

**STOCKTON-SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY DIRECTIVE**

SUBJECT:	POLICY CATEGORY	EFFECTIVE DATE	PAGE NUMBER
Library Behavior Policy	Use of Facilities	12/99; Rev. 09/11, 1/13, 8/13, 3/16, 1/18, 7/18	700-13

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines to staff for determining inappropriate patron behavior.

POLICY: The Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library (SSJCPL) has an obligation to its patrons and staff to maintain an atmosphere conducive to reading, study, research, and the pursuit of life-long learning opportunities. Library patrons are expected to use the Library's facilities, resources, and materials in a responsible, appropriate, and courteous way to sustain this environment.

The Library has adopted the following guidelines for behavior. Library staff members and security guards have been authorized to enforce these regulations. The staff may require a patron to leave the Library premises and may call the police for noncompliance with these guidelines for behavior.

Patrons who fail to follow the Library's behavior guidelines will be subject to appropriate action, which could include expulsion from the Library, the loss of Library privileges, and/or legal action.

GUIDELINES: Activities and behaviors prohibited in all library buildings include, but are not limited to:

1. Weapons, switchblades, and explosives, concealed or unconcealed, are not allowed on Library property. Any sheathed knife, worn openly, with a blade in excess of four inches is also prohibited.
2. Theft or any other illegal activity.
3. Physically abusing or assaulting other patrons or staff.
4. Use of abusive, threatening, harassing or offensive language.
5. Challenging another person to fight or engaging in any fight.
6. Leaving children 10 or younger unattended by a parent or a responsible caregiver of at least 14 years of age.
7. Exposing one's private parts or engaging in any sexual act or soliciting any sexual act.
8. Cutting, tearing, defacing, breaking, stealing or injuring any library book, materials or property.
9. Presenting offensive and pervasive odor or odors which constitute a nuisance to other patrons of staff.

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10. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs to the extent that one is unable to exercise care for one's own safety or the safety of others.
11. Using narcotics, consuming alcohol, smoking tobacco products or using e-cigarettes inside library facilities, including restrooms, or within 20' of any entryway.
12. Creating any unreasonable noise, including loud talking, singing, running, boisterous activity, and the playing of audio equipment of any type, which disturbs other patrons or staff.
13. Eating or displaying open food or drinking from open liquid containers. (Drinking from liquid containers with secure lids is allowable. Caregivers may feed their children age 3 and under anywhere in the Library.)
14. Monopolizing Library space, seating, tables or equipment to the exclusion of other patrons or staff, or obstructing paths with personal belongings.
15. Failing to wear shirt/top, pants/skirt, and shoes.
16. Sleeping or lying on the floor, tables or chairs.
17. Shaving, bathing or laundering clothes in public restrooms.
18. Riding a bicycle, riding a skateboard, or wearing roller skates/rollerblades.
19. Soliciting or begging for money or other items, or selling any items.
20. Distribution of or posting of any printed material except through unauthorized library procedures.
21. Viewing pornographic images or videos on computers or devices, public or personal.
22. Bringing any animals (except service animals) into the building.
23. Bringing any item prohibited by the Allowable Personal Belongings Policy 700-19 into the building.
24. Engaging in any act which clearly disrupts or prevents the normal and intended use of the public library by any other patrons or staff.

Persons who commit prohibited acts may be excluded from the Library or subject to arrest and prosecution. Library staff will report unlawful activities to the local police department.