

# Banning Policy

Approved by: Library Board of Control, Date: Apr 2017

## Introduction

Bossier Parish Library is dedicated to providing a safe, welcoming, and friendly environment for patrons of all ages. Sharing this environment with others require that everyone follow the *Appropriate Library Use Policy* established by the Library Board of Control, which is posted in each library location and on the library website.

## Regulations

The purpose of banning is to address inappropriate behavior of a patron and to remove the problem individual from the library environment where the public and staff are affected. The expectations in this policy also apply to children as outlined in the *Child Safety Policy*. All bans are system-wide and will be enforced at all Bossier Parish Library locations.

The behaviors or issues listed below are examples of illegal activities. The police will be called if illegal behaviors are observed and an automatic one year ban will be imposed.

- Vandalism of library property
- Pulling a fire alarm unnecessarily
- Trespassing or ignoring a ban
- Physical abuse, fighting or harassment
- Abuse of a child
- Assault of any kind
- Viewing child pornography

## Problem-Corrected Ban

Any person who violates the following regulations shall be banned until the problem is corrected.

- Entering library buildings barefooted or without a shirt
- Having offensive body odor or personal hygiene
- Being attired as to be disruptive to the library environment
- Clothing deemed offensive by library staff

## One-Day Ban

Ignoring three warnings about any inappropriate behavior as defined in the *Appropriate Library Use Policy* will result in a one-day ban.

## Seven-Day Ban

Any person who violates three one-day bans will incur a seven-day ban.

## One-Month Ban

Any person who violates three seven-day bans will be banned for one month.

**One-Year or Longer Ban**

Any person who violates a one-month ban three times will incur a one-year ban.

Individuals who repeatedly violate or ignore these regulations after having been previously banned may face longer or permanent bans than indicated in this policy. Repeat offenders need not violate the same rule to be subject to stricter enforcement and may not be warned that their behavior is inappropriate before being banned.

**Notification of Ban**

Notification of bans longer than one day, will be handed to the banned person before they leave the library.

**Appeals**

Anyone who has been banned has the right to appeal the decision. Written appeals to the Library Director must state the reason for reconsideration. The director will answer an appeal within 10 days of receiving a written request.