RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PUBLIC BEHAVIOR ON LIBRARY PREMISES

So that the Belleville Public Library and Information Center may provide an atmosphere conducive to the appropriate use of its services and facilities, the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the City of Belleville has adopted the following

Rules and Regulations:
1. Patrons shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library while in the building. Activities associated with the use of a public library are reading, studying, attending programs, using computers or using Library materials.

2. Patrons shall not drink beverages from uncovered containers or consume food, except in designated areas. Patrons may drink beverages from covered containers except in the public computer areas.

3. Patrons shall not smoke or use tobacco or tobacco products in the Library.

4. Patrons shall not use or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances.

5. Patrons shall not engage in any illegal activity while in the Library building.

6. Patrons shall respect the rights of other patrons and shall not harass or annoy others through noisy or boisterous activities not limited to the following: By staring at another person, by following another person inside the building, by playing audio/audio-visual equipment so that others can hear it, by singing or talking loudly to others or in monologues or by behaving in a manner which reasonably can be expected to disturb or interfere with the use of the Library by other persons.

7. Patrons shall not interfere with the use of the Library by other patrons, or interfere with Library employees’ performance of their duties.

8. Any material removed from the Library must be charged out in accordance with established procedures before they are removed from Library premises.

9. Patrons shall not deface or disfigure books, magazines, newspapers, recordings, or other items in the Library collection nor shall they deface, disfigure or in any way; destroy, or damage Library furnishings, walls, machines or other Library property.

10. Patrons shall not be permitted to enter the building without a shirt or other covering of their upper bodies or without shoes or other footwear.
11. Patrons, whose bodily hygiene is offensive, so as to constitute a nuisance to interfere with the ability of other patrons and staff to use the Library and its facilities, shall be required to leave the building.

12. Patrons shall not bring pets or animals into the Library other than service animals covered by the ADA or therapy dogs as part of designated library programs.

13. No one shall sell or distribute any item on Library premises. Solicitation of contributions or signatures for the conduction of surveys is prohibited.

14. Photographs shall not be taken on Library premises without the permission of the Library Administration and the permission of all Library users to be photographed.

15. No one shall leave children under the age of ten (10) on the Library premises except with a responsible caregiver age 14 years old or older.


17. All brief cases, oversized handbags, notebooks, carry-all’s, overcoats, luggage, packages, and shopping bags are subject to inspection by the Library’s personnel.

18. Patrons shall not purposely circumvent computer security or timing software or otherwise tamper with the operation of the computer network.

19. Patrons shall not plug in devices for charging in undesignated charging areas.

**Sanctions for Rule Violations**

Visitors who do not follow these Rules and Regulations shall be subject to the following sanctions:

1. The patron may be asked to refrain from the offending activity. If the patron persists in the offending activity, or if the activity involves any illegal activity, viewing pornography, threatening patrons or staff or intoxication the patron will be asked to leave the library for the day.

2. If a patron continues to violate these rules and regulations or if the offending activity includes any illegal activity, viewing pornography, threatening patrons or staff or intoxication, the patron’s Library privileges will be suspended by the Library Director or her designee. Further, the patron’s Library privileges may be revoked by the Library Board of Trustees upon notice and an opportunity to be heard by the patron.

3. A patron who has had his Library privileges revoked may appeal to the Library’s Board of Trustees requesting that the privileges be reinstated.

4. If a patron’s privileges are suspended, the patron may not enter the library during the term of the suspension. If the suspended patron does enter the library they will be asked to leave and escorted out by security staff. If the patron refuses to leave the police will be contacted. In addition, law enforcement
may also be notified in situations that merit it.