

# **Christopher Public Library**

## **Patron Code of Conduct**

The Christopher Public Library is dedicated to providing access to knowledge and information through reading, writing, and quiet contemplation, 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 Library Board of Directors has the general power to carry out the spirit and intent to establish and maintain the library and provide library services, and the specific power to exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates any regulation prescribed.

The Board of Directors of the Christopher Public Library establishes its conduct regulation as follows:

### **Section 1.**

A person who engages in any activity which disrupts the use of library facilities, collections or services by patrons or disrupts the ability of the staff to perform its duties shall cease such activity immediately upon request by library personnel. These activities include, but are not limited to, offensive language and shouting.

### **Section 2.**

In such instances involving minor patrons, identification will be requested and the incident may be reported to the parent/guardian or the police.

### **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.

### **Section 4.**

Library personnel will record instances in which patrons are required to leave the library in a ledger maintained for that purpose. Upon the second 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 the library premises for a period of thirty days. Parents or guardians of minor patrons will be notified in writing after the first recorded instance in which a minor patron is required to leave the library and advised of the consequences of any further recorded instances.

### **Section 5.**

Patrons/parents wishing to appeal such action may do so upon written request, within seven days of the recorded instance to the Board of Directors.

**Section 6.**

In the event a patron who is barred from the use of 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 a patron repeats such abusive conduct or disruptive behavior following such a period of exclusion, the Director shall report to the Board of Directors such conduct, for further consideration by the Board of Directors for appropriate action. This may include a longer term of exclusion or permanent exclusion if such behavior continues to occur.

**Section 8.**

In the event a patron becomes physically or verbally abusive, brings a weapon into the library or threatens the safety of the staff or of other patrons in any way, the police will be summoned, and that patron will be banned immediately from the library for a minimum of one year. The Board has the option to indefinitely ban the patron.

**Section 9.**

Food and drink are not permitted in the library except in designated areas.