

Photography/Filming

In order to provide all library patrons with the safest and most pleasant library experience, those wishing to use cameras and/or recording equipment for non-personal use within the library facilities must have their request approved in advance by the library director. Those photographing or videotaping children must have both the permission of a library supervisor and a written release signed in advance by each child's legal guardian. Those photographing or videotaping adults must have permission from the subject as well as a library supervisor. Those not following this policy may be asked to put away their equipment or leave the facility.

While the library is a public place, libraries may reasonably restrict the exercise of free speech rights in their buildings, particularly when the conduct would be disruptive to, or interfere with, the other patrons or staff. Library access by photographers may be limited either by time constraints or to specific areas.

Library staff have the right to photograph, film, and record library events and patrons for promotional use in print, online, and video. Visitors to the library, or anyone participating in any library event being captured on film or by photograph, will be advised verbally or through signage that their participation acts as consent to being photographed, filmed, or recorded, unless they indicate otherwise to library staff.

Photography, video, or audio recording by visitors to the library are generally permitted if it is strictly for personal use. However, in order to protect the rights of individual patrons and to prevent disruptions, interference with staff or patrons, photography, video or audio recording on library property are restricted as follows:

1. Under no circumstances may the public or members of the media take photographs or record video and/or audio without the express permission of any library patron or staff member who would be included within the composition. In the case of minors, permission must come from the parent or legal guardian.
2. Media are subject to the provisions of the Code of Conduct policy and may not disturb the normal operations of the library.

The above policy applies only to open, public events. Closed events such as class visits would require releases and/or permissions from the supervisor of the visiting organization.

Sources:

[GOVERNMENT CODE Sec. 552.021](#)

[Office for Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association](#)