

Recording in the Library Policy

The Recording in the Library Policy is used by the Theresa Free Library to address non-employees photographing, recording and/or broadcasting/streaming images on library property.

As a public library, the Theresa Free Library is obligated to ensure information access, patron privacy, and library service.

To help fulfill those obligations, it is the policy of the Theresa Free Library to honor state and federal law and policy with respect to photographing, recording, broadcasting, and streaming images of the premises, patrons, and employees while on library property (for the sake of clarity, all such activity is referred to in this document as "Recording").

The Library will allow all Recording consistent with its Plan of Service, ethics, orderly operations, and mission. The Library reserves the right at all times to refuse any Recording that will negatively impact safety, patron privacy, employee work conditions, and/or routine library operations.

NOTE: Per the Open Meetings Law, Recording is allowed at all meetings of the Library's Board of Trustees, except for executive sessions. Reasonable restrictions for safety and smooth operations apply.

Protocol

Whenever possible, individuals or media outlets who wish to engage in Recording should contact the Director to arrange, at least two business days in advance, how such Recording can be done without risking a breach of the library's ethics, its obligation to safeguard patron privacy, and to ensure a respectful environment for library employees. This may be done by calling or emailing the Library. When contacting the Library with this need, please be ready to discuss what content is needed, and how to adapt that need to the library's ethical and operational priorities, if necessary.

Individuals or media outlets who wish to engage in Recording on a more immediate basis, please contact the Director as soon as possible. This may be done by calling or emailing the Library. Just like recording with more notice, those with urgent requests should be ready to discuss what access will meet your needs, and to adapt your needs to the library's ethical and operational priorities, including not being able to grant a same-day request.

For individuals or media outlets who wish to engage in Recording without notifying the library in advance, please know that any Recording activity that risks negatively impacting safety, patron privacy, employee work conditions, and/or routine library operations, or a violation of our Patron Code of Behavior, will result in a requirement to cease Recording or to adjust where/how Recording is conducted.

As with any other ongoing potential violation of Library policy, any individual or media outlet who, after being asked to stop engaging in Recording, does not cease Recording, will be instructed to leave Library property, pending further action under any applicable policy.

Recording with Permission in the Library (Non-Commercial)

Requests to Record in the Library for non-commercial purposes, including but not limited to journalism from credentialed journalists, will be confirmed with written permission whenever time allows.

Recording with Permission in the Library (Commercial)

Requests to Record in the Library for commercial purposes (movies, advertisements, documentaries, modeling sessions, etc.), especially if a film crew and/or multiple people will be present, will be confirmed by a contract, based on the project, and may include insurance requirements and indemnification.

Harassing Behavior

The Library recognizes and honors that as a public entity, the public has a right to access information about the Library. To that end, the Library's policies and board materials are on our website, and the public may attend our meetings as required by law.

Further, the Library recognizes and honors that not all journalists are credentialed by formal media outlets, and the public has the right to know about the operations of the Library.

However, as it is a limited public forum whose primary purpose is library service, the Library's Board of Trustees also has the right to set the hours and conditions needed to operate the library, and this includes barring any activity that would impact safety, patron privacy, employee work conditions, and/or routine library operations, or a violation of a library policy.

Approved Tuesday, May 10th 2022