

# Levy County Board of County Commissioners

## Official County Policies

Title	Number	Page
Library Internet Safety Policy	LC5.1	1 of 3
Based on Florida Statute Number	Effective Date	
F.S.125.01(f,t,w);Public Law 106-554	March 5, 2002	

### Policy:

1. The Levy County Public Library System (Library System) provides users with Internet access at each Library in keeping with its mission of providing information and access to information.
2. The Internet allows access to ideas, images, information and commentary from around the globe. This access includes a wealth of material that is personally, professionally and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, but it also includes some material beyond the scope of the Library System's mission, selection criteria and collection development policies. Some of the information accessed may be offensive, disturbing, illegal, inaccurate and incomplete. Users are entirely responsible for the use of the information that they access.
3. The Library System is not responsible for the accuracy, nature, or quality of information gathered through Library System-provided Internet access. In consideration of the Library System providing users with access to the Internet, users agree to hold the Library System harmless and agree to indemnify the Library System from any and all liability arising out of the user's use of the Internet. The Library System is not responsible for loss of data due to service interruptions. The Library System is not responsible for any commercial transactions that a user participates in while using the Library System's Internet terminals.
4. The Internet access provided by the Library System is filtered through the use of commercial software which limits access by site through a list of categories. Filtering will include, but not be limited to the following categories:

Adult Content  
Hacking  
Illegal  
Nudity

Pornography  
Sex

5. **Filtering software is highly effective, but does not guarantee that objectionable sites cannot be accessed.**
6. Library users who wish to access sites which they feel have been filtered in error may request that a filtered site be opened using the same form and procedure as is used for Re-evaluation of Library Materials. Patrons feeling that an open site needs to be filtered may use the same process. Adults may request unfiltered access.
7. All other Library System Internet access is provided equally to all library users.
8. As with other library materials, guidance and supervision of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian. The Library System does not act as parent/legal guardian (parents) (*in loco parentis*). Parents are responsible to insure the safety and security of their minor children when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other direct electronic communications. Parents are also responsible to see that there is no unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding their minor children as well as seeing that there is no unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors online. Parents are advised to read "Child Safety on the Information Highway," distributed with permission of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Copies are available without charge at each library's circulation desk.
9. General Guidelines:
  - A. Use of Internet workstations will be on a first-come, first-served basis and all users will be required to sign up at the Circulation Desk. ***Signing up for Internet use signifies agreement to follow the provisions of this policy.***
  - B. If there is no one waiting, there is no time limit. If there are patrons waiting, use of Internet on any station may be limited to 30 minutes, no more often than twice a day.
  - C. If workstations are shared, no more than two persons may use a station at one time and both must be signed up for Internet use. A parent's or guardian's sign-up may include his or her child when they are using a station together.

- D. Users must use the computer station to which a staff member has assigned him/her.
10. Users may not:
- A. Misrepresent themselves in any way.
  - B. Make unauthorized copies of copyrighted or licensed software or data.
  - C. Use any library-owned computer or Internet access for any commercial, illegal or criminal purpose, or for hacking.
  - D. Violate computer system security.
  - E. Violate another user's privacy.
  - F. Alter, damage or destroy hardware, software or data.
  - G. Engage in any harassing or defamatory activity.
  - H. Display or disseminate sexually explicit or obscene/pornographic material.
11. Violators of the provisions of this policy will be dealt with in a serious manner and violations may result in loss of Internet and/or library privileges. The staff member on duty is authorized to deny Internet access if it is his/her judgment that a user is in violation of the provisions of this policy.
12. Users violating Florida Statutes Chapters 847.001 and 847.0135 which prohibit displaying obscene materials to minors or printing such materials, or any of the provisions of Chapter 815, Computer Related Crimes, and any other appropriate statutes will be subject to arrest and prosecution.
13. Please accept this policy in the positive spirit in which it is offered. Responsible and cooperative use of Internet access can be highly beneficial to library users.

Date Approved by BOCC	Signature of BOCC Chair	Date Signed
March 5, 2002	Tony Parker	March 5, 2002