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First Amendment audits

By Robert Bond

I have been researching the increasing activity of “First Amendment auditors” or “social media auditors” who exercise their rights to film in public spaces and record antagonistic interactions with security staff at the gates of businesses and government premises—sometimes using drones to film from above. They use their footage to monetize their interactions on social media accounts. It made me realize that we need to train our staff to react appropriately to such auditors—particularly as their activity becomes more common.

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