



CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY
BEST SMALL LIBRARY IN AMERICA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chelsea District Library Responds to Recent Incident

The Chelsea District Library is committed to creating a safe and secure environment for all visitors – particularly children. A rare and isolated incident occurred recently involving a man who is now facing criminal charges for exposing himself to a minor. We understand and appreciate the fear, anger, and concern this situation has caused. The child and her family have our heartfelt sympathy. When it occurred, staff contacted the police immediately.

Like you, we have seen recent news articles, social media posts, and ensuing comments relative to the incident. Unfortunately, those sources contain misinformation; they do not accurately portray the incident as reported to the Library. While we cannot legally share specifics of the incident, we trust in our judicial system to correct the record.

Be assured that sexual misconduct or criminal behavior is never tolerated in the Library. If such activity occurs, we will always take appropriate measures to call the police, suspend library privileges, and review policies to help make sure incidents like this will not happen again. In this instance, the offending patron has been suspended. We understand that charges have been brought by the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's office against him in relation to the incident.

The community should be aware that the Library is currently reviewing its policies (<http://chelseadistrictlibrary.org/about-us/policies/>) in response to this recent incident and will continue to review and monitor the situation. This may include a re-evaluation of the length of his suspension if additional relevant information comes to light.

Our Library is a public space open to all people. Our staff will continue to work diligently to provide a safe and dependable community space along with the stellar service, resources, and programs our patrons have come to expect. The Chelsea District Library strives to fulfill our mission to engage, inspire, and equip through evolving services and resources in a safe and secure environment.

If you have questions or concerns or would like further information, please contact Library Director Lori Coryell or Board President Charlie Taylor at [734.475.8732](tel:734.475.8732).

Sincerely,

Lori Coryell, Library Director

Charlie Taylor, Board President on behalf of the Chelsea District Library Board of Trustees

About Us: Chelsea District Library is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide equal access to quality resources that serve the lifelong cultural, educational, and informational needs and interests of all people. The Library currently serves 15,100 residents in the Chelsea district, which includes the City of Chelsea and the Dexter, Lima, Lyndon, and Sylvan townships. Approximately 16,000 individuals visit the library each month. For more information visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org.

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