

**Joseph T. Simpson Public Library**  
**Weapons in the Library Policy**  
**Adopted March 10, 2015**

Library staff and customers visiting the Joseph T. Simpson Public Library have the right to work in and enjoy the Simpson Library's facility in a safe environment. This policy, along with the Cumberland County Library System Customer Behavior Policy, intends to ensure the safety, security and comfort of those who are in the library. Any behavior that is disruptive or that prevents the library from ensuring a safe environment or from fulfilling its mission will result in an appropriate response, including denial of access to facilities and services.

Unlicensed weapons, of any kind are prohibited from the Simpson Library. Possession, use or threat to use any weapon will result in either removal of the weapon from the premises or eviction of the possessor from the library. Open flames, incendiary devices or explosive devices, including fireworks, are prohibited in Simpson Library. Lighters, matches and candles may not be used in Simpson Library.

This policy does not prevent legally licensed weapons from being stored in a vehicle that is parked on library property so long as the weapon is stored in accordance with applicable Pennsylvania laws and regulations. This policy does not apply to law enforcement officers, officers or employees of the United States who are on duty and who are duly authorized to carry a concealed firearm or a weapon.

Violence or threats of violence will not be tolerated. If a customer or staff member is violent or makes threats of violence, the library staff will call the local police who will evict the customer from the library. Items that are commonly used for nonthreatening purposes, such as canes, knitting needles and multi-tools are permitted if they are not used to threaten or harm another. If an individual threatens or appears to threaten to use such an item to harm a person, animal and/or property, the library staff will call the local police and the individual will be evicted from the library.

Individuals, who are in possession of a prohibited weapon, as defined above, will be asked to remove the item from the building and will be provided with a copy of this policy. If the individual does not comply with the request, the library staff will call the local police.