

Emojis and Emoticons in U.S. Court Opinions

by Professor Eric Goldman (egoldman@gmail.com)

Last updated January 22, 2024

	Emoji/Emoticon	Which?	Where used?	Did court display?	More than 1x	Type of legal issue
2004						
MicroStrategy, Inc. v. Business Objects, S.A., 331 F. Supp. 2d 396 (E.D. Va. 2004)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Trade Secret
2007						
Hiller v. United States, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 85536 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 28, 2007)	Emoticon	Not specified	Web posting (jeep.No (omitted)		Yes	Personal Injury
State v. Atchison, 15 Neb. App. 422 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007)	Emoticon	Devil, Wink, Smug, Batting Eyelashes	IM	Yes	Yes	Sexual Predation
U.S. v. Cochran, 510 F. Supp. 2d 470 (N.D. Ind. 2007). Affirmed U.S. v. Cochran, 534 F.3d 63	Emoticon	French kiss and others	Yahoo Chat	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
2008						
Fair Hous. Council v. Roommates.com, LLC, 521 F.3d 1157 (9th Cir. 2008)	Emoticon	Multiple	Web posting (RooNo		No	Housing Discrimination
SD Prot., Inc. v. Del Rio, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 112043 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 10, 2008)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Contract
U.S. v. Angle, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 34074 (N.D. Ind. Apr. 24, 2008), repeated U.S. v. Angle,	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Sexual Predation
Woodson v. Lason Systems, 2008 WL 11333778 (W.D. Tex. Nov. 4, 2008)	Emoticon	Unspecified	MSN and Yahoo I	No	No	Employment Termination
2009						
Smith v. Rose, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43787 (W.D. Wis. May 20, 2009)	Emoticon	Smiley	Hand-written	No	No	Prison
State v. Pischel, 277 Neb. 412 (2009)	Emoticon	Anger and others	IM	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
State v. Prine, 13 So.3d 758 (La. Ct. App. May 20, 2009), habeus denied Prine v. Winn Corr.	Emoticon	Smiley	Chatroom	No	No	Sexual Predation
In re Trans Union Corp. Privacy Litig., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 116934 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 1, 2009)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Attorneys Fees
U.S. v. Brown, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59671 (S.D. Ind. July 13, 2009)	Emoticon	"smiling and winking"	Chat	No	No	Sexual Predation
2010						
Career Agents Network, Inc. v. careeragentsnetwork.biz, 722 F. Supp. 2d 814 (E.D. Mich. 201	Emoticon	Smiley face or winky [sounded like a smiley to me]	Text message	No	No	Attorneys Fees
FTC v. LucasLaw Center Inc., 2010 WL 11506885 (C.D. Cal. June 3, 2010)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Fraud
Gearren v. McGraw-Hill Cos., 690 F. Supp. 2d 254 (S.D.N.Y. 2010)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Email	No	No	ERISA
Lenz v. Universal Music Corp., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16899 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 25, 2010)	Emoticon	Winky	Email	Yes	Yes	Copyright Takedown
In re Oladiran, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106385 (D. Az. Sept. 21, 2010)	Emoticon	Smiley	Letter	No	No	Attorney Discipline
State v. Nero, 122 Conn. App. 763 (2010)	Emoticon	Winking, Happy Face, Confused	Chatroom	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
2011						
Microsoft Corp. v. Shah, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2995 (W.D. Wash. Jan. 12, 2011)	Emoticon	N/A	Website	No	Yes	Trademarks
People v. Lesser, 2011 WL 193460 (Cal. Ct. App. Jan. 21, 2011)	Emoticon	Blushing and more	Chat	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
People v. Patel, 2011 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 8245 (Cal. Ct. App. Oct. 27, 2011)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Yahoo chatroom	No	No	Sexual Predation
State v. Jacques, 332 Wis. 2d 804 (Wis. Ct. App. 2011)	Emoticon	Blushing and more	Chat	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
2012						
Mims v. Chilton Med. Ctr., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27755 (M.D. Ala. Mar. 2, 2012)	Emoticon	"I love you"	Text message	No	No	Harassment
Intellect Wireless, Inc. v. HTC Corp., 910 F. Supp. 2d 1056 (N.D. Ill. 2012), affirmed 732 F.3d	Emoticon	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Patent
People v. Reyes, 2012 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5347 (Cal. Ct. App. July 20, 2012)	Emoticon	"Sad face"	Handwritten journ:	No	No	Physical assault
Piping Rock Partners, Inc. v. David Lerner Associates, Inc., 2012 WL 5471143 (N.D. Cal. Nov.	Emoticon	"Laughing face"	"Post"	No	No	Defamation
State v. Croft, 2012 Kan. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1061 (Kan. Ct. App. 2012)	Emoticon	Smiley	Yahoo Messenger	No	No	Sexual Predation
U.S. v. Shinn, 681 F.3d 924 (8th Cir. 2012)	Emoticon	Butt cheeks	Chatroom	No	No	Sexual Predation
Wiswell v. Verticalscope, Inc., 2012 WL 13136295 (W.D. Tex. Aug. 1, 2012)	Emoticon	"cartoon character pointing archly at some sort of dc	Message board	No	Yes	Defamation
Xen, Inc. v. Citrix Sys., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 153787 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 25, 2012)	Emoticon	Angry face	N/A	No	No	Trademark
2013						
Allstate Ins. Co. v. Chretien, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 175458 (D. Me. Nov. 5, 2013)	Emoticon	Not clear	Email	Not clear	No	Non-compete
Arnold v. Reliant Bank, 932 F. Supp. 2d 840 (M.D. Tenn. 2013)	Emoticon	Smiley	Written document	No	No (repeats 2x)	Discrimination
Commonwealth v. Bogle, 2013 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 2589 (Pa. Superior Ct. June 20, 201	Emoticon	Sad face	Written letter	No	No	Sentencing
Finlay v. Potteiger, 2013 WL 2046546 (W.D. Penn. Jan. 23, 2013)	Emoticon	Not specified	IM	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
People v. Zamora, 2013 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5537 (Cal. Ct. App. Aug. 5, 2013)	Emoticon	Sad face	Text message	Yes	No	Sexual Predation
Scroggin v. Credit Bureau of Jonesboro, Inc., 973 F. Supp. 2d 961 (E.D. Ark. 2013)	Emoticon	Train wreck	Online postings	No	No	Debt collection
State v. Stern, 346 Wis. 2d 731 (2013), habeus denied Stern v. Meisner, 812 F.3d 606 (7th Ci	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Sexual Predation

United States v. Capps, 2013 CCA LEXIS 842 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 9, 2013)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Sexual Predation
United States v. Christensen, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 52464 (D. Mont. Apr. 11, 2013)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	Yes	Criminal defense
2014						
Apatoff v. Munich Re Am. Servs., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106665 (D. N.J. Aug. 1, 2014)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	Yes	Discrimination
In re Family Dollar Stores, Inc. Stockholder Litigation, 2014 WL 7246436 (Del. Chancery Ct. D	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Stockholder suit
Ghanam v. Does, 303 Mich. App. 522 (Mich. Ct. App. 2014)	Emoticon	Tongue sticking out smiley	Online postings	Yes	Yes	Defamation
Kinsey v. State, 2014 Tex. App. LEXIS 5551 (May 22, 2014)	Emoticon	Winky	Text messages	No	No	Sexual Predation
Mobile Telecommunications Technologies, LLC v. Sprint Nextel Corp., 2014 WL 10726788 (E.	Emoticon/emoji (in 1	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Patent scope
Rhodes v. Commonwealth, 2014 Ky. App. Unpub. LEXIS 499 (Ky. Ct. App. June 27, 2014)	Emoticon	Winky	Facebook messag	No	No	Sexual Predation
2015						
Brown v. State, 2015 Kan. App. Unpub. LEXIS 221 (Kan. Ct. App. Mar. 20, 2015)	Emoticon	Smiley, winky, "indistinguishable"	Yahoo chat	No	Yes	Sexual Predation
Enjaian v. Schlisel, 2015 WL 3408805 (E.D. Mich. May 27, 2015)	Emoticon (but plainti	Unclear (maybe tongue sticking out smiley and big s	Text messages	Yes	Yes	Wrongful search
Eksouzian v. Albanese, 116 U.S.P.Q.2d 1972 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 7, 2015)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram	No	No	Trademark Settlement
Garza v. State, 2015 Tex. App. LEXIS 2205 (Tex. Ct. App. Mar. 10, 2015)	Emoticon	Winky	Text message	No	No	Criminal Defense
Hope-Jackson v. Washington, 311 Mich. App. 602 (2015)						
Lawyer v. Fino, 459 S.W.3d 528 (Mo. Dist. Ct. App. 2015)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Stalking
In re L.F., 2015 WL 3500616 (Cal. Ct. App. June 3, 2015)	Emoji	Laughing, clapping hand, 100	Twitter	No	Yes	Criminal Threat
Mobile Telecommunications Technologies, LLC v. Blackberry Corp., 2015 WL 12698062 (N.D.	Emoji and Emoticon	N/A	N/A	No	No	Patent
Parcel Mgmt. Auditing & Consulting, Inc. v. Dooney & Bourke, Inc., 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 222	Emoji	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Contract
People v. Arana, 2015 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 4485 (Cal. Ct. App. June 23, 2015)	Emoticon	Winky	Not sure	No	No	Sexual Predation
People v. Krasnoperov, 2015 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 343 (Cal. App. Ct. Jan. 15, 2015)	Emoticon (true?)	Crossing finger and unspecified [:-*]	AOL messenger	No	Yes	Murder
QED Holdings, LLC v. Block, 2015 WL 12659935 (C.D. Cal. June 11, 2015)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Email	No	No	Attorney-client relationship formation
Starry Assocs. v. United States, 125 Fed. Cl. 613 (Ct. Fed. Claims 2015) and 2016 WL 40136	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Contract
State v. Ramey, 2015 WL 9393557 (Ohio Ct. App. Dec. 22, 2015)	Emoji	100'	Twitter	No	No	Criminal Assault
TransPerfect Global, Inc. v. Elting (In re Shawe & Elting LLC), 2015 Del. Ch. LEXIS 211 (Del.)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Corporate governance
2016						
Afont v. Alaska Airlines, Inc., 2016 WL 7011336 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 1, 2016)	Emoji	Hearts	Text message	No	No	Discrimination
Bellisle v. Landmark Medical Center, 2016 WL 4987119 (D. R.I. Sept. 15, 2016)	Emoji	Scissors	Text message	No	No	Discrimination
CREF, LLC v. Puskarz, 2016 WL 3912534 (Conn. Super. Ct. July 8, 2016)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Landlord-Tenant
In the Interest of DJC, 2016 WL 7379248 (Tex. App. Ct. Dec. 21, 2016)	Emoticon	Kisses and hearts	Facebook	No	No	Domestic violence
Doe v. Brown Univ., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 132824 (D. R.I. Sept. 28, 2016)	Emoji	Winky, Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual Assault
Forziati v. Gray Box Consultant, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 112268 (D. Mass. June 30, 2016)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Facebook Messag	No	No	Employment
Gatter v. IKA-Works, 2016 WL 7338770 (E.D. Pa. Dec. 19, 2016)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Employment
Moldovan v. Polito, 2016 Tex. App. LEXIS 8283 (Tex. App. Ct. Aug. 2, 2016)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Email	No	No	Defamation
Odermatt v. Way, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 69202 (E.D.N.Y. May 25, 2016)	Emoticon	Mixed smile :-/	Facebook post	Yes	No	Civil rights
Olivas v. State, 2016 Tex. App. LEXIS 13853 (Tex. Ct. App. Dec. 30, 2016)	Emoticon	Frown	Text message	No	No	Murder
Painter v. Ill. DOT, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94940 (C.D. Ill. July 20, 2016)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	Yes	Discrimination
People v. Cramer, 2016 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5667 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 1, 2016)	Emoji	bombs, guns, knives, needles, and [a] fork and knife	Text message	No	No	Criminal assault
People v. Leuthold, 2016 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2700 (Ill. App. Ct. Dec. 19, 2016)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Moye, 2016 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 1553 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. Mar. 31, 2016)	Emoji	money with wings, sad face	Facebook post	No	Yes	Evidence
People v. Murphy, 2016 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 485 (Cal. Ct. App. Jan. 22, 2016)	Emoticon	Crossing finger and :-*	AOL messenger	No	Yes	Murder
People v. Saxon, 470 P.3d 927 (Colo. O.P.D.J. Nov. 7, 2016)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Attorney discipline
Ragunauth v. Bisailon, 2016 WL 3451762 (Conn. Superior Ct. June 1, 2016)	Emoji	Smiley and gun	Text message	No	Yes	Stalking
State v. Guzman, 276 Ore. App. 208 (Ore. Ct. App. Jan. 27, 2016)	Emoticon	Sad face	Text message	No	No	Criminal assault
State v. McBride, 2016 Iowa App. LEXIS 1246 (Ia. Ct. App. Nov. 23, 2016)	Emoji	Fists and others	Facebook comme	No	Yes	Criminal assault
State v. Sanders, 2016 WL 5885392 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 30, 2016)	Emoji	Not specified	Text message	No	No	Domestic violence
State v. Thomassie, 2016 La. App. LEXIS 2347 (La. Ct. App. Dec. 21, 2016)	Emoji	Red-cheeked smiley	Text message	No	No	Sexual Assault
State v. Warner, 2016 Neb. App. LEXIS 161 (Neb. App. Ct. Aug. 23, 2016)	Emoticon	Smiley	Facebook post	No	No	Sexual Predation
U.B. v. Cassandra B., 2016 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1441 (Cal. Ct. App. Feb. 29, 2016)	Emoticon	Smiley with halo	Facebook messag	No	No	Custody
U.S. v. Epps, 2016 WL 3771845 (6th Cir. July 15, 2016)	Emoticon	Gun pointed at head	Facebook post	No	No	Sentencing
U.S. v. Holley, 2016 WL 6595129 (N.D. Fla. Nov. 7, 2016)	Emoticon	Winky	Craigslist messag	No	No	Sexual Predation
U.S. v. Wilson, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 87908 (D.N.J. July 6, 2016)	Emoticon	Handgun, explosion	Twitter	No	Yes	Firearm possession
2017						
Allen v. Ambu-Stat, LLC, 2017 WL 11475406 (N.D. Ga. Dec. 6, 2017)	Emoji	"Tongue"	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Canale v. Clarke, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 128280 (E.D. Va. Aug. 11, 2017)	Emoticon	Angel next to devil, jumping up and down tingling bu	Yahoo Chat	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Commonwealth v. Beattie, 2017 WL 3484292 (Pa. Superior Ct. Aug. 15, 2017)	Emoticon	Smiley	Facebook messag	No	No	Probation revocation
Commonwealth v. Castano, 2017 Mass. LEXIS 758 (Mass. Oct. 6, 2017)	Emoji	Face with Xs for eyes	WhatsApp messag	No	Yes	Murder
Commonwealth v. Paddy, 2017 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 2425 (Pa. Superior Ct. June 23, 20	Emoji	Gun	Social media post	No	No	Firearm violation

Delacruz v. State, 2017 Tex. App. LEXIS 3563 (Tex. App. Ct. Apr. 21, 2017)	Emoji	Smiley	Myspace Post	No	No	Murder
Doe v. Vazquez, 2017 WL 11624827 (C.D. Cal. June 13, 2017)	Emoji	Shrugging shoulders, hand in face, waving hand, pe	Text message	No	Yes	Harassment
Doe v. Western New England University, 2017 WL 113059 (D. Mass. Jan. 11, 2017)	Emoji	"Positive"	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual assault
El Pueblo De Puerto Rico v. Pola, 2017 PR App. LEXIS 2839 (P.R. App. Ct. Sept. 15, 2017)	Emoji	Kissing face	Text message	No	No	Sexual assault?
Gonzales v. Organogenesis, Inc., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 86096 (S.D. Cal. June 5, 2017)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Gonzalez v. Texas, 2017 WL 360690 (Tex. Ct. App. Jan. 25, 2017). On appeal 544 S.W.3d 36	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook messag	No	Yes	Murder
Graham v. Prince, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 111521 (S.D.N.Y. July 18, 2017)	Emoji	Raised fist	Instagram messag	No	Yes	Copyright
Harmon v. Radcliff, 2017 WL 5664754 (Ohio Ct. App. Nov. 27, 2017)	Emoji	Devil	Text message	No	No	Custody dispute
Jackson v. McCurry, 2017 WL 6559912 (M.D. Ga. Dec. 22, 2017)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	School discipline
J.H. v. Williamson County, 2017 WL 11476338 (M.D. Tenn. Aug. 1, 2017)	Emoticon	Kissing face	Facebook posts	No	No	Court reporter disqualification
J.S. v. Grand Island Public Schools, 297 Neb. 347 (Neb. 2017)	Emoji	Fire and gun	"a social media wr	No	Yes	Student suspension
Keck v. Indiana, 2017 WL 3710902 (Ind. Ct. App. Aug. 29, 2017)	Emoticon	Sad face	Text message	No	No	Harassment
Koerner v. Vigilant Ins. Co., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172283 (E.D. La. Oct. 18, 2017)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Contract breach
Mooneyhan v. Telecomms. Mgmt., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188743 (E.D. Mo. Nov. 15, 2017)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Murgia v. Commonwealth, 2017 Va. App. LEXIS 141 (Va. Ct. App. May 30, 2017), rev'd Comn	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
New York v. United Parcel Service 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43495 (S.D.N.Y. March 24, 2017), c	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	Yes	Settlement Agreement re cigarette shipment)
Shen v. Albany Unified School District, 2017 WL 5890089 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 29, 2017)	Emoji	Laughing face	Instagram	No	Yes	First Amendment
State v. Calderon, 2017 WL 1365357 (La. Ct. App. Apr. 12, 2017)	Emoji	Crying face	Facebook messag	No	No	Murder
State v. Calhoun, 2017 WL 5192435 (Ohio Ct. App. Nov. 9, 2017)	Emoji	Unspecified	Backpage post	No	No	Prostitution
State v. Decker, 2017 Minn. App. Unpub. LEXIS 402 (Minn. Ct. App. May 8, 2017)	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook messag	No	No	Indecent exposure
State v. Shepherd, 2017 Ohio App. LEXIS 328 (Ohio Ct. App. Jan. 30, 2017)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	Yes	Yes	Criminal assault
Stewart v. Durham, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88656 (S.D. Miss. June 9, 2017)	Emoji	Blowing kiss; winky	Text message	No	Yes	Emotional distress
Supreme Xtract v. Laplante, 2017 Me. Super. LEXIS 59 (Me. Superior Ct. May 9, 2017)	Emoticon	Smiley, "multiple"	Instagram	No	Yes	Contract breach
United States v. Dish Network LLC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 85543 (C.D. Ill. June 5, 2017)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Telemarketing law violation
United States v. (D-11) Cary Dailey, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 193962 (E.D. Mich. Nov. 27, 2017)	Emoji	"Guns and drugs"	Instagram	No	Yes	Bond revocation
United States v. Johnson, 2017 WL 6205412 (D. Md. Nov. 21, 2017)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram	No	No	Evidence
United States v. Olaya, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72520 (E.D. Mich. Apr. 19, 2017)	Emoji	"Nervous" emoji	Text message	No	No	Search and seizure
In re W. B., 2017 WL 2417781 (Ga. Ct. App. June 5, 2017)	Emoji	guns, bombs, and dollar signs	Facebook messag	No	No	Burglary
Western Institutional Review Bd. v. Jenkins, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 157891 (W.D. Wash. Sept	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Employment (non-compet)
Wilson v. Phillips, 2017 WL 5495402 (Tenn. Ct. App. Nov. 15, 2017)	Emoji	Unspecified	iMessage	No	No	Child custody
WordLogic Corp. v. Flesky, Inc., 2017 WL 5152369 (N.D. Ill. Nov. 7, 2017)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Mobile devices	No	Yes	Patent

2018

In re Bard Ivc Filters Prods. Liab. Litig. v. C. R. Bard, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 24766 (D. Ariz. Fe	Emoji	Cowboy	Social media	No	No	Evidence
Bellue v. Sheriff, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 156493 (M.D. La. Sept. 14, 2018)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	Yes	Discrimination
Bollinger v. State Dep't of Educ., 2018 Ohio App. LEXIS 4027 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 17, 2018)	Emoji	Angel face	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Briggs v. Kent Sch. Corp., 2018 Conn. Super. LEXIS 4465 (Conn. Super. Ct. Nov. 9, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Social media	No	No	Discovery
Cableview Communications of Jacksonville Inc. v. Time Warner Cable Southeast LLC, 2018 V	Emoticon	Heart	Email	No	Yes	Discovery
City of Delaware v. Boggs, 2018 Ohio App. LEXIS 4996 (Ohio Ct. App. Nov. 19, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook messag	No	No	Harassment
Commonwealth v. Casbohm, 2018 Mass. App. LEXIS 182 (Mass. Ct. App. Dec. 27, 2018)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Sexual predation
Crowley v. State, 2018 Tex. App. LEXIS 5767 (Tex. Ct. App. July 26, 2018)	Emoji	Grinning	Text message	No	No	Murder
D'Agata v. D'Agata, 2018 WL 1734724 (Conn. Superior Ct. March 14, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Child custody
In re Elijah H., 2018 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1099 (Ill. Ct. App. June 29, 2018)	Emoji	Smiley and winky	Facebook post	No	Yes	Juvenile delinquency
Emerson v. Dart, 900 F.3d 469 (7th Cir. Aug. 14, 2018)	Emoji	Smiley, poop	Facebook post	Yes	Yes	Witness retaliation
Estrada-Puentes v. Nevada, 2018 WL 1720662 (Nev. Ct. App. March 30, 2018)	Emoji	"Kissing"	Text message	No	No	Murder
E*Trade Financial Corp. v. Eaton, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 68683 (D. Ariz. Apr. 24, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Employment
Fairbanks v. Roller, 2018 WL 2727897 (D.C.D.C. June 6, 2018)	Emoji	Face With Stuck-Out Tongue and Winking Eye	Twitter post	No	No	Defamation
Guirguis v. Brown, 2018 WL 853037 (Cal. Ct. App. Feb. 14, 2018)	Emoji	Two eyes	Instagram post	No	No	Contract/arbitration
Hill-Rom Services, Inc. v. Tellisense Medical, LLC, 2018 WL 5044686 (S.D. Ind. Oct. 17, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Email	No	No	Trade Secrets
If Merchandise v. Kangaroo Manufacturing, 2018 WL 11193545 (D. Conn. June 12, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Beach ball	No	No	Copyright
In re Jacobson, 2018 Iowa App. LEXIS 325 (Iowa Ct. App. April 4, 2018)	Emoji	Zipper mouth, skull	Text message	Yes	No	Child custody
K.N. v. Stowell, 2018 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5823 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 27, 2018)	Emoji	Winky	Email	No	No	Stalking
Lindsey v. Tex. State Bd. of Veterinary Med. Examiners, 2018 Tex. App. LEXIS 2994 (Tex. Ct. Emoticon	Emoticon	Cat, laughing/crying	Facebook post	No	Yes	Professional licensure
In re M.J., 2018 Md. App. LEXIS 157 (Md. Ct. Special App. Feb. 14, 2018)	Emoji	Surgical mask face	Twitter post	No	No	Harassment
Murdoch v. MedJet Assistance, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33400 (N.D. Ala. March 1, 2018)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Employment harassment
Nexus Servs. v. Moran, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 47911 (W.D. Va. March 23, 2018)	Emoji	"Hitler emoji"	Email	No	Yes	Civil rights
People v. Bogseth, 2018 WL 842904 (Mich. Ct. App. Feb. 13, 2018)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Facebook post	No	No	Murder
People v. Brumsey, 2018 WL 2174086 (Cal. App. Ct. May 11, 2018)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	False Imprisonment
People v. Gary, 2018 WL 416080 (Cal. App. Ct. Jan. 16, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Trafficking
People v. George, 2018 WL 1100942 (Cal. App. Ct. March 1, 2018), on rehearing, 2018 WL 2	Emoticon	"the precise meaning of which we decline to take ju	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Hastings, 2018 Mich. App. LEXIS 3561 (Mich. Ct. App. Nov. 27, 2018)	Emoji	two eyes, thumbs down, face with tongue hanging o	iMessage	No	Yes	Sexual predation
People v. Kelso, 2018 WL 1830494 (Cal. App. Ct. April 17, 2018)	Emoticon	Smiley, winky and sad face	Email	No	Yes	Sexual predation
People v. Odle, 2018 Colo. Discipl. LEXIS 70 (Colo. Sup. Ct. Nov. 7, 2018)	Emoji	Kiss	Text message	No	No	Attorney discipline
People v. Romero, 2018 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 3550 (Cal. App. Ct. May 23, 2018)	Emoticon	Sad face	Facebook messag	No	No	Murder
Purvis v. Secretary Department of Corrections, 2018 WL 10509906 (N.D. Fla. Sept. 4, 2018)	Emoji	Frownie, Sad, Winky, Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Child pornography

Randall v. Ups, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 175969 (D. Ore. Oct. 12, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Harassment
Starry Assocs. v. United States, 2018 U.S. App. LEXIS 17017 (Fed. Cir. June 22, 2018)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	No	No	Contract
State v. Ahmed, 2018 Minn. App. LEXIS 490 (Minn. Ct. App. Dec. 17, 2018)	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook	No	No	Nonconsensual Pornography
State v. Aracena, 2018 WL 3978016 (N.C. App. Ct. Aug. 21, 2018)	Emoji	Face with tears of joy	Facebook	No	Yes	Robbery and assault
State v. Caslin, 2018-Ohio-5362 (Ohio Ct. App. Dec. 31, 2018)	Emoticon	"Enthusiastic"	Facebook	No	No	Rape
State v. Harper, 2018 Fla. App. LEXIS 12666 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. Sept. 5, 2018)	Emoticon	Winky	Text message	Yes	No	Entrapment
State v. King, 2018 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 2215 (N.J. Superior Ct. Oct. 9, 2018)	Emoji	100, middle finger	Facebook	No	Yes	Witness Tampering
State v. Lewis, 292 Or.App. 1 (Ore. Ct. App. May 23, 2018)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. M.F., 2018 WL 333493 (N.J. App. Div. Jan. 9, 2018)	Emoji	Lips and broken hearts	WhatsApp messa	No	Yes	Restraining order
State v. Nickell, 2018 WL 1158897 (Mo. Ct. App. March 6, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook messa	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Pyles, 2018 Ohio 4034 (Ohio Ct. App. Oct. 4, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Witness intimidation
State v. Robertson, 2018 WL 1975966 (Ohio Ct. App. April 26, 2018)	Emoji	Sad	Facebook post	No	No	Sexual assault
State v. Stotts, 2018 Ohio App. LEXIS 4207 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 21, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Sexual assault
State Line Bag Co. v. Companionlabs Sys., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142550 (W.D. Mo. Aug. 22, 2018)	Emoticon	Winky	Email	No	No	Contract
T.C. v. Metropolitan Government of Nashville, 2018 WL 3348728 (M.D. Tenn. July 9, 2018)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Social media	No	No	Discrimination
Ukwauchu v. State, 2018 WL 2711167 (Tex. Ct. Crim. App. June 6, 2018)	Emoji and Emoticon	Court doesn't say, but appears to be smirking face	Text message	Yes	Yes	Sexual assault
U.S. v. Dadona, 2018 WL 3241488 (U.S. Air Force Ct. Crim. App. July 2, 2018)	Emoji and Emoticon	Unspecified ("This opinion quotes Kik messages as	Kik Messages	No	No	Sexual predation
U.S. v. Edwards, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7456 (S.D. Ohio Jan. 17, 2018)	Emoji	Laughing face and skull	Facebook post	No	No	Witness retaliation
U.S. v. Jefferson, 2018 U.S. App. LEXIS 36657 (10th Cir. Dec. 28, 2018)	Emoji	Firearm	Facebook post	No	Yes	Robbery
U.S. v. Lanier, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176411 (E.D. Tenn. Oct. 15, 2018)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Jury interference
U.S. v. Schweitzer, 2018 WL 3326645 (U.S. Air Force Ct. of Crim. App. May 8, 2018)	Emoji and Emoticon	Frown emoji, grin emoji, sad face emoticon	Yahoo Messenger	No	Yes	Sexual predation
U.S. v. Smith, 2018 CCA LEXIS 48 (U.S. Air Force Ct. of Crim. App. Jan. 31, 2018)	Emoji	Winky	Craigslist post; Ya	No	Yes	Sexual predation
U.S. v. Westley, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 118571 (D. Conn. July 17, 2018)	Emoji	"celebratory emojis," car, cloud, phone, gas	Facebook post	No	Yes	Gang activities
Vasquez v. Acevedo, 2018 WL 10374691 (M.D. Tenn. Apr. 16, 2018)	Emoji	Heart-shaped eyes and heart kisses	Email	No	Yes	Child custody

2019

2 Bubbles LLC v. Bowers, 2019 Del. Trial Order LEXIS 38 (Del. Justice of the Peace Ct. Sept. 24, 2019)	Emoji	Happy face, thumbs up, laughing face, winky	Text message	No	Yes	Landlord-Tenant
Angelakos v. Inst. for Bldg. Tech. & Safety, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 164701 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 24, 2019)	Emoji and Emoticon	Thumbs-up	Email	No	Yes	Contract (settlement)
A.S. v. Lincoln County R-III Sch. Dist., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 216518 (E.D. Mo. Dec. 17, 2019)	Emoji	Crying and praying hands	Snapchat	No	Yes	School discipline
Bardales v. Lamothe, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 186273 (M.D. Tenn. Oct. 22, 2019)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	Yes	Custody
Barnette v. Yates Township, 2019 WL 11639572 (W.D. Mich. March 14, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie	Facebook post	No	No	Employment
Bayne v. State, 2019 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 706 (Ind. Ct. App. June 10, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Snapchat	No	No	Murder
Beach v. State, 2019 Ga. App. LEXIS 414 (Ga. App. Ct. June 28, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Beeler v. State, 2019 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 522 (Ind. Ct. App. April 30, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Toys	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Blount v. State, 2019 Tex. App. LEXIS 3217 (Tex. Ct. App. April 23, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook post	No	Yes	Robbery
Brown v. Genesis Healthcare, Inc., 2019 WL 6119757 (D.S.C. May 28, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text	No	No	Employment discrimination
Brown v. Pacifica Found., 2019 Cal. App. LEXIS 392 (Cal. App. Ct. April 29, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Email	No	No	Corporate governance
Cabrera v. Camden County & Police Chief, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 134042 (D.N.J. Aug. 9, 2019)	Emoji	Gun	Facebook post	No	Yes	Police use of deadly force
Campos v. Jensen, 296 Ore. App. 402 (Ore. App. Ct. March 6, 2019)	Emoticon	Heart	Facebook post	No	Yes	Defamation
Cannon v. S. Univ. Bd. of Supervisors, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 63076 (M.D. La. April 12, 2019)	Emoji	Winky	Email	No	No	Constitutional litigation
Castano v. Cowen, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 224916 (D. Mass. Dec. 27, 2019)	Emoji	Xes for eyes	WhatsApp messa	No	Yes	Murder
In the Matter of C.I.R., 2019 Ohio 335 (Ohio Ct. App. Feb. 4, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Snapchat	No	No	Threat
Commonwealth v. Bennett, 2019 Mass. App. Unpub. LEXIS 738 (Mass. Ct. App. Nov. 6, 2019)	Emoji	Gun	Text message	No	Yes	Gun possession
Commonwealth v. Danzey, 2019 Pa. Super. LEXIS 454 (Pa. Superior Ct. May 9, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley, unspecified	Facebook post	No	Yes	Harassment
Commonwealth v. Foster, 2019 Pa. LEXIS 4593 (Pa. Supreme Ct. Aug. 20, 2019)	Emoji	Pill	Social media post	No	No	Probation revocation
Commonwealth v. Hackenberger, 2019 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1447 (Pa. Superior Ct. April 2019)	Emoji	Smiley, smiley with tongue sticking out, excited smile	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Commonwealth v. Hites, 2019 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 4419 (Pa. Superior Ct. Nov. 26, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Video	No	No	Gun possession
Commonwealth v. Hunt, 2019 Mass. App. Unpub. LEXIS 142 (Mass. App. Ct. Feb. 22, 2019)	Emoji	Kissy, 2 people with heart above, diamond ring	Text message	No	Yes	Assault
Commonwealth v. Smith, 2019 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1889 (Pa. Superior Ct. May 14, 2019)	Emoji	Cat	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Court of Master Sommeliers v. Pilkey, 2019 WL 9443609 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 9, 2019)	Emoji	Fire	Instagram	No	Yes	Trademark
Deggeller Attractions, Inc. v. North American Midway Entertainment-Southeast LLC, 2019 WL 20190101 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 10, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Letter?	No	No	Tortious Interference with Contract
De Lucia v. Castillo, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71303 (M.D. Ga. April 29, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley, Frowny Face	WhatsApp messa	No	Yes	Child abduction
Doe v. Univ. of Ky., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8897 (E.D. Ky. Jan. 18, 2019)	Emoji	Stars	Text message	No	No	Sexual assault
Dragonite v. S. Lake Clinic, P.A., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171087 (D. Minn. Oct. 2, 2019)	Emoji	Sad face	Email	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
E.P.R. v. I.M.R., 2019 WL 2896206 (N.J. App. Div. July 5, 2019)	Emoji	"representing sarcasm"	Text message	No	No	Harassment Protection Order
Evans v. Epimed Int'l, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 185774 (N.D.N.Y. Oct. 28, 2019)	Emoji	"Mad"	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Game & Tech. Co. v. Activation Blizzard, 2019 U.S. App. LEXIS 18601 (Fed. Cir. June 21, 2019)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Game	No	No	Patent
Gonsalves v. People, 2019 WL 539852 (V.I. Sup. Ct. Feb. 7, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Sexual predation
Gonzales v. State, 2019 Ark. App. 600 (Ark. Ct. App. Dec. 11, 2019)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Facebook Messer	No	No	Murder
Grossman v. Rockaway Twp., 2019 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1496 (N.J. Superior Ct. June 1, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Snapchat	No	No	Negligence
Harrison v. City of Tampa, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 93131 (M.D. Fla. June 4, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley, Winky, "face kissing, a face with hearts for e	Facebook Messer	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
Haughwout v. Tordenti, 2019 WL 3403274 (Conn. Supreme Ct. July 30, 2019)	Emoji	Gun	N/A	No	No	True Threat/university dismissal
Herman v. Ohio Univ., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 202813 (S.D. Ohio Nov. 22, 2019)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Discrimination/Harassment
Horwich v. Leveque, 2019 WL 13455734 (Conn. Superior Ct. June 25, 2019)	Emoji	Heart	Text message	No	No	Custody
Hydrojug, Inc. v. Five Below, Inc., 2022 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 159588 (N.D. Ohio Sept. 2, 2022)	Emoji	Crying	Unspecified	No	No	Patent

Ismail v. Montchak, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 4569 (Cal. App. Ct. July 8, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Twitter post	No	No	Defamation
Jackson v. McCurry, 2019 U.S. App. LEXIS 7237 (11th Cir. March 12, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Phone contacts	No	Yes	School discipline
Jansen v. State, 2019 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 207 (Ind. Ct. App. Feb. 22, 2019)	Emoji	Laughing	Whisper post	No	No	Sexual battery
If Merch. v. Kangaroo Mfg., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154841 (D. Conn. Sept. 11, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Beach balls	No	Yes	Copyright and trademark
In re B.C., 2019-Ohio-3646 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 6, 2019)	Emoji	Laughing	Snapchat	No	No	Criminal threat
In re D.T., 2019 WL 5779778 (Cal. App. Ct. Nov. 6, 2019)	Emoji	"Super happy" and "happy"	Unspecified	No	Yes	Adoption
In re Judicial Disciplinary Proceedings Against Kachinsky, 2019 Wisc. LEXIS 334 (Wis. Sup. C	Emoji	Sad face	Facebook post	No	No	Judicial misconduct
Kangaroo Manufacturing Inc. v. Amazon.com, Inc., 2019 WL 1280945 (D. Ariz. March 20, 201	Emoji	Unspecified	Beach balls	No	Yes	Copyright and trademark
Kryzak v. State, 2019 Tex. App. LEXIS 7786 (Tex. Ct. App. Aug. 27, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie	Text message	No	No	Manslaughter
Lema v. BTS Holdings, 2019 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 150 (N.J. Superior Ct. Jan. 18, 2019)	Emoji	Heart	"Social media app	No	No	Employment discrimination
Manek v. State, 2019 Ark. App. 2142019 (Ark. Ct. App. April 10, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Child pornography
Melendez v. State, 2019 WL 5406051 (Tex. Ct. App. Oct. 23, 2019)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Menaker v. Hofstra Univ., 2019 U.S. App. LEXIS 24283 (2d Cir. Aug. 15, 2019)	Emoji	Winky	Facebook post	No	No	Employment
Mohammed v. Anderson, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 141773 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 21, 2019)	Emoji	Crying baby, "unintelligible"	Email	No	Yes	Judicial sanctions
Moir v. Seattle Cent. Coll., 2019 Wash. App. LEXIS 2650 (Wash. App. Ct. Oct. 21, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
Moreau v. St. Landry Parish Fire Dist. No. 3, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154641 (W.D. La. Sept. 11	Emoji	Angry, thumbs up	Facebook messag	No	Yes	Employment
Murphy ex rel. NLRB v. NSL Country Gardens, LLC, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 79086 (D. Mass. N	Emoji	Mouse (rat)	Unspecified	No	No	Employment
People v. Anderson, 2019 WL 1275129 (Cal. App. Ct. March 20, 2019)	Emoticon	Heart, Smiley	Chat messages	No	Yes	Sexual predation
People v. Griffis, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1249 (Cal. App. Ct. Feb. 21, 2019)	Emoji	crying face, hands praying, thumbs down, gun	Facebook post	No	Yes	Murder
People v. Jamerson, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 940 (Cal. App. Ct. Feb. 6, 2019)	Emoji	Crown, high heels, bags of money	Instagram	No	Yes	Sex trafficking
People v. JP (In re JP), 2019 Mich. App. LEXIS 5751 (Mich. Ct. App. Sept. 24, 2019)	Emoji, Emoticon, and	Smile, XD (representing "laugh out loud"), cartoon b	Snapchat	Yes	Yes	Criminal threat
People v. Leon, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 8139 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 6, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie, "Angry"	Text message	No	Yes	Murder
People v. Lopez, 2019 Mich. App. LEXIS 595 (Mich. Ct. App. March 26, 2019)	Emoji	Skull	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Maldonado, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5402 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 15, 2019)	Emoji	Hearts	Text messages ar	No	No	Sexual predation
People v. Obioha, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1613 (Cal. App. Ct. March 7, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook post	No	No	Murder
People v. Smith, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1691 (Cal. App. Ct. March 12, 2019)	Emoji	two pairs of eyes, three fingers pointed, thumb and f	Facebook post	No	Yes	Witness intimidation
People v. Valenzuela, 2019 WL 4464264 (Cal. Ct. App. Sept. 18, 2019)	Emoji	Sad face, happy face, crying face (?)	Text message	No	Yes	Rape
People v. Webster, 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 4504 (Cal. App. Ct. July 2, 2019)	Emoji	bare feet, money bag, dollar sign	Caller ID	No	Yes	Pimping
Pizza Di Joey v. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, 2019 Md. App. LEXIS 433 (Md. Ct. Spe	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Land use
Porter v. M.W. Logistics Servs., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 143653 (N.D.W.V. Aug. 23, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
Redacted v. Redacted, 2019 Del. Fam. Ct. LEXIS 16 (Del. Family Ct. May 13, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Custody
Redzone Wireless LLC v. Netgear Inc. 2019 WL 10255541 (D. Me. Sept. 20, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie	Email	No	No	Contract breach
Richmond Compassionate Care Collective v. 7 Stars Holistic Found., 2019 Cal. App. Unpub. L	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Antitrust
Ricks v. Friends of Wwoz, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 163833 (E.D. La. Sept. 25, 2019)	Emoticon	Thumbs-up	Email	No	No	Employment discrimination
Russo v. Bernal, 2019 Tex. App. LEXIS 951 (Tex. Ct. App. Feb. 12, 2019)	Emoticon	Crying, Two Hearts	Facebook post	No	Yes	Harassment Protection Order
Sands v. Bauer Media Group USA, 2019 WL 4464672 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 18, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram	No	No	Copyright
Smith v. Caesars Balt. Mgmt. Co., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 134148 (D. Md. Aug. 9, 2019)	Emoji	Rat	Facebook post	No	No	Employment
Smith v. State, 2019 Md. App. LEXIS 973 (Md. Ct. Special App. Nov. 8, 2019)	Emoji	Finger pointing down	Text message	No	No	Drug possession
Social Technologies LLC v. Apple, Inc., 2019 WL 7834757 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 7, 2019)	Emoji	Memojis	Unspecified	No	Yes	Trademark
State v. Ahmed, 2019 Minn. Dist. LEXIS 522 (Minn. Dist. Ct. Aug. 1, 2019)	Emoji	Eggplant, splashing sweat	Snapchat	No	Yes	Nonconsensual pornography
State v. Beliad, 2019 Minn. App. Unpub. LEXIS 342 (Minn. Ct. App. April 22, 2019)	Emoji	"affectionate"	Text message	No	No	Assault
State v. Bemis, 2019 WL 4230510 (Kan. Ct. App. Sept. 6, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Berrios, 2019 Conn. App. LEXIS 50 (Conn. App. Ct. Feb. 5, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Bey, 2019 Ohio 423 (Ohio Ct. App. Feb. 8, 2019)	Emoji	Gun	Facebook post	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Diggs, 2019 La. App. LEXIS 2364 (La. Ct. App. Dec. 27, 2019)	Emoji	"Laugh" and unspecified	Facebook messag	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Disabato, 2019 Ohio App. LEXIS 3626 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 3, 2019)	Emoji	"Rodent"	Text message	No	No	Harassment
State v. Foster, 2019 WL 1546996 (Tenn. Ct. Crim. App. April 9, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook Messer	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Jackson, 2019 WL 6048857 (Id. Ct. App. Nov. 15, 2019)	Unspecified	Smiley, winky	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Manypenny, 2019 Minn. App. LEXIS 348 (Minn. Ct. App. Nov. 4, 2019)	Emoji	Gun	Text message	No	No	Gun possession
State v. Polchert, 2019 Wisc. App. LEXIS 164 (Wis. Ct. App. March 26, 2019)	Emoji	hearts, smileys, kisses, broken hearts	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Potter, 2019 WL 453730 (Tenn. Crim. Ct. App. Feb. 5, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Murder
State v. Rene-Gomez, 2019 Wash. App. LEXIS 2563 (Wash. Ct. App. Oct. 7, 2019)	Emoji	Kissy Face, Crying	Text Message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Urich, 2019 Ohio App. LEXIS 3224 (Ohio Ct. App. Aug. 5, 2019)	Emoji	Waving	Facebook Messer	No	No	Protection order
Stimson v. Stryker Sales Corp., 2019 WL 2240444 (N.D. Ga. Jan. 29, 2019)	Emoji	Rainbow	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Swift v. TWC Admin. LLC, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 114750 (W.D.N.Y. July 9, 2019)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Employment discrimination
United States v. Anderson, 2019 CCA LEXIS 70 (U.S. Army Ct. Crim. App. Feb. 21, 2019)	Emoji	Monkey covering its mouth with its hands	Text message	No	No	Sexual harassment
United States v. Autry, 2019 WL 8757217 (N.D. Ga. Dec. 20, 2019)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Child pornography
United States v. Ceasar, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 127939 (S.D.N.Y. July 31, 2019)	Emoticon	weapons, guns, bombs	Unspecified	No	No	Terrorism
United States v. Douglas, 2019 U.S. App. LEXIS 23551 (11th Cir. August 7, 2019)	Emoticon	Rat	Instagram	No	No	Drug dealing (witness intimidation)
United States v. Garrett, 2019 CCA LEXIS 459 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 19, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	"Cartoon"	No	No	Larceny
United States v. Grubbs, 2019 CCA LEXIS 385 (US Navy Marines Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 4, 2019)	Emoji	Enlarged eyes with protruding tongue, winkie, winkie	Whisper post	No	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Loethen, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 208748 (W.D. Mo. Dec. 2, 2019)	Emoji	"Tree," thumbs up	Text message	No	Yes	Drugs
United States v. Martin, 2019 WL 2896444 (6th Cir. July 5, 2019)	Emoji	"Waving hand"	Email	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Morel-Pineda, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88971 (W.D. Wash. May 28, 2019)	Emoji	"Waiving hand"	Facebook Messer	No	No	Witness tampering
United States v. Sargeant, 2019 WL 5885095 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 12, 2019)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Expert witness
United States v. Washington, 2019 CCA LEXIS 47 (US Navy-Marine Ct. Crim. App. Feb. 8, 20	Emoticon	Smiley, Sad, Sad with Tear	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual Assault

Urrutia-Velez v. Frs-Fast Reliable Seaways LLC, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 208101 (S.D. Fla. Dec. 20, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook post	No	No	Personal injury
Wireless v. Netgear, Inc., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 168042 (D. Me. Sept. 20, 2019)	Emoji	Frownie	Email	No	No	Breach of contract
Young v. Greystar Real Estate Partners, LLC, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149731 (S.D. Cal. Sept. 20, 2019)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook and Ins	No	Yes	Publicity rights
2020						
25 CPW City Views, LLC v Cohen, 2020 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 276 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. Jan. 22, 2020)	Emoji	"angry face," "dead face"	Stickers	No	Yes	Harassment
Adoption of Isla, 2020 Mass. App. Unpub. LEXIS 277 (Mass. Ct. App. April 17, 2020)	Emoji	Gun	Facebook post	No	No	Custody
Allen v. Ambu-Stat, 2020 U.S. App. LEXIS 1450 (11th Cir. Jan. 16, 2020)	Emoji	"Tongue"	Text message	No	No	Employment harassment
In re Amber K., 2020 WL 857218 (Cal. App. Ct. Feb. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing, "laughy-face"	Social media post	No	Yes	Assault
Amy E. v. Patrick D., 2020 Neb. App. LEXIS 203 (Neb. Ct. App. July 7, 2020)	Emoji	"Ejaculation"	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
In re Ankola, 2020 Cal. App. LEXIS 758 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 12, 2020)	Emoji	Emoji (but really emc:-)	Email	Yes	Yes	Immigration
Anna Z. v. Debra Z., 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5497 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 26, 2020)	Emoji	"Super happy face"	Unspecified	No	No	Adoption
Apple Inc. v. Princeps Interface Techs. Llc, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 52787 (N.D. Cal. March 26, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Keyboard	No	Yes	Patent
Becton v. State, 2020 Ga. App. LEXIS 674 (Ga. App. Ct. Dec. 4, 2020)	Emoji	Surprised	Facebook Messer	No	No	Sexual predation
B.L. v. Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist., 2020 U.S. App. LEXIS 20365 (3d Cir. June 30, 2020)	Emoji	Upside-down smiley	Snapchat	Yes	Yes	First Amendment
Brick v. Estancia Municipal School District, 2020 WL 6144706 (D.N.M. October 20, 2020)	Emoji	Handgun	Social media	No	No	Employment discrimination
Caves v. Payne, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59898 (D. Conn. April 6, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Prison confinement
C.C. v. J.A.H., 2020 N.J. Super. LEXIS 52 N.J. App. Div. May 4, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Restraining order
Child A v. Saline Area Schools, 2020 WL 4903762 (E.D. Mich. Aug. 20, 2020)	Emoji	Gorilla	Snapchat	No	No	Student discipline
Commonwealth v. Brooks, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 3018 (Pa. Superior Ct. Sept. 24, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Facebook post	No	No	Harassment
Commonwealth v. Condon, 2020 Mass. App. LEXIS 186 (Mass. Ct. App. Dec. 18, 2020)	Emoji and emoticon	Faces with tears of joy, thumbs up, :(Text message	Yes (emoticons only)	Yes	Rape
Commonwealth v. Daniels, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1201 (Pa. Superior Ct. April 7, 2020)	Emoji	Moneybags, "arm making a muscle"	Text message	No	Yes	Theft
Commonwealth v. Davis, 2020 Pa. Super. LEXIS 885 (Pa. Superior Ct. Oct. 23, 2020)	Emoji	Moneybag, "flexing bicep"	Text message	No	Yes	Robbery
Commonwealth v. Fournier, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 874 (Pa. Superior Ct. March 11, 2020)	Emoji	"Smirking"	Grindr messages	No	No	Sexual predation
Commonwealth v. Harrison, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 3702 (Pa. Superior Ct. Nov. 25, 2020)	Emoji	Laugh/cry, laugh, heart	Instagram	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Commonwealth v. Hunter, 2020 Mass. App. Unpub. LEXIS 294 (Mass. Ct. App. April 22, 2020)	Emoji	Fire	Text message	No	No	Manslaughter (drug-related)
Commonwealth v. Jones, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 3470 (Pa. Superior Ct. Nov. 6, 2020)	Emoji	Moneybag, "flexing bicep"	Text message	No	Yes	Robbery
Commonwealth v. Wesley, 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 644 (Pa. Superior Ct. Feb. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Murder
Comyack v. Giannella, 2020 N.J. Super. LEXIS 49 (N.J. Superior Ct. April 21, 2020)	Emoji	Shrug, eye roll, knife	Facebook post	No	Yes	Defamation
Crawford v. Mangos Caribbean Restaurant LLC, 2020 WL 10056405 (N.D. Ga. July 30, 2020)	Emoji	Peace sign, fire	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Dahl v. Kilgore, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 212568 (W.D. Ky. Nov. 13, 2020)	Emoji	Gun	Text message	No	Yes	Stalking
D.G. v. State, 2020 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 362 (Ind. Ct. App. March 25, 2020)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Social media	No	Yes	Rape
Doe v. Chesapeake Med. Solutions, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32305 (D. Md. Feb. 26, 2020)	Emoji	Heart	Text message	No	No	Harassment
Doe v. St. Mary's College of Cal., 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2901 (Cal. App. Ct. May 8, 2020)	Emoji	"Happy"	Text message	No	No	Sexual assault
D.T. v. N.W., 2020 WL 8526690 (Del. Family Ct. Feb. 7, 2020)	Emoji	"Someone laughing or something"	Text message	No	No	Harassment
In re D.Y., 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5656 (Cal. App. Ct. August 31, 2020)	Emoji	Gun, globe	Instagram post	No	Yes	Robbery
Elite Autos Llc v. Sparks Motors Llc, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 156494 (E.D. Ark. Aug. 28, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Contracts
E.V. v. R.V., 2020 Ohio App. LEXIS 4268 (Ohio App. Ct. Nov. 25, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Stalking
Fair Fight Action, Inc. v. Raffensperger, 2020 WL 13561760 (N.D. Ga. April 1, 2020)	Emoji	'laughing so hard they are crying', vomiting	Email	No	Yes	Discovery
Force v. Islamic Republic of Iran, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94796 (D.D.C. May 31, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley faces, knives	Facebook post	No	Yes	Terrorism
Foster v. Board of Regents of University of Michigan, 2020 WL 1160907 (6th Cir. March 11, 2020)	Emoticon	Winky	Text message	Yes	No	Harassment
French v. Merrill, 2020 WL 2996070 (D. Me. June 4, 2020)	Emoji	Heart	Unspecified	No	No	Civil Rights
Froio v. Monroe-Woodbury Central School District, 2020 WL 2731970 (S.D.N.Y. May 26, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified, middle finger	Email	No	Yes	Discrimination
Galloway v. Topre Am. Corp., 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171333 (N.D. Ala. Sept. 18, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Garcia v. State, 2020 WL 5629784 (D. Wy. Aug. 25, 2020)	Emoji	Flag	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Good Job Games Bilism Yazilim Pazarlama AS v. SayGames LLC, 2020 WL 3892458 (N.D. Cal. App. Oct. 30, 2020)	Emoji	Disney characters like Mickey Mouse and Tinkerbell	Disney Emoji Blitz	No	Yes	Copyright
Gorden v. State, 2020 WL 6380341 (Tex. Ct. App. Oct. 30, 2020)	Emoji	Crying, glasses, tongue sticking out	Craigslist, Kik	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Granet v. Presidio, Inc., 2020 WL 6147000 (E.D. Va. Oct. 20, 2020)	Emoticon	Smiley	LinkedIn message	Yes	No	Employment discrimination
Herron v. Watson's of Okla. City, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 102400 (W.D. Okla. June 10, 2020)	Emoji	Middle finger	Unspecified	No	No	Racial/sexual harassment
Inquiry Concerning Johnson, 2020 Cal. Comm. Jud. Perform. LEXIS 1 (Cal. Comm. Judicial Performance Ct. April 24, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Judicial misconduct
In re Guadalupe R., 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2540 (Cal. App. Ct. April 24, 2020)	Emoji	Gun, happy face, crying face	Instagram story	No	Yes	Threat
Johnson v. State, 2020 Md. App. LEXIS 80 (Md. Ct. Special Appeals Jan. 31, 2020)	Emoji	Fire	Text message	Yes	Yes	Drugs
In re J.S., 2020 WL 7220798 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 8, 2020)	Emoji	Sad face	Text message	No	No	Assault
Kamila v. University of Kansas, 2020 WL 4913290 (Kan. Ct. App. Aug. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook message	No	Yes	Student discipline
Kelley v. Kirkman Group, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 131671 (D. Ore. July 23, 2020)	Emoji	Fireworks	Text message	No	No	Employment
Key v. Cent. Ga. Kidney Specialists, P.C., 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 195165 (M.D. Ga. Oct. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Leyva v. Robbins, 2020 WL 1676771 (D. Utah April 6, 2020)	Emoji	Winky, blushing, winky with tongue out, zipped mouth	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
Lindemer v. Polk County & Polk County Soc. Servs., 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 141609 (D. Minn. Oct. 23, 2020)	Emoticon	:/ (annoyance/discomfort)	Email	Yes	Yes	Employment
Lutin v. Commonwealth, 2020 Ky. Unpub. LEXIS 43 (Ky. May 28, 2020)	Emoji	"100%"	Facebook post	No	No	Murder
Mantha v. Quotewizard, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 45481 (D. Mass. March 16, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Telephone Consumer Protection Act
Metschan-Baertlein v. Wash. County Circuit Court, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 248861 (D. Ore. Dec. 17, 2020)	Emoji	Winking	Whisper	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Moe's Home Collection v. Davis St. Mercantile, 2020 Tex. App. LEXIS 4951 (Tex. Ct. App. July 17, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs up and heart emoji reactions	Text message	No	Yes	Contracts
Montano v. Ricoh United States, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 170335 (D. Colo. Sept. 17, 2020)	Emoji	Winking face with tongue sticking out	Text message	No	No	Employee harassment
In re Murr, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 8524 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 23, 2020)	Emoji	Steam-snorting	Text message	No	No	Child custody
N.C. v. State, 2020 Ala. Crim. App. LEXIS 45 (Ala. Ct. Crim. App. May 29, 2020)	Emoji	Waving hand, shrug	Instagram	No	Yes	Threat

In re Ne'Khiya M., 2020 Tenn. App. LEXIS 319 (Tenn. Ct. App. July 20, 2020)	Emoticon	Heart	Facebook post	No	No	Parental rights
Oakland Bulk & Oversized Terminal LLC v. City of Oakland, 2020 WL 5554308 (Cal. App. Ct.)	Emoji	Unspecified	Complaint	No	No	Contracts
Parada v. Anoka County, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 153532 (D. Minn. Aug. 25, 2020)	Emoji	"smiley" or "laugh out loud"	Facebook reactor	No	No	Civil Rights
People v Addimando, 2020 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 767 (N.Y. County Ct. Feb. 5, 2020)	Emoji	Grimacing	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Bentley, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 8318 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 16, 2020)	Emoji	"dollar sign on her tongue and two girls dancing"	Phone	No	Yes	Pimping
People v. Cruz, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1307 (Cal. App. Ct. Feb. 26, 2020)	Emoji	Skull and crossbones	Text message	No	Yes	Stalking
People v. Dacanay, 2020 IL App (2d) 190533-U (Sept. 2, 2020)	Bitmoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
People v. Ellis, 2020 WL 4346040 (Cal. App. Ct. July 29, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Battery
People v. Flores, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 6912 (Cal. App. Ct. Oct. 22, 2020)	Emoji	Moneybag, two feet with arrow pointing down	Instagram post	No	Yes	Pimping
People v. Mosses, 2020 Cal. LEXIS 8704 (Cal. Supreme Ct. Dec. 28, 2020)	Emoji	Dollar sign	Social media mes	No	No	Pimping
People v. Nassar, 2020 Mich. App. LEXIS 8639 (Mich. Ct. App. Dec. 22, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Facebook comme	No	Yes	Judicial misconduct
People v. Ortiz, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 7372 (Cal. App. Ct. Nov. 10, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs up	Facebook messer	No	No	Robbery
People in Interest of R.D., 2020 CO 44 (Colo. June 1, 2020)	Emoji	Gun	Tweet	No	Yes	Threat
People v. Ritchey, 2020 Mich. App. LEXIS 427 (Mich. Ct. App. Jan. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Sunglasses and smiley	Facebook post	No	No	Murder
People v. Teichroew, 2020 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 727 (Ill. App. Ct. April 30, 2020)	Emoji	"Unhappy"	Email	No	No	Sexual predation
People v. Williams, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2282 (Cal. App. Ct. April 13, 2020)	Emoji	Eggplant, two footprints, kissy face, two pink hearts,	Text message	No	Yes	Pimping
Petty v. Circle K Stores Inc., 2020 WL 1236343 (D. Ariz. March 13, 2020)	Emoticon	Smiley	Text message	Yes	Yes	Harassment
Rampony v. Rizzo, 2020 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5672 (Cal. App. Ct. Aug. 31, 2020)	Emoji	"Okay"	Text message	No	No	Restraining order
In re R.A.P., 2020 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1349 (Pa. Superior Ct. April 20, 2020)	Emoticon	Frowny	Snapchat	No	No	Rape
Ruffins v. State, 2020 WL 4782668 (Tex. Ct. App. Aug. 14, 2020)	Emoji	knives, guns, money, and money bags	Facebook post	No	No	Robbery
R. W. v. J. W., 2020 Ind. App. LEXIS 488 (Ind. Ct. App. Nov. 13, 2020)	Emoji	Smile, devil, laughin	Social media mes	No	Yes	Harassment
In the Interest of S.A.B. & B.M.B., 2020 WL 4915329 (Tex. Ct. App. Aug. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Custody
S.E.S. v Galena Unified School District, 2020 WL 1166226 (D. Kansas March 11, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Social media post	No	No	Sexual harassment
Sewell v. Daniel, 2020 WL 1800824 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 11, 2020) and 2020 WL 1800935 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 11, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	Yes	Contracts
Slack Techs. v. Phoji, Inc., 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 146103 (N.D. Ca. August 13, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Slack	No	Yes	Patent
State v. Arbogast, 2020 WL 7653774 (Wash. Ct. App. Dec. 24, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Craigslist messag	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Baker, 2020 WL 8093200 (Ohio. Ct. App. Dec. 30, 2020)	Emoji	"Mad"	Text message	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Blocher, 2020 Wash. App. LEXIS 573 (Wash. Ct. App. March 10, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Facebook post	No	Yes	Restraining order
State v. Bowman, 2020 Wash. App. LEXIS 2463 (Wash. App. Ct. Sept. 8, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	No	Drugs
State v. Cardis Terran Burns, 2020 Tenn. Crim. App. LEXIS 415 (Tenn. Ct. Crim. App. June 11, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing face	Text message	No	No	Drugs
State v. Deuble, 2020 Ohio App. LEXIS 2863 (Ohio Ct. App. Aug. 6, 2020)	Emoticon	Purple devil	Whisper	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. D.R.C., 2020 Wash. App. LEXIS 1992 (Wash. App. Ct. July 14, 2020)	Emoji	Rolling on the floor laughing, laughing with tears of joy	Text message	Yes	Yes	True Threat
State v. English, 2020-Ohio-4682 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 30, 2020)	Emoji	"No snitching"	Facebook post	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Gaur, 2020 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1428 (N.J. App. Div. July 16, 2020)	Emoticon (called "emoticon")	tongue sticking out, smiley, "...&	Unspecified	Yes	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Happe, 2020 WL 4497428 (Iowa Ct. App. Aug. 5, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Harassment
State v. Hambrick, 2020 WL 5536707 (Wash. Ct. App. Sept. 15, 2020)	Emoticons	xD, :P ;), :)	Email, text messa	Yes	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Harris, 2020 Ohio App. LEXIS 4147 (Ohio Ct. App. Nov. 16, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram	No	Yes	Manslaughter
State v. Harwood, 2020 WL 4249074 (Vt. Supreme Ct. July 24, 2020)	Emoji	Gun	Unspecified	No	Yes	Threat
State v. Kinley, 2020 Wash. App. LEXIS 2091 (Wash. App. Ct. July 27, 2020)	Emoji	Heart eyes	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Manuel T., 2020 Conn. LEXIS 294 (Conn. Sup. Ct. Nov. 19, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Mason, 2020 Tenn. Crim. App. LEXIS 582 (Tenn. Crim. Ct. App. August 25, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley, unspecified, laughing, surprised, kissing lips	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. McKern, 2020 Nev. Unpub. LEXIS 242 (Nev. March 2, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	DUI
State v. Perkins, 2020 WL 5740893 (Kansas Ct. App. Sept. 25, 2020)	Emoji	Poop, kiss, "winking/kissing," "hand showing peace"	Facebook messag	No	Yes	Harassment
State v. Rings, 2020 -Ohio- 4342 (Ohio Ct. App. Aug. 28, 2020)	Emoji	Heart eyes, red heart, red lips	Text message	No	No	Sexual coercion
State v. Sausley, 2020 WL 5650756 (Iowa Ct. App. Sept. 23, 2020)	Emoji (as depicted in case)	Sad face	Text message	Yes	Yes	Rape
State v. Taylor, 2020 N.C. App. LEXIS 213 (N.C. Ct. App. March 17, 2020)	Emoji	"Laughing," unspecified	Facebook post	No	Yes	True Threat
State v. Thacker, 2020 WL 5757593 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 16, 2020)	Emoji	Heart and lips	Text message	No	No	Rape
State v. Wright, 2020 Tenn. Crim. App. LEXIS 434 (Tenn. Ct. Crim. App. June 22, 2020)	Emoji	Pistol	Twitter	No	Yes	Murder
Stephens v. Availity, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 129323 (M.D. Fla. July 22, 2020)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Microsoft Word	No	No	Discovery
Sturdivant v. Blue Valley Unified School District, 2020 WL 3545650 (D. Kansas June 30, 2020)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Discrimination
Todd v. Lovcruft, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2309 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 6, 2020)	Emoji	Upside-down smiley	Twitter	No	No	Defamation
Trahanas v. Northwestern Univ., 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 241663 (N.D. Ill. Dec. 23, 2020)	Emoji and Emoticon	"Softball or baseball" emojis. Also, :)	Text message	Yes (emoticons only)	No	Hostile work environment
Truauto v. Textron Specialized Vehicles, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13929 (D.S.C. Jan. 28, 2020)	Emoticon	"Man shrugging"	Text message	No	No	Fraud
United Food & Commer. Workers Union & Participating Food Indus. v. Zuckerberg, 2020 Del. Ch. Ct. LEXIS 100 (Del. Ch. Ct. Oct. 2, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Stock
United States v. Bolin, 2020 U.S. App. LEXIS 30465 (2d Cir. Sept. 24 2020)	Emoji	Heart	Facebook messag	No	No	Threat
United States v. Bowman, 2020 WL 5588643 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Sept. 17, 2020)	Emoji and Emoticon	Flushed face, smirk, wink, ;), ;)	Craigslist	Yes (emoticons only)	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Cool, 2020 WL 6290514 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. October 26, 2020)	Emoji	winking/tongue, blowing kiss, tongue out,	Kik	No	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Cordero, 2020 WL 5242412 (6th Cir. Sept. 3, 2020)	Emoji	hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil monkeys	Text message	No	No	Murder
United States v. Dierks, 2020 WL 6154214 (8th Cir. Oct. 21, 2020)	Emoticon	: (:	Twitter post	Yes	No	Threat
United States v. Fisher, 2020 WL 4814115 (6th Cir. August 19, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook post	No	No	Gun charges
United States v. Fleischer, 2020 U.S. App. LEXIS 26485 (6th Cir. Aug. 20, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Instagram	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Frantz, 2020 CCA LEXIS 404 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 10, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up, winky	Facebook messag	No	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Harris, 2020 CCA LEXIS 299 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Sept. 2, 2020)	Emoji	Sad face	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual assault
United States v. Howard, 2020 U.S. App. LEXIS 1774 (6th Cir. Jan. 21, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	True Threat
United States v. Jones, 2020 CCA LEXIS 207 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. June 11, 2020)	Emoji	Crying	Text message	No	No	Rape
United States v. Lewis, 2020 CCA LEXIS 199 (Navy-Marines Ct. Crim. App. June 8, 2020)	Emoji	"Sad crying"	Social media post	No	No	Rape

United States v. Linck, 2020 WL 5051609 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. August 25, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook messenger	No	No	Rape
United States v. Lozicki, 2020 CCA LEXIS 469 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Dec. 28, 2020)	Emoji	Tongue sticking out	Kik	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Nixon, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149976 (C.D. Ill. Aug. 19, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Judicial misconduct
United States v. Sandoval, 2020 CCA LEXIS 114 (Navy-Marine Ct. Crim. App. April 13, 2020)	Emoji	Smiling with slightly protruding tongue	"Online post"	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Scott, 2020 CCA LEXIS 296 (Navy-Marine Ct. Crim. App. April 31, 2020)	Emoji	Smiling and blushing, sad crying, face with monocle	Unspecified instar	No	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Stone, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 67359 (D.D.C. April 16, 2020)	Emoji	hearts, a fist pump, and fist raised	Twitter	No	Yes	Juror misconduct
United States v. Wassan, 2020 CCA LEXIS 152 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. May 8, 2020)	Emoji	Smiley, heart eyes smiley	Kik	No	Yes	Sexual predation
The Upper Deck Co. v. Panini America, Inc., 2020 WL 3498175 (S.D. Cal. June 29, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Photograph	No	No	False advertising/trademarks
Walker v. State, 2020 Ga. LEXIS 354 (Ga. Sup. Ct. May 18, 2020)	Emoji	Crying face	Text message	No	No	Murder
Welling v. State, 2020 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 357 (Ind. Ct. App. March 24, 2020)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	"Social media"	No	No	Rape
Westbrook v. State, 2020 Ga. LEXIS 135 (Ga. Sup. Ct. Feb. 28, 2020)	Emoji	Unspecified	Sweatpants	No	Yes	Murder

2021

Advsr v. Magisto Ltd., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 153030 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 13, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Email	No	No	Contract breach
Andrade v. City of Milwaukee Bd. of Fire & Police Comm'rs, 2021 Wisc. App. LEXIS 764 (Wis. App. Dec. 17, 2021)	Emoji	Laughing	Facebook post	No	No	Employment termination
Annie Oakley Enterprises, Inc. v. Amazon.com, Inc., 2021 WL 2373779	Emoji	Exploding head	Court opinion	No	No	Trademark (discovery dispute)
Ariz. Bd. of Regents v. Doe, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154911 (D. Ariz. Aug. 17, 2021)	Emoji	Belorussian Flag	Instagram	No	No	Trademark
Ashley v. Milliken & Co, 2021 WL 8775807 (D.S.C. Nov. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs up	Text message	No	No	Workplace harassment
Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland v. Vasiliades, 2021 WL 3616702 (Md. Ct. App. A	Emoji	Laughing, thumbs up	Social media com	No	No	Attorney discipline
Bauer v. Brinkman, 2021 Iowa Sup. LEXIS 39 (Iowa Supreme Ct. April 16, 2021)	Emoji	Grinning	Facebook comme	No	Yes	Defamation
Bauer v. Gharib, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 327 (Cal. App. Ct. Jan. 20, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Harassment order
Bear v. Escambia County Board of County Commissioners, 2021 WL 12169650 (N.D. Fla. Ma	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook	No	Yes	Free Speech
Bishop v. City of Philadelphia Dep't of Prisons, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 189048 (E.D. Pa. Sept. 3	Emoji	Clapping hand, monocle face, fire	Social media post	Yes	Yes	Employment discrimination
Blessing v. Chandrasekhar, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 5222 (6th Cir. Feb. 23, 2021)	Emoji	Waving	Tweet	No	No	Defamation
Boshaw v. Midland Brewing Co., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 60621 (E.D. Mich. March 30, 2021)	Emoji	Neutral face	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Burks v. State, 2021 WL 1747943 (Md. Ct. Special App. May 5, 2021)	Emoji	"Unclear"	Text message	No	Yes	Rape
C.B.v K.L., 2021 Del. Fam. Ct. LEXIS 4 (Delaware Family Court April 23, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Litigation procedure
Calderon v. Vannoy, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73735 (E.D. La. March 4, 2021)	Emoji	Crying face	Facebook	No	No	Murder
Capitol Records LLC v. Vimeo LLC, 2021 WL 2181252 (S.D.N.Y. May 28, 2021)	Emoticon	:(Vimeo profile	Yes	No	Copyright infringement
Castro v. Yale Univ., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 24376 (D. Conn. Feb. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Alcoholic beverages	"Messages"	No	No	Sexual harassment
Christus Good Shepherd Med. Ctr. v. Sonnier, 2021 Tex. App. LEXIS 7404 (Tex. Ct. App. Sep	Emoji	Crying	Text message	No	No	Medical malpractice
Clark v. Clark, 2021-NCCOA-652 (N.C. Ct. App. Dec. 7, 2021)	Emoji	Star	Kik and Facebook	No	Yes	Nonconsensual pornography
Clark v. Yankovoy, 2021 WL 2372336 (N.Y. City Ct. June 7, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Real estate commission dispute
Commonwealth v. Alexander, 2021 Pa. Super. LEXIS 399 (Pa. Superior Ct. June 29, 2021)	Emoji	Heart eyes, smiley, winky	Text message	No	Yes	Obscenity
Commonwealth v. Kozubal, 2021 Mass. LEXIS 582 (Mass. Sup. Ct. Oct. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Commonwealth v. Limuli, 2021 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1618 (Pa. Superior Ct. June 16, 202	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Coogee v. United States, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 6673 (S.D.W.V. Jan. 13, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
Coutant v. Durell, 2021 Ill. App. LEXIS 673 (Ill. Ct. App. Dec. 13, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Stalking
Cowan v. State, 2021 Ala. Crim. App. LEXIS 83 (Ala. Crim. Ct. App. Dec. 17, 2021)	Emoji	"people running with smoke behind them"; money b	Text message	No	No	Murder
Dean v. REM Staffing, 2021 WL 3819451 (N.D. Ill. May 10, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Contract (settlement agreement)
Disciplinary Counsel v. Winters, Slip Opinion No. 2021-Ohio-2753 (Ohio Sup. Ct. Aug. 17, 202	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook Messenger	Yes	No	Judicial misconduct
Doe v. Purdue Univ., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124257 (N.D. Ind. July 2, 2021)	Bitmoji	Unspecified	Snapchat	No	No	Evidence
Douglas v. Alfasiigma United States, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113603 (N.D. Ill. June 17, 2021)	Emoji	"racially offensive"	Unspecified	No	No	Employment discrimination
DR Distributors, LLC v. 21 Century Smoking, Inc, 2021 WL 185082 (N.D. Ill. Jan. 19, 2021)	Emoticon	:)	Email	Yes	Yes	Trademark
Eckerd v. SSC North America LCC, 2021 WL 6033684 (N.D. Okla. April 27, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs up	Text message	No	No	Contract
Eckhart v. Fox News Network, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171219 (SDNY Sept. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Rape
Feit v. Lehigh University, 2021 WL 409971 (E.D. Pa. Feb. 5, 2021)	Emoji?	"ascii emoji depicting a derriere"	Email	No	No	Employment discrimination
Fisher v. Army Nat'l Guard, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 241835 (E.D. Cal. Dec. 17, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Social media	No	No	Sexual predation
Flynn v. Cable News Network, Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 242515 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 22, 2021)	Emoji	American flag	Twitter post	No	Yes	Defamation
Fry v. Ascension Health Ministry Servs., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 83842 (E.D. Wis. May 3, 2021)	Emoji	face with tongue sticking out	Email	No	No	Employment discrimination
Gareaux v. Aronik Llc, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 225963 (D. Utah Nov. 22, 2021)	Emoji	Camera	Instagram	No	Yes	Copyright infringement
Garnier v. O'Connor-Ratcliff, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7613 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 14, 2021)	Emoticon (but really	Thumb's up, smiley	Facebook post	No	Yes	Censorship
Glam & Glits Nail Design v. #notpolish, Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106445 (S.D. Cal. June 7,	Emoji	Heart	Social media com	No	No	Defamation
Guardianship of Keanu, 2021 Mass. App. LEXIS 88 (Mass. App. Ct. July 22, 2021)	Emoji	Heart, crying laughing face, smiley	Facebook Messenger	No	Yes	Guardianship
Hamilton v. County of Madera, 2021 WL 5771669 (E.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Email	No	No	Property zoning
Haraj-Sai v. Brasky, 2021 Conn. Super. LEXIS 969 (Conn. Superior Ct. May 25, 2021)	Emoji and Emoticon	Gun, :,), unspecified	Text message	Yes (in part)	Yes	Harassment order
Hayes v. Express Scripts 1, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22303 (E.D. Mo. Feb. 5, 2021)	Emoji	Middle finger, laughing	Facebook	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Hidalgo Lopez v. CoreCivic, 2021 WL 10384448 (D. Ariz. July 29, 2021)	Emoji and Emoticon	"crying, sobbing, and broken-heart"	Social media	No	Yes	Wrongful death
I.F. v. City of Vallejo, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 28746 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 2021)	Emoji	"100%"	Facebook comme	No	No	Discovery dispute
IMEX Leader Inc. v. Full Charge LLC, 2021 WL 3265017 (C.D. Cal. April 5, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Eggs	No	No	Copyright infringement
In re Colchester, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 129494 (W.D. Wash. July 12, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Custody
In re L.S., 2021 Tex. App. LEXIS 10168 (Tex. Ct. App. Dec. 29, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Custody
In re T.W., 2021 Ohio App. LEXIS 2976 (Ohio Ct. App. Sept. 2, 2021)	Emoji	Boxing	Instagram	No	No	Robbery
In re Z.T., 2021 Tex. App. LEXIS 6780 (Tex. Ct. App. Aug. 17, 2021)	Emoji	Crying	Text message	No	No	Juvenile court jurisdiction
J. G. v. E.M., 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 7195 (Cal. App. Ct. Nov. 17, 2021)	Emoticon (?)	Penis	Text message	No	No	Custody

Jackson v. DeJoy, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 203886 (E.D. La. Oct. 22, 2021)	Emoji	Shrug, rolling eyes, unspecified	Facebook posts	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Jeanty v. Can Txfm, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173298 (E.D. Tex. Aug. 6, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Email	No	No	Bail bonds
JLM Couture v. Gutman, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40953 (S.D.N.Y. March 4, 2021)	Emoji	Wedding-themed	App	No	No	Social media account ownership dispute
Jones v. David, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 7786 (Cal. App. Ct. Dec. 14, 2021)	Emoji	birthday cakes, a present, a smiley face with heart e	Instagram	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
K. L. v. R. H., 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 6233 (Cal. App. Ct. Sept. 30, 2021)	Emoji	Middle finger	Text message	No	No	Domestic violence
Keller v. DeJoy, 2021 WL 5749901 (E.D. La. Nov. 23, 2021)	Emoji	Shrug, rolling eyes, unspecified	Facebook posts	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
King v. Facebook, Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 219277 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 12, 2021). Also 2022 U	Emoji	Frownie	Facebook messag	No	No	Deplatforming
Kropf v. Temple Univ. Health Sys., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 227669 (E.D. Pa. Nov. 29, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Kudos Inc. v. Kudoboard Lic, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 224311 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 20, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Trademark infringement
L. H.-S. v. N. B., 2021 Conn. LEXIS 356 (Conn. Supreme Ct. Dec. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Harassment order
Lewis v. State, 2021 Md. App. LEXIS 557 (Md. Ct. Special App. July 7, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook	No	No	Drugs
Listhrop v. Individuals, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 111628 (S.D. Fla. June 15, 2021)	Emoticons	Unspecified	Trademark registr	No	No	Trademark infringement
M3 United States Corp. v. Qamoum, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 105778 (D.D.C. June 4, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Non-compete enforcement
Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B. L., 2021 U.S. LEXIS 3395 (U.S. Supreme Ct. June 23, 2021)	Emoji	Upside-down smiley face	Snapchat Story	No	No	School discipline/free speech
Mazard-St.ilus v. Miami-Dade County, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 51368 (S.D. Fla. March 13, 2021)	Emoji	Red heart, wink face	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual harassment
McLaughlin v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, 2021 WL 5071974 (W.D. Okla	Emoji	laughing clown and a skull and crossbones	ESPN website	No	Yes	First Amendment retaliation
Mindiola v. Mindiola, 2021 Ariz. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1277 (Az. Ct. App. Dec. 30, 2021)	Emoji	hands clapping	Unspecified	No	No	Custody
Modern Remodeling, Inc. v. Tripod Holdings, LLC, 2021 WL 3852323 (D. Md. Aug. 27, 2021)	Emoji	Eyes	Text message	Yes	No	Non-compete enforcement
Mohammed v. Naperville Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. 203, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 65389 (N.D. Ill. Apri	Emoji	"illegible"	Email	No	No	Litigation misconduct
Mosley v. Preston Cycle West, LLC, 2021 WL 4815901 (N.D. Ga. July 30, 2021)	Emoji	Eggplant, peach, dinner plate, "dripping water"	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Mulkerin v. Bunch, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 160269 (D.D.C. Aug. 25, 2021)	Emoji	Sad face	Email	Yes	No	Employment discrimination
N.T.C. v. M.S.C., 2021 Ala. Civ. App. LEXIS 62 (Ala. Civil App. Ct. June 11, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Photos	No	Yes	Custody
N.W. v. N.S., 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 7252 (Cal. App. Ct. Nov. 18, 2021)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Custody
Ngai v. Urban Outfitters, Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59211 (E.D. Pa. March 29, 2021)	Emoji-like cartoon	"stereotypical Asian features"	Poster	No	No	Employment discrimination
Ormond v. CTVSEH PLLC, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 180629 (W.D. Tex. Sept. 21, 2021)	Emoji	Sad face	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Ortiz v. Renteria, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 210873 (N.D. Ill. Nov. 2, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Snapchat	No	No	Privacy invasion
Pagan v. C.I. Lobster Corp., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 133002 (SDNY July 16, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Attorney disqualification
Peck v. County of Onondaga, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 157561 (N.D.N.Y. Aug. 19, 2021). See al	Emoji	Black hands	Unspecified	No	No	Employment discrimination
Pelkowski v. Hoverman, 2021 WL 9032222 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram post	No	No	Defamation
People v. Allen, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2913 (Cal. App. Ct. May 4, 2021)	Emoji	Moneybags	Instagram	No	Yes	Pimping
People v. Allen, 2021 IL App (4th) 200333-U (Ill. App. Ct. October 15, 2021)	Emoji	Angry	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Arce, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1209 (Cal. App. Ct. Feb. 25, 2021)	Emoji	Laughing, crying, skull, devil	Snapchat messag	No	Yes	Battery
People v. Barker, 2021 IL App (1st) 192588 (Ill. Ct. App. June 18, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
People v. Bell, 2021 IL App (1st) 190366 (Ill. App. Ct. March 31, 2021)	Emoji	two thumbs down, "100," a painful face, a laughing f	Tweet	No	Yes	Murder
People v. Bradley, 2021 IL App (2d) 190009-U (Ill. Ct. App. April 26, 2021)	Emoji	car, phone, gun	Snapchat messag	No	Yes	Drug crimes
People v. Brown, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 3364 (Cal. App. Ct. May 21, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Facebook	No	Yes	Murder
People v. Burks, 2021 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 737 (Ill. Ct. App. May 5, 2021)	Emoji	Laughing	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
People v. Cross, 2021 IL App (4th) 190114 (Ill. App. Ct. October 21, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Facebook profile	No	No	Murder
People v. Davis, 2021 WL 5974161 (Mich. Ct. App. Dec. 16, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Murder
People v. Gerhard, 2021 Mich. App. LEXIS 3934 (Mich. Ct. App. June 24, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Snapchat	No	No	Threats
People v. Hill, 2021 IL App (4th) 190140-U (Ill. Ct. App. May 28, 2021)	Emoji	Smileys	Photo caption	No	Yes	Sexual predation
People v. Humphrey, 2021 WL 2388163 (Cal. App. Ct. June 11, 2021)	Unspecified	Smiley	Text message	No	Yes	Threats
People v. Jackson, 2021 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2786 (Cal. App. Ct. April 28, 2021)	Emoji	Heart	Email	No	Yes	Stalking
People v. Pellegrin, 2021 Colo. App. LEXIS 1222 (Colo. App. Ct. Sept. 2, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Craigslist post	No	Yes	Nonconsensual pornography
People v. Roebuck, 2021 V.I. LEXIS 5 (U.S.V.I. Jan. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Angry	Facebook comme	No	Yes	Nonconsensual pornography
People v. Rudd, 2021 WL 2217502 (Cal. App. Ct. June 2, 2021)	Emoticon	:)	Email	Yes	Yes	Sexual predation
People v. Scott, 2021 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 916 (Ill. Ct. App. June 10, 2021)	Emoticon	Unspecified	Snapchat messag	No	No	Sexual predation
Perry v. United States, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 247491 (S.D. Fla. Dec. 29, 2021)	Emoji	Licking lips	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Phagan v. Commonwealth, 2021 Ky. Unpub. LEXIS 13 (Ky. Sup. Ct. March 25, 2021)	Emoji	Moneybags	Text message	No	Yes	Rape
Proofpoint, Inc. v. Vade Secure, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 223204 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 18, 2021). Also	Emoticon	Winky	Email	No	No	Trade secrets
Prusaczyk v. Hamilton County Coal, LLC, 2021 WL 1608736 (S.D. Ill. April 20, 2021)	Emoji	Kissy face	Text message	No	No	Employment discrimination
Revill v. State, 2021 Tex. App. LEXIS 5070 (Tex. Ct. App. June 24, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Kidnapping
Rossbach v. Montefiore Med. Ctr., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 147031 (SDNY Aug. 5, 2021)	Emoji	Heart eyes	Text message	Yes	Yes	Evidence fabrication
Rubik's Brand v. Flambeau, Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20031 (SDNY Jan. 31, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	3x3 cube	No	No	Trademark
Savage v. Dep't of the Navy, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 169603 (D.D.C. Sept. 8, 2021)	Emoji	Eggplant	"Group chat"	No	No	Freedom of Information Act
Schram v. Zarak (In re E.Z.), 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 212008 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 2, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Child abduction
Scott v. Norton, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 241737 (D. Hawaii Dec.17, 2021)	Emoji	Dog	Text message	No	No	Fair Housing Act
SEC v. Fassari, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88170 (C.D. Cal. May 5, 2021)	Emoji	Smiling face	Tweets	No	Yes	Securities fraud
Signature Utility Services LLC v. Jernigan, 2021 WL 1318678 (N.D. Ala. Feb. 8, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Employment (post-termination)
Siotkas v. Top Jet, LLC, 2021 WL 9939106 (S.D. Fla. April 23, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Text message	No	No	Workplace harassment
Smiley v. State, 2021 Ind. App. Unpub. LEXIS 315 (Ind. Ct. App. April 14, 2021)	Emoji	"sex emojis that are associated with a penis and vag	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
Smith v. Airbnb, Inc., 2021 Ore. App. LEXIS 1772 (Ore. Ct. App. Dec. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Hot tub	Airbnb	No	Yes	Personal injury
Smith v. Montee, 2021 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 2525 (N.Y. Supreme Ct. May 18, 2021)	Emoji	eyes, wheelchair, bull, feces, person, nails being pai	Facebook post	No	Yes	Defamation
Social Technologies LLC v. Apple, Inc., 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 20659 (9th Cir. July 13, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Trademark
Stafford v. Avenal Community Health Center, 2021 WL 299316 (Cal. Ct. App. Jan. 29, 2021)	Emoji	raising hand, hugging face, ok hand	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
State v. Arellano-Berber, 2021 IL App (2d) 180514-U (Ill. Ct. App. Feb. 2, 2021)	Emoji	crying-laughing face, purse	Facebook or text i	No	Yes	Burglary

State v. Bowman, 2021 Wash. LEXIS 655 (Wa. Nov. 10, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	No	Illegal search
State v. Crum, 2021 Wash. App. LEXIS 2418 (Wash. Ct. App. Oct. 11, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Domestic violence
State v. Culler, 2021-Ohio-4642 (Ohio Ct. App. Dec. 17, 2021)	Emoji	smiley face with a tongue sticking out	Text message	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Fair, 2021 N.J. Super. LEXIS 141 (N.J. App. Div. Dec. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Angry face, tongue out, smiley	Facebook	No	Yes	Threats
State v. Fife, 2021 Ohio App. LEXIS 1962 (Ohio Ct. App. June 15, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley, strong arm	Facebook	No	Yes	Assault
State v. Jacques, 2021 WL 8651213 (Wis. Ct. App. June 10, 2021)	Emoticon	Animated emoticon	Online chats	No	Yes	Sexual predation
State v. Moore, 2021 Ohio App. LEXIS 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. April 20, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley, strong arm	Facebook profile	No	No	Assault
State v. Owens, 2021 Kan. LEXIS 106 (Kan. Sup. Ct. Oct. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley with bead of sweat on forehead, gun, laughir	Text message	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Pouncy, 2021 Wash. App. LEXIS 2811 (Wash. App. Ct. Nov. 30, 2021)	Emoji	Sad face	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Schluetz, 2021 WL 2313419 (Wash. Ct. App. June 7, 2021)	Unspecified	Winky face	Craigslist post	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Sechrest, 2021 N.C. App. LEXIS 188 (N.C. App. Ct. May 4, 2021)	Emoji	Frownie	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
State v. Snipes, 2021 Tenn. Crim. App. LEXIS 464 (Tenn. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 4, 2021)	Emoji	Ghost, 5-point star	Text messages, S	No	Yes	Murder
State v. Williams, 2021 Ohio App. LEXIS 1592 (Ohio Ct. App. May 11, 2021)	Emoji	Zany face, grinning squinty face, rolling on the floor	Snapchat messag	No	Yes	Child endangerment
State v. Xayyasith, 2021 Tenn. Crim. App. LEXIS 432 (Tenn. Ct. Crim. App. Sept. 20, 2021)	Emoji	Heart, breaking heart	Instagram	No	Yes	Domestic violence
Steward Health Care Sys. Lic & Southwest Gen. Hosp. v. Saidara, 2021 Tex. App. LEXIS 689	Emoji	Thumbs up	Text message	No	No	Trade secrets
Swirski v. Protec Building Services, Inc., 2021 WL 5771222 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Employment discrimination
Taylor-Couchman v. DeWitt-Couchman, 29 Neb.App. 950 (Neb. Ct. App. June 15, 2021)	Emoji	Hearts	Text message	No	No	Custody
Thornton v. Daly City, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 48377 (N.D. Cal. March 15, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Text message	No	No	Section 1983
Town of Brookfield v. Gonzalez, 2021 Wisc. App. LEXIS 967 (Wis. Ct. App. October 27, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley	Instagram	No	No	Threats
Tull v. Higgins, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 246126 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 27, 2021)	Emoji	Eyeball	Instagram	No	Yes	Defamation
United Food & Commer. Workers Union & Participating Food Indus. v. Zuckerberg, 2021 Del.	Emoji	Smiley	Email	No	No	Stockholder suit
United States ex rel. Vinca v. Advanced Biohealing, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 227966 (M.D. Fla.	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Email	No	No	Qui tam
United States v. Adams, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 12897 (8th Cir. April 30, 2021)	Emoji	Gun	Text message	No	No	Threats
United States v. Avenatti, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 125442 (S.D.N.Y. July 6, 2021)	Emoji	Poop, Smiley, Crying/Laughing	Twitter post	No	Yes	Extortion
United States v. Coleman, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38427 (E.D. Pa. March 2, 2021)	Emoji	Rat	"Social media"	No	No	Robbery
United States v. Dresch, 2021 WL 2453166 (D.D.C. May 27, 2021)	Emoji	Winky	Video	No	No	January 6 insurrection
United States v. Fleury, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 37296 (11th Cir. Dec. 16, 2021)	Emoji	Smile, applauding, lock, blowing kiss	Instagram messag	No	Yes	Threats
United States v. Germano, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89601 (D. Mass. May 10, 2021)	Emoticon	Frownie	Facebook	No	No	Drug crimes
United States v. Goodin, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 3881 (5th Cir. Feb. 10, 2021)	Emoji	Thumb's up, package	Text message	No	Yes	Drug crimes
United States v. Hale, 2021 CCA LEXIS 45 (Air Force Ct. of Crim. App. Feb. 4, 2021)	Emoji	Laughing-crying	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Jackson, 2021 WL 62109 (E.D.N.Y. Jan. 7, 2021)	Emoji	Blood drop	Facebook post	No	No	Gang membership
United States v. Jindal, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 227474 (E.D. Tex. Nov. 29, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs-up	Text message	No	No	Antitrust
United States v. Kokayi, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 25370 (4th Cir. Aug. 24, 2021)	Bitmoji	Happy birthday	Instagram	No	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Lanier, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 3901 (6th Cir. Feb. 11, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Juror impropriety
United States v. Martinez, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 24185 (1st Cir. Aug. 13, 2021)	Emoji	Hands in the air	Text message	No	Yes	Drug crimes
United States v. Michalec, 2021 CCA LEXIS 25 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. Jan. 26, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	"Messaging platfo	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Miller, 2021 CCA LEXIS 95 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. March 3, 2021)	Emoji	Smiling, also the :) and :) emoticons	Unspecified	No	No	CSAM
United States v. Overby, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 15 (6th Cir. January 4, 2021)	Emoji	"waiving hand"	Facebook Messer	No	No	CSAM
United States v. Perez, 2021 WL 4621695 (W.D. Tex. June 9, 2021)	Emoticons	Unspecified + ;)	Facebook post	Yes (in part)	Yes	Biological Weapons Act
United States v. Pritchett, 2021 WL 6071502 (W.D. Mich. Dec. 20, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	Yes	Drug crimes
United States v. Ramirez, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 116327 (S.D.N.Y. June 22, 2021)	Emoji	Frog	Instagram	No	Yes	Criminal conspiracy
United States v. Rothe, 2021 WL 1115869 (Air Force Ct. Crim. App. March 24, 2021)	Emoji (but actually e	Smiley emoji but emoticons include :) :-)	Whisper, Google	Yes	Yes	Sexual predation
United States v. Sabagh, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 239207 (E.D. Pa. Dec. 15, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text messages	No	Yes	Threats
United States v. Sanders, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 248538 (D. Neb. Dec. 30, 2021)	Emoji	Pig	Snapchat	No	Yes	Robbery
United States v. Sheppard, 2021 WL 5099581 (3d Cir. Nov. 3, 2021)	Emoji	Peanuts	Text message	No	Yes	Probation
United States v. Sigrah, 2021 CCA LEXIS 279 (Army Ct. Crim. App. June 9, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Unspecified	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Smith, 2021 WL 6618910 (N.D. Iowa Nov. 3, 2021) and 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS	Emoji	Shouting, 100, facepalm	Snapchat	No	Yes	Drugs and guns
United States v. Tobar, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 1480 (8th Cir. Jan. 20, 2021)	Emoji	"Female-face"	Text message	No	No	Sexual predation
United States v. Woods, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81858 (D.N.M. April 29, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Text message	No	No	Sex trafficking
United States v. Yates, 2021 U.S. App. LEXIS 30236 (9th Cir. October 8, 2021)	Emoticon	Smiley	Email	Yes	No	Bank fraud
United States v. Zupnik, 2021 WL 786639 (8th Cir. March 2, 2021)	Emoticon	:)	Craigslist post	Yes	No	Sexual predation
Wash. v. Bd. of Educ. for Chi., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 237795 (N.D. Ill. Dec. 8, 2021)	Emoji	Thumbs-up, winky, crying	Text message	No	Yes	Employment discrimination
Webb v. City of Venice, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188056 (M.D. Fla. Sept. 30, 2021)	Emoji	Smiley with bullet hole in head	Watchmen graphi	No	No	Employment discrimination
Woodhill Ventures v. Yang, 2021 Cal. App. LEXIS 734 (Cal. App. Ct. Sept. 3, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Twitter post	No	Yes	Defamation
Wyatt v. Five Star Tech LLC, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 69449 (S.D. Ind. March 23, 2021). Also 20:	Emoji	Bombs	Twitter post	No	No	Litigation misconduct
You Map v. Snap Inc., 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139524 (D. Del. July 27, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	YouMap software	No	Yes	Trade secrets
Zahedi v. Miramax, LLC, 2021 WL 6882408 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 24, 2021)	Emoji	Unspecified	Instagram	No	No	Copyright infringement
Ziel v. Romeo Cmty. Schs, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 170840 (E.D. Mich. Sept. 9, 2021)	Emoji	Pile of poo	Facebook post	No	No	Employment termination/First Amendment