



Allen Parish Libraries

"Bringing the World to You"

Act 693 Compliance Policy

Compliance with the statutory mandates outlined in La. R.S. 14:91:2

Protecting children from contact with persons who have been convicted of sex offenses where the victims were restricted in their access to public library property, as follows:

Sex Offender Policy:

This policy ensures that the libraries comply with Louisiana Act 693, which excludes registered sex offenders convicted of offenses against minors from public libraries.

Regulation:

Effective January 1, 2013, a person who has been convicted of sex offenses where the victim was under the age of 13 (referred to as "sex offender" for purposes of this policy/regulation) is restricted as follows:

- No sex offender shall be physically present in any library area.
- No sex offender shall be physically present on public library property.
- A schedule of the library's regular business hours will be posted online and at the entrance of the library's facility.
- Scheduled programs for children and tweens will be listed in either the library's monthly printed calendar or on the library's online calendar of events or both.

Loitering within 1,000 feet- No sex offender shall loiter within 1,000 feet of public library property.

Employment- No sex offender shall apply for work or provide services to a library branch as an employee, contractor, subcontractor, or volunteer.

Registered offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors are eligible for the following library services:

- Receive information on technical services via telephone or online
- Register for a library card via mail or telephone
- Arrange for selection, checkout, pickup, and return of materials can be rendered through a third party using the offender's card or the library's van service.
- Use the library card to access the library's online material or databases.

Violations of this policy will be immediately reported to law enforcement, and violators will lose all library privileges. Violators will be subject to prosecution for violation of Louisiana Act 693 which carries a penalty of not more than one thousand dollars, imprisonment with or without hard labor for more than one year, or both.

Exceptions to these restrictions are:

- A. Police station/courthouse/polling station-** This regulation shall not be violated if the sex offender reports to a police station, courthouse, or polling station within the restricted area.
- B. With special permission-** There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender has requested and has been granted written consent to be physically present on public library property from the library director or her designee. The sex offender complies with any special restrictions contained within the permission.

The Library Director shall develop and implement administrative and management procedures to further the policies.

Recommended procedures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **BACKGROUND CHECKS** - Implement procedures to provide those library employees, contractors, subcontractors, and volunteers who will interact with children or will be required to work in restricted areas may be subject to criminal background checks.
- **CONFIGURATION** - To the extent possible, each library branch shall be arranged to ensure that areas devoted to children or will be required to work in restricted areas may be subject to criminal background checks.

- **NOTICE**- Implement procedures to ensure adequate public notice of each library branch's times and dates in a prominent location near the library's entrance and on the library website.
- **ENFORCEMENT**- Implement procedures to update policies, where necessary, and enforce policies regarding unattended children.

The Library Director and members of the public are invited to make recommendations to the Library Board to improve this regulation or suggest legislative changes that will allow public libraries to achieve the general purposes set herein more effectively.

Adopted by the Board November 2012
Revised by the Board July 29, 2022