

# Patron Conduct Ordinance

07/15/2019| Revision 01

Maroa Public Library District is dedicated to providing access to knowledge and information through reading, writing and quiet contemplation, and providing for patrons the right to use materials and services without being disturbed or impeded and providing patrons and employees with a secure and comfortable environment. The Public Library District Act provides the Board of Library Trustees with the general power to carry out the spirit and intent of the Act in establishing and maintaining the Library and providing library services, and the specific power to "exclude from the use of the library any persons who willfully violates an ordinance or regulation prescribed."

The Board of Library Trustees of the Maroa Public Library District establishes its conduct ordinance as follows:

## Section 1

A patron who engages in any activity that materially disrupts the use of the library facilities, collections or services by patrons or materially disrupts the ability of the staff to perform its duties shall cease such activity immediately upon request by library personnel.

## Section 2

In such instances involving minors, identification will be requested and the incident may be reported to the parent or guardian.

## Section 3

If, following a request, the patron fails or refuses to comply, or responds to the request in an abusive fashion, he or she will be required to leave the library premises immediately for the balance of that calendar day. If he or she fails to leave, the police will be summoned.

## Section 4

Library personnel will record instances in which patrons are required to leave the library in a ledger maintained by the Library for that purpose. Upon the first recorded instance in which a patron is required to leave the library premises within a thirty-day period, the Director shall bar the patron from use of library premises for a period of thirty days. Parents or guardians of minors will be notified in writing after the first recorded instance in which a minor is required to leave the Library and advised of the consequences of any further recorded instances.

## Section 5

Parents wishing to appeal such action may do so upon written request to the Board of Library Trustees.

## Section 6

In the event a patron barred from the Library attempts entry to the Library during any such period of exclusion, the police will be summoned and informed of the prior action.

## Section 7

In the event the patron persists in abusive conduct or disruptive behavior following such a period of exclusion, the Director shall report to the Board of Library Trustees such conduct following prior exclusion and the Board will consider a long-term exclusion of that patron.

## Section 8

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment and approval according to law and be in full force and effect thereafter, a copy shall be posted within three days of enactment at the Library and the Secretary shall maintain a certified copy in the official records of the Library available for public inspection.

# Maroa Public Library District

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## UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR LIST

- Any behavior that disrupts or interferes with the operation, safety, or use of the Library is prohibited.
- Behavior that can be cause for removal by the Library staff and/or Police includes but is not limited to: physical abuse; assault of a person; abusive, threatening, or obscene language; running; fighting; gathering in loud groups; loud telephone conversations; noise emitting devices; or blocking other patron access points.
- Improper acts that are subject to prosecution under any civil or criminal code is prohibited.
- Individuals who may be under the influence of a substance and/or disorderly shall be asked to leave the Library.
- Use of any object or device that emits smoke or any form of vapor is not permitted inside any Library building. Usage of such devices outside of the building must conform to the Illinois Compiled Statutes.
- Sleeping or loitering is not permitted on Library property.
- Solicitation of any type is prohibited.
- Eating/drinking in the Library's buildings is prohibited unless done within an approved Library activity.
- Shirts and shoes must be worn on Library property at all times.
- Service and therapy dogs with documentation are allowed for disabled persons; other animals must remain outside of the Library's buildings.
- Children under eight (8) years of age cannot be left unattended on Library property. Please refer to the Library's Safety of Children Policy for more details.

Patrons will be warned one time of their unacceptable behavior, the second time they will be asked to leave for the day. If this occurs two times within a thirty-day period, patron will be banned for thirty-days, as stated above in Section 4.

Original Policy 00 9/14/2011

Revised 6/17/2019