

IV. STATE CONDUCT ORDINANCE

The Edward Chipman Public Library is dedicated to providing access to knowledge and information through reading, writing, and quiet contemplation, providing patrons the right to use materials and services without being disturbed or impeded, and providing patrons and employees a secure and comfortable environment. The Public Library Act provides the Board of Library Trustees with the general power to carry out the spirit and intent of the Act in establishing and maintaining the library and providing library services and the specific power to “exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates an ordinance or regulation prescribed.”

The Board of Library Trustees of Chipman Public Library establishes its Conduct policy as follows:

Section 1.

A patron who engages in any activity which materially disrupts the use of library facilities, collections, or services by patrons or materially disrupts the ability of the staff to perform its duties shall cease such activity immediately upon request by library personnel.

Section 2.

In such instances involving minors, identification will be requested and the incident may be reported to the parent or guardian.

Section 3.

If, following a request, the patron fails or refuses to comply or responds to the request in an abusive fashion, he/she will be required to leave the library premises immediately for the balance of that calendar day. If he/she fails to leave, the police will be summoned.

Section 4.

Library personnel will document instances in which patrons are required to leave the library. Upon the 2nd documented instance in which a patron is required to leave the library premises, the Director shall bar the patron from the use of library premises for a period of thirty days. Parents or guardians of minors will be notified in writing after the 1st documented instance.

Section 5

In the event a patron barred from the use of the library attempts entry to library during any such period of exclusion, the police will be summoned and informed of the prior action.

Section 6.

In the event the patron persists in abusive conduct or disruptive behavior following such a period of exclusion, the Director shall report to the Board of Library Trustees such conduct following prior exclusion and the Board will consider a long-term exclusion of that patron. If they wish, patrons may appeal to the Board of Trustees any long term exclusion.

Section 7.

This policy shall take effect immediately upon enactment and approval according to law and be in full force and effect thereafter. A copy shall be posted within three days of enactment at the library and the secretary shall maintain a copy in the official records of the library available for public inspection.

