



SEMINOLE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES DIVISION

Procedure #:	1.3	Eff. Date:	November 2016
Section:	Authorization Forms – Behavior Policy	Revision:	May 2019
Topic:	Behavior Policy/Code of Conduct – for public distribution		

DEPARTMENT POLICY: There are rules and guidelines governing behavior in the library and they will be followed in order to create a safe and welcoming environment for the citizens of Seminole County.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS RULES: This policy will be enforced at all times.

CODE OF CONDUCT SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Welcome to the SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM. Our library is supported by the taxes of the citizens of Seminole County who have a right to expect each of our facilities to be clean, pleasant and safe places for selecting materials, reading, researching studying, writing and attending Seminole County Public Library or community sponsored programs and meetings.

This CODE OF CONDUCT is intended to encourage behavior that supports the Library’s mission of providing the best possible resources in a warm, welcoming environment. Behavior becomes unacceptable when it interferes with this mission, compromises the rights of others, causes damage to buildings or equipment or causes injury to oneself or others. Those willing to modify unacceptable behavior are always welcome to stay. However, those unable to comply will be asked to leave. If necessary, the authorities will be called. Parents or guardians are responsible for the conduct and safety of persons under their care.

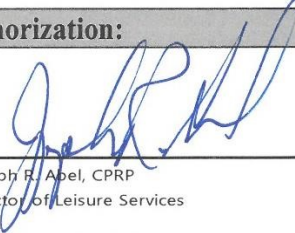
To ensure a safe, comfortable environment for all people to use the Library, the following behaviors are not acceptable:

- Library customers may not engage in any action or activity that violates any Federal, State, or local laws
- Disruptive or unsafe behavior such as loud talking, disruptive cell phone use, loud audio equipment, use of profanity, running, throwing things, hitting, pushing or shoving
- Eating, drinks in closed containers such as covered cups or water bottles are allowed
- Leaving vulnerable children or adults unsupervised in the Library
- Using another’s Library card or number without permission is prohibited
- Bare feet or lack of upper-body covering
- No animals, except for service animals as defined by Florida Statutes 413.08 and the term “service animal” is limited to a dog or miniature horse.
- Bringing or using bicycles, scooters, skates, skateboards, or shopping carts inside the
- Obstructing passageways/blocking access to the library or any part of the library

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- Threats or harassment of another person, including following a person, staring, threatening, taunting or inflicting physical or verbal abuse
- Stealing, damaging, altering or attempting to alter, any property of the library
- Viewing, in plain sight, materials which are inappropriate for the surroundings, including potential passersby
- Abandoning or leaving unattended backpacks, and other types of packages
- Excessive displays of public affection
- Poor personal hygiene that is offensive or constitutes a nuisance to others
- Lying down or sleeping in the library; placing heads, feet and legs on tables
- Moving furniture
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes or use of tobacco in any form
- Consuming alcoholic beverages or possessing or consuming illegal drugs on library property
- Indecent exposure/public indecency
- Soliciting or panhandling
- Washing clothes or bathing on library property

Customers who will not respect this request may be asked to leave the library, have library privileges suspended, and/or be subject to trespass or legal action.

Authorization:	
X	
Joseph R. Abel, CPRP Director of Leisure Services	