

# VII.

# LIBRARY CONDUCT POLICY

DATE APPROVED-UNKNOWN

REVIEWED-5/94, 10/98, 6/99, 12/02, 1/05, 4/10/08, 3/12/12, 4/13/15, 6/10/2019

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**The Wellman-Scofield Public Library is used by all members of the public. Patrons are expected to use the library for its intended purposes and to observe the rights of other patrons and staff.** The director and supervisory library staff have the authority to determine when behavior is inappropriate and the responsibility for enforcing discipline within the library.

No person shall engage in any conduct that disturbs or interferes with the legitimate use of the library, including, but not restricted to the following:

- Any behavior that endangers safety or health.
- Violation of any local, state or federal law.
- Vandalism or deliberate destruction of library material.
- Theft of library material or of property belonging to others.
- Use of abusive language to other patrons or library staff.
- Willfully annoying, harassing, or threatening another person.
- Consume or possess alcoholic beverages, or use or possess controlled substances on library grounds or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances in a manner that causes public disturbance.
- Solicit funds or panhandle.
- Interfere with others' use of the Library through poor bodily hygiene that is so offensive as to constitute a nuisance.
- Willfully expose patrons and staff to offensive images or language.
- Interfere with the Library's right to maintain a clean, pleasant and safe facility.

Response to inappropriate behaviors should be immediate and follow the procedures described:

- **Verbal Warning:** with the statement that the persons will be asked to behave in an appropriate manner. In the case of a child, verbal warning will be given again with the advice that the parent/guardian will be notified. For children under the age of eight(8) accompanied by a parent or caregiver, the staff person in charge will ask the parent or caregiver to restrain the child's behavior or leave the Library.
- **Expulsion:** If the disruptive behavior continues, library staff will request the person to leave the library. In the case of a child, the parent/guardian will be contacted.
- **Calling Police:** The police will be called if a patron clearly poses a danger to himself or others, if a patron deliberately violates the law, or if a patron refuses to cooperate after being asked to leave the library and its property.