

Huntington Memorial Library Photography Policy

This policy is intended to support the privacy needs of library patrons and to maintain an environment suitable for the general use of library resources. Libraries are working institutions whose primary mission is to serve the needs of its patrons. As such, this policy is intended to protect library users who may be endangered or inconvenienced by having their images or their activities photographed or video-recorded in the library.

The library is considered a “limited public forum” under federal law which allows public libraries to reasonably restrict the use of photography and video-recording in their buildings, particularly when the conduct would be disruptive to, interfere with the other patrons or staff, or be inconsistent with the library’s mission.

In order to protect the rights of individual patrons and to prevent disruptions, interference with staff or patrons, or conduct inconsistent with the library’s mission, photographing and video or audio recording on library property are restricted as follows:

- Under no circumstances may the public or members of the media take photographs or record video or audio without the express permission of any library customer or staff member who would be included within the composition. In the case of minors, permission must come from the parent or legal guardian.
- Media may not disturb the normal operations of the library.
- In the event of a critical incident or emergency requiring police or fire response, public and media access may be limited to allow emergency personnel to ensure safety and security.
- The terms above apply to the media as well as to amateur photographers and audio/video creators.