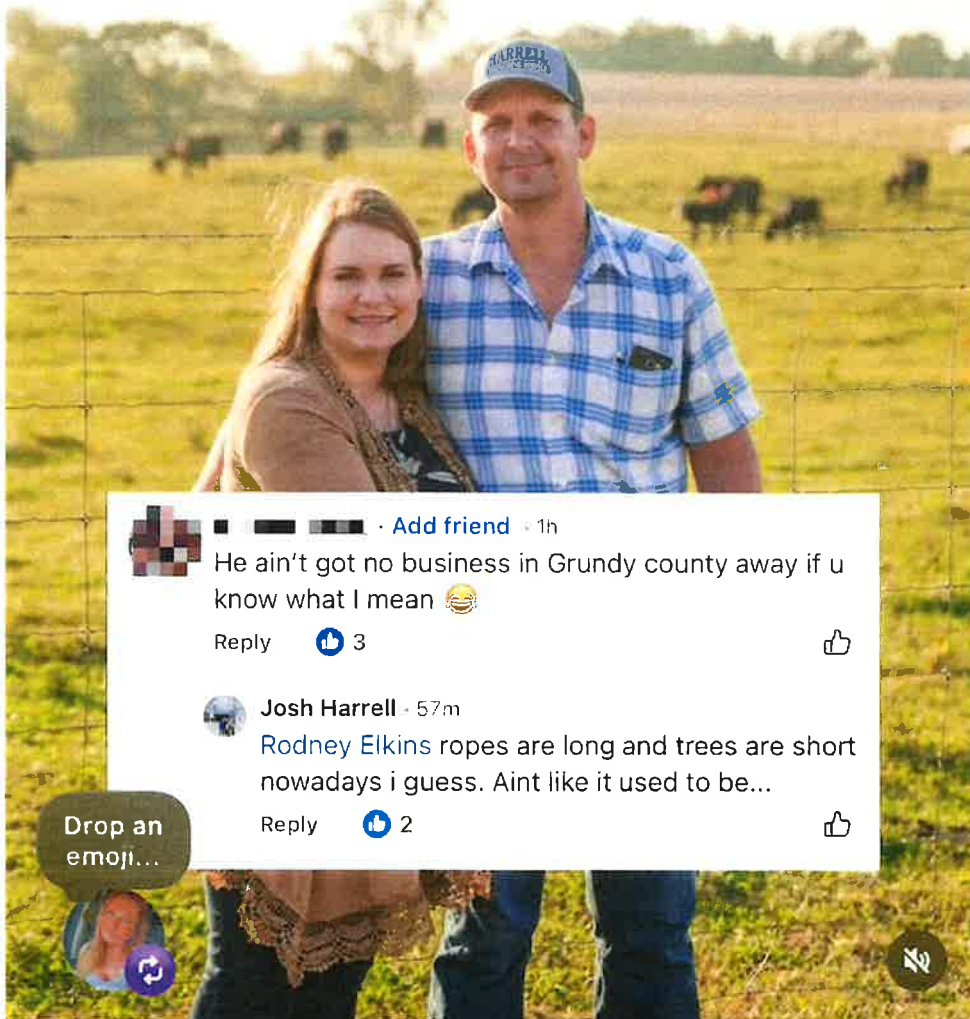
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 Liked by [georts_carlson](#) and others

therobbieharvey Josh here was commenting about a black man. And Josh appears to run a nice business in Tennessee. If you're black and give business to this man... be aware.

4 days ago