

## BECK BOOKMAN LIBRARY INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

**Effective date: 7/21/2015**

**Summary:** This document contains the policies of the Beck Bookman Library for public use of the library's Internet access computers.

**Policy:** The library is a forum for all points of view and adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom as expressed in the Library Bill of Rights formulated by the American Library Association and adopted by the Library Board. Users must comply with the United States copyright law, United States and Kansas obscenity statutes, and all other applicable laws.

The Internet is a global electronic network that provides access to ideas, information and commentary. The Beck Bookman Library provides public access to the Internet in keeping with its mission as a forum for access to public information.

The library has no control over the information on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Restriction of a minor's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. Within the above limitations, the Library follows policies and procedures that support maximum safety for minors when accessing the Internet at the library.

**I.** The library affirms the rights and responsibilities of parents or guardians to determine and monitor the children's use of library materials and resources. Parents and guardians, not the library or its staff, are responsible for the Internet information selected and accessed by their children. **Parental permission is required for use of the library Internet computers by children under the age of eighteen. For children age 12 and under, a parent must be in the library with the child at the time of Internet use.** Proof of identification/date of birth must be provided if questioned by staff. The library is not responsible, except as provided in this policy, for the use of the Internet by children who have obtained parental permission according to the procedures determined by the library.

**II.** Using library computer workstations in an inappropriate manner, as defined herein, is prohibited. Members of library staff are under no obligation to monitor library computer workstation usage and accept no responsibility for investigating the manner in which those workstations are used. When, however, a member of the library staff observes a patron using a workstation in violation of the following subsections, the patron will be deemed to be using the workstation in an unacceptable manner, resulting in any or all of the following consequences:

1. Immediate termination of the Internet session.
2. Additional suspension of computer use or other library use privileges.
3. Notification of appropriate law enforcement officials.

Materials on the Internet may be subject to copyright laws. Copyrighted materials may not be copied without permission of the copyright holder unless the proposed use falls within the definition of "fair use." (United States Code, title 17, Section 107)

**III.** Patrons shall not access or exhibit inappropriate matter on library Internet workstations. Inappropriate matter shall include obscene matter, matter harmful to minors, or materials containing sexual exploitation of children, as defined by Kansas Statutes and the Children’s Internet Protection Act. Specifically:

- A. Patrons shall not access or exhibit obscene material on library computer workstations. Disseminating or exhibiting obscene material is a crime in the state of Kansas. See K.S.A. 21-4301 as amended.
- B. Customers shall not access material or computer-generated images deemed harmful to minors. See K.S.A. 21-4031a and K.S.A. 21-4031c, as amended.
- C. Patrons shall not use the library computer workstations in a manner that allows them to possess a computer generated image that contains or incorporates sexual exploitation of a child. See K.S.A. 21-3516, as amended.

**IV.** All patrons are prohibited from sending electronic mail, instant messages, or chat room messages that violate any local, state or federal laws. Violators of this prohibition are subject to the consequences described above.

**V.** Customers are responsible for any careless and/or abusive treatment of computer hardware and software. Misuse of computer equipment and Internet access may result in the consequences described above. Misuse includes, but is not limited to:

Activities causing damage to library computer equipment, software programs, and data:

- 1. Activities deemed unlawful according to local, state and federal law.
- 2. Unauthorized access to secure data, including so-called “hacking.” Violations will be immediately reported to appropriate law enforcement officials.

**VI.** Violation of individual privacy rights, including unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors is prohibited. Persons violating this prohibition are subject to the consequences described in section II above. Library staff will not disclose library customers’ use of the library with respect to information sought or received, including Internet use, except pursuant to a valid court order or subpoena authorized under federal, state or local law.

**VII.** The library will comply with federal legal requirements for technology protection measures (filtering software). This technology is not reliable and the library cannot be held responsible for prohibited information that may be displayed or for useful information that may be blocked.

*Please see the Beck-Bookman Library brochure for further details about computer and printing services. Copies of cited Kansas statutes and U.S code are available at the circulation desk.*