

Sex Offenders Policy

Approved by: Library Board of Control, Date: Sep 2012, Revised: Jun 2016

Introduction

In accordance with its by-laws, the Bossier Parish Library Board of Control has adopted on this 27th day of September, 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 13 years of age

Regulations

- 1) Effective January 1, 2013, persons who have been convicted of sex offenses where the victim was under the age of 13 (referred to as "sex offenders" for purposes of this policy/regulation) are restricted in their access to public library property, as follows:

- a) Sex offenders are allowed to use the following locations: Aulds, Benton, Bossier Central, History Center, East 80, Plain Dealing, and Anna P. Tooke. At these libraries, their access is restricted as follows:

- (1) Children's Areas – No sex offender shall be physically present in any area of the library designated as Kid Zone (children's area) or Teen Central (young adult area).

- (2) Peak Children's Hours – No sex offender shall be physically present on public library property during peak hours of children's use of the library.

- (a) During the school year, peak hours are defined as 3 pm to 7 pm.

- (b) During the summer, peak hours are defined as 10 am to 4 pm.

- (c) Peak hours of children's use also include hours during which children's programs are scheduled. A schedule will be posted on the library's website at www.bossierlibrary.org and at the entrance of the library branch.

- b) Due to the building configuration, sex offenders are not allowed to use the Haughton Branch Library.

Alternative channels of access to public library resources include:

1. Access to the other branches as outlined above

2. Allowing a surrogate to check out library materials from these branches on the sex offender's library card

3. Electronic access to library resources via the library's website, www.bossierlibrary.org

- c) Loitering within 1,000 feet -- No sex offender shall loiter within 1,000 feet of public library property.

- d) Employment – No sex offender shall apply for, work for, or otherwise provide services to a library branch as an employee, contractor, sub-contractor, or volunteer.

2) 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 director or her/his designee, and the sex offender complies with any special restrictions contained within the permission.
- c) Surrogate – The sex offender may write a letter to the library director or her/his designee and provide their name, address, and phone number along with the name, address, and phone number of a person (surrogate) the sex offender authorizes to check out library materials using the sex offender's library card.

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 this Act is January 1, 2013.