



VERMILION PARISH LIBRARY

PO DRAWER 640 ABBEVILLE, LA 70511
405 E. ST. VICTOR ST. ABBEVILLE, LA 70510
337-893-2674 FAX: 337-898-0526

Vermilion Parish Library Sex Offender Policy

In accordance with its by-laws the Vermilion Parish Library Board of Control has adopted on this 7th day of November, 2012 the following policy for the purpose of:

1. Compliance with the statutory mandates set forth in LA. R.S. 14:91.2
2. Protecting children from contact with persons who have been convicted of sex offenses where the victim was under thirteen (13) years of age

Definitions:

1. Sex offender – A person convicted of a sex offense (defined in R.S. 15:541) when the victim is under the age of 13
2. Public library – A parish or municipal library. Act 653 does not ban sex offenders from the state library or libraries associated with colleges and universities.
3. Public library property – Immovable property that is open to the public and is used as a branch of a public library, including any courtyard or parking lot that is under the direct and exclusive control of the public library. That is, Act 653 does not ban sex offenders from bookmobiles (except when bookmobiles are used for children’s programs and located on public library property any and all restrictions included in the Vermilion Parish Library sex offender policy shall apply to the bookmobile), library storage buildings and drop boxes (because they are not “branches” of a library), or parking lots that are shared with other businesses or entities that do not ban sex offenders (because such parking lots are not under the “exclusive” control of the public library).

Any sex offender who wishes to use the services of Vermilion Parish Library (VPL) must abide by the policy of the library board of control.

Sex offenders are NOT allowed in any children’s or teen areas of any branch of Vermilion Parish Library.

Computers at each branch of the Vermilion Parish Library shall be designated as follows:

Abbeville:

- Adults—ages 18 and older will be designated a specific area and will not be allowed to use computers in the children’s and teen areas of the library. If all the adult computers are in use, the adult patron may check out a laptop for use in an area assigned by a staff member.
- Teens—these computers are designated for patrons ages 12-17 only. No one else will be allowed to use these computers.
- Children’s—these computers may only be used by children birth to the age of eleven (11). No Exceptions.

Maurice, Erath and Kaplan:

Computers are in full view of the circulation desk and use will be monitored by staff. Children and teens will be assigned to the computers on a specific end of the row.

Gueydan:

Adults will be assigned computers on one side (north side) and children and teens will be assigned computers on the other side (south side). Adults and teens/children will not use computers on the same side.



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Anyone wishing exception to the computer designation must complete a form and obtain an exception card at the circulation desk. For example: your child is typing a report and he needs assistance typing the report. The parent will need to complete the form and obtain an exception card.

No sex offender shall loiter within 1000 feet of any Vermilion Parish Library property.

No sex offender shall apply for, work for or otherwise provide services to any Vermilion Parish Library branch, including but not limited to as an employee, contractor, sub-contractor or volunteer or other persons.

All employees, contractors, sub-contractor, volunteers or other persons who perform work for the Vermilion Parish Library System may be subject to background checks through the Louisiana State Police Database, Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office database or other databases.

Sex offenders are not allowed on Vermilion Parish library property during peak hours when children are using the library. During the school year, peak hours are defined as 3 pm to 7 pm. During the summer, peak hours are defined as 10am to 4 pm.

No sex offender shall be physically present in any area of the Vermilion Parish Library branch or on any Vermilion Parish Library property during days of scheduled children's and/or teen programs. Programs are posted on the Vermilion Parish library's webpage (www.vermilion.lib.la.us) and on Facebook.

The Vermilion Parish Library Board of Control adopted an Unattended Child Policy on August 10, 2011. This policy will be enforced by staff at all branches of the Vermilion Parish Library System. Copies of the Unattended Child Policy may be found on the Vermilion Parish Library website (www.vermilion.lib.la.us) and at the circulation desk of each location of the Vermilion Parish Library.

Exceptions to these restrictions are:

- a. Police station/courthouse/polling station – There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender is reporting to a police station, courthouse, or polling station that is within the restricted area.
- b. With special permission – There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender has requested and has been granted written permission to be physically present on public library property from the library branch director or his designee, and the sex offender complies with any special restrictions contained within the permission.

The Library Director and members of the public are invited to make recommendations to the Vermilion Parish Library Board of Control to improve this regulation or suggest legislative changes that will allow public libraries to more effectively achieve the public purposes set forth herein. Those recommendations, along with any supporting documentation, should be submitted annually to the Vermilion Parish Library Board of Control by or before November 1. Attention: Ricky Luquette, Vermilion Parish Library Board of Control President.

Authority Note

Act 693 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature amended and re-enacted R.S. 14.91.2. The effective date of the Act is January 1, 2013.



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Exception Form:

Date

Child's/Teen's Name (print)

Parent/Guardian's Name (print)

My child/teen requires my assistance at the computer for the following reason:

Parent Signature

Staff Signature