

News Item

Huge "Police Lives Matter" Facebook page run from Kosovo, pushed misinformation about U.S. cops | Popular Information

By Judd Legum September 30, 2019

The "Police Lives Matter" Facebook page accumulated over 170,000 fans, with viral content that reached more Facebook users than some of the largest media outlets. The page purported to be run by U.S. police officers, with cops posting about the "first dayshift of my career with a K9" or being "brand new dad." Other posts contained more generic pro-police messaging.

What these posts did not mention is that the page was operated by three people from Kosovo. It was part of a complex network of pro-police pages based out of Kosovo. One such page run by Kosovars, Pro Police Officer, falsely listed a physical address in New York City.

These pages used blatant misinformation to provoke an emotional response from Facebook users. For example, on August 19, 2019, the Police Lives Matter page posted that "a little under three weeks ago" Deputy Farrah Turner had been shot and had just died of gunshot wounds. Turner was actually shot on October 3, 2018, and died on October 24, 2018.

[...]

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