SEX OFFENDER POLICY for the SHEFFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

IOWA CODE: Chapter 692A.113 (1,1.f, 1.g, 2.b, 2.c)

Prohibits a sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor from being present upon real property of a public library without the written permission of the library director, or from loitering within 300 ft of the real property boundry of a public library.

A “sex offender” is someone who is required under Chapter 692A to be on the registry.

PER IOWA CODE THE LAW PROHIBITS A SEX OFFENDER WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A SEX OFFENSE AGAINST A MINOR FROM BEING EMPLOYED BY OR FROM ACTING AS A CONTRACTOR ORA VOLUNTEER AT ANY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

It is in the library’s best interest to protect our community and our patrons, especially our children of the community.

Access to materials:

If a registered sex offender enters the building to obtain access to materials, they must first request written permission to do so but it solely remains at the director’s discression if they will be allowed or denied. This permission can be revoked at any time. If permission is granted, the sex offender can be issued a library card. This does not constitute written permission from the library administrator for that offender to be present on library property. A single time use may be granted. However, any further visit requests must fill out another application.

If denied, the offender may arrange for a third party to access the materials and return on his/her behalf, and a card may be issued to the third party for access to materials. The sex offender may receive information via telephone to request books. They are allowed access the library’s online materials and databases through the Sheffield Public Library’s website. An e-card can be issued to the sex offender for digital and audio books through the State Library of Iowa as well.

Exceptions:

1. By law a sex offender who has been convicted may be present for transportation to and from library of his own child/ward.
2. During the period of time reasonably necessary to vote in a public election if the polling place is in the library.

Other exceptions are up to the library director, the board of trustees will not entertain appeals of denial, the offender may apply again in 6 months. The director may also consult with law enforcement, social service agents, and/or other government officals to determine approval or denial.

Enforcement

It is the offenders responsibility to comply with all laws. However, if the library staff has knowledge or receives information that a sex offender who commited crimes against a minor is on premises, Law Enforcement will be contacted immediately.

Furthermore, as the state of Iowa suggests libraries to keep a file of registered sex offenders in county of location. The Sheffield Public Library will update this record every 3 months and will be labeled by the Tier Status below and will be kept on file.

TIER 1 : seeing, stalking, harassing

TIER 2: violent, kidnapping, causing harm

TIER 3: violent, murder, causing harm