

### **XIII. Security Cameras**

RFPL uses security cameras to discourage inappropriate and illegal activities, including violations of the Library's Code of Conduct, while respecting the confidentiality of Library records and patron privacy in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.

#### **A. Public Notice**

RFPL posts and maintains signage at the entrance to its building giving notice of the use of security cameras for monitoring and recording activity in public areas of RFPL property.

#### **B. Camera Locations**

Cameras are positioned to monitor public areas of RFPL such as entrances and outdoor areas. Cameras do not monitor areas where patrons and/or staff have a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as restrooms.

#### **C. Storage of Digital Images**

Video data is recorded and stored digitally. Recorded data is treated as confidential and is stored in a secure manner.

#### **D. Patron Privacy**

Video monitoring records are not to be used directly or indirectly to identify the activities of individuals except as viewed in relation to a specific event or suspected criminal activity on RFPL property, suspected violation of RFPL Code of Conduct policy, or incidents where there is a reasonable basis to believe a claim may be made against RFPL.

#### **E. Disclosure of Video Data**

Confidentiality and privacy requirements limit the general public from viewing security camera footage that contains personally identifying information about Library patrons or the circulation records of Library patrons. All requests for disclosure of recorded images, except as otherwise stated for law enforcement purposes, shall be made in accordance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA" 5 ILCS 140) and shall be submitted to the Director. The Director shall review the requested images and determine whether the images contain any information protected by the Illinois Library Records Confidentiality Act ("LRCA" 75 ILCS 70). As permitted by Section 7(1) of FOIA, when a request is made to inspect or copy recorded images, some of which are exempt from disclosure and some of which are not exempt under LRCA, RFPL shall attempt to redact the exempt images and make the remaining images available for inspection or copying.

Except as otherwise provided in this policy, access to live feeds of images and recorded video data will be limited to authorized RFPL staff designated by the Director. At the Director's discretion, still images may be shared with RFPL staff.

Unauthorized copying or recording of video footage through cell phones, portable devices, or any other means is prohibited. Any RFPL employee who becomes aware of unauthorized disclosure of a video recording and/or a potential privacy breach has a responsibility to immediately inform the Director of the breach.

The Director may provide law enforcement officials or agencies with access to recorded data for law enforcement purposes in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.

#### **F. Retention of Digital Images**

Recordings shall be kept for approximately 30 days, with the exception of appropriate still shots or selected portions of the recorded data relating to specific incidents. The latter may be retained for up to three years after the incident or until such time as any matters pertaining to the recording, including any litigation or criminal proceedings, have been finally resolved. The storage media shall be kept in a secure area.

#### **G. Disclaimer of Liability**

Because cameras will not be continuously monitored, the public and staff should take appropriate precautions for their safety and for the security of their personal property. RFPL is not responsible for the loss of property or for personal injury.

A copy of this policy will be shared with any patron or staff member upon request. This policy shall be posted on the RFPL website. RFPL disclaims any liability for use of the video data in accordance with the terms of this policy, given that RFPL is a public facility and the security cameras shall be limited to those areas where patrons and/or staff have no reasonable expectation of privacy.

*Updated July 2024*