Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library
Rules of Conduct

The Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library is dedicated to providing a safe, clean, comfortable, and welcoming environment for reading, learning, and collaborating. To protect the rights of all patrons and ensure proper access to library facilities, this policy has been established. Compliance with these rules is required for anyone visiting or utilizing library property.

Prohibited Behaviors
To ensure a positive environment, the following behaviors are strictly prohibited on library premises, both inside the library and on library grounds:

- **Disruptive Conduct:** Engaging in loud, disruptive, profane, or abusive behavior, or using language/gestures that harasses, intimidates, or threatens staff or other patrons. Fighting, running, pushing, throwing, or hitting. Intentionally blocking aisles, exits, or entrances.
- **Illegal Actions:** Violating any local, state, or federal laws, or other applicable laws or library policies.
- **Misuse of Property:** Littering, stealing, defacing, damaging, or inappropriately modifying library materials, computers, furniture, or facility structures.
- **Substance Prohibitions:** Smoking, vaping, chewing or other tobacco, consuming alcohol or illegal substances inside the library or on immediate municipal library grounds.
    - **Exceptions for Alcohol or Liquor:** Alcohol or liquor will be permitted within the library building or on library grounds for the purposes of adult education programs only. This exception can only be granted by City Council, following a Consumption Permit application request. The library will follow South Dakota Codified Law 34-4-10.2.
- **Inappropriate Attire:** Failing to wear shirts, shoes, or other appropriate clothing at all times while inside the library building.
- **Animals:** Bringing animals into the library building, except for certified service animals trained to assist individuals with disabilities.
- **Food and Drink:** Consuming meals or beverages in designated technology or archival areas. Covered drinks and small snacks are permitted only in approved seating areas.
- **Unattended Children:** Leaving young children unsupervised. Children under the age of seven (7) are required to be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or caregiver over the age of fourteen (14).
- **Solicitation:** Selling products, services, tickets, or circulating petitions, panhandling, or soliciting donations.
    - **Exceptions for Library Supporting Organizations:** Solicitation and fundraising may be permitted for organizations, groups, or individuals whose activities directly benefit the Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library, its programs, services, collections,

facilities, or patrons. All solicitation activities must receive prior approval from the Library Director and comply with applicable library policies. Eligible groups may include, but are not limited to:

- **Friends of the Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library**
- **Library Foundation**

Enforcement and Penalties

Enforcement of these rules will be conducted in an equitable and uniform manner by library staff. Failure to comply with instructions from library staff or the rules listed above may result in immediate removal from the premises, suspension or termination of library privileges, or a ban from the library and its services. Illegal behaviors and activity will be reported immediately to law enforcement.

Appeals Process

Any patron whose library privileges have been suspended or terminated has the right to appeal the decision. A written appeal must be submitted to the Library Director within seven (7) business days of the suspension or termination. The Library Director will review the appeal and present it to the Dell Rapids Carnegie Library Board of Trustees for a final determination at their next scheduled public meeting.