



## **Fairbanks North Star Borough Libraries Patron Conduct Policy**

### **I. Policy:**

It is the goal of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Libraries to ensure that every library facility is available for use to the maximum extent possible and has the atmosphere most desirable to persons using it for its intended purposes, i.e., reading, studying, or using library materials, programs and services. This policy is promulgated in an attempt to provide an environment conducive to these goals. All patrons observing proper conduct in the library are allowed to freely make use of the library. Those whose conduct is disruptive to library operations and other patrons' use of the library may have the privilege of using the library abridged or denied to the extent necessary to deal with the problem.

### **II. Principles of Conduct:**

Conduct that impedes the enjoyment of our libraries by others is prohibited. Engaging in any of the behaviors listed below may lead to a denial of library privileges:

- Stealing, defacing, destroying or damaging library property
- Threatening or harassing patrons or staff members, including unwanted sexual advances or offensive touching, or any illegal behavior as defined by AS 11.41 (Offenses Against the Person)
- The presence of service animals in the Borough libraries must be in accordance with the FNSB Policy 65.03 (Service Animals Policy)
- Eating or drinking other than in designated areas
- Using tobacco products other than in accordance with FNSB Policy 85.03
- Being intoxicated or using alcohol or other dangerous substances
- Using electronic equipment in a manner that disturbs others
- Talking loudly enough to disturb others
- Coming into the library with odors so offensive as to disturb others, including perfumes
- Engaging in unhygienic behavior (i.e. spitting)
- Soliciting or selling items in any interior public and/or in staff areas unless authorized by the senior staff member on duty in accordance with FNSB policy on solicitation
- Engaging in actions/behaviors or anything which may result in injury to self or others, including running, fighting, pretend fighting or bullying
- Misusing the restrooms (i.e., hiding, extended use, using as a laundry or washing facility, more than one adult in a stall)



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- Bypassing or attempting to bypass Library filtering software for any unauthorized purpose
- Use of public computers must comply with FNSB Libraries Internet Use Policy
- Being in an unauthorized area, including refusing to leave at closing time, during drills or emergencies, or when asked to do so by a library staff member
- Leaving a child under the age of 9 unattended in the library or without the supervision of an adult
- Interfering with another person's use of the library or with the library personnel's performance of their duties
- Sleeping
- Not wearing proper attire (e.g. shirts, shoes)
- Obstructing walkways and entrances
- Bringing into the library anything which creates an obstacle or takes up seating, including bicycles
- Any illegal activity

### **III. Enforcement:**

Patrons engaging in improper conduct may be asked to cease that conduct, to move to another location or activity, or to leave the library. Privileges such as laptop or meeting room use may be suspended. Severe or recurring problems may be dealt with by making library use conditional, and patrons may not be allowed to return until a meeting is conducted with the Library Director or designee that results in a satisfactory plan for the patron's future compliance with this policy. In general, the least restrictive means which effectively deals with the conduct should be employed.

Library staff and library security will primarily enforce the Patron Conduct Policy. Minor problems should be dealt with by the staff member observing it; more serious or recurring problems will be handled by the person in charge (PIC) or library security. Only the Director or designee may restrict access to the library for a period exceeding one day, and may institute a patron appeal process from this decision. Police will be called when conduct is illegal, when it poses a threat to the library or an individual, or when an individual refuses to leave the library when asked to do so.

When any serious incident or one in which an individual is asked to leave the library occurs, the senior staff member on duty or the library security will prepare a written account for the Director by the end of the next working day.