

1104 | Fraud Prevention

Date Policy Approved: March 2017 by DeSoto Parish Library Board of Control

Fraud is defined as a willful or deliberate act with the intention of obtaining an unauthorized benefit, such as money or property, by deception or other unethical means.

All fraudulent acts or related misconduct are included under this policy and include, but are not limited to, such activities as:

- Embezzlement, theft, misappropriation or other financial irregularities;
- Forgery or alteration of documents (checks, time sheets, contractor agreements, purchase orders, other financial documents, electronic files);
- Improprieties in the handling or reporting of financial transactions;
- Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, inventory or any other asset (such as furniture, fixtures, equipment, materials), including assets of the Library, patrons, suppliers, or others with whom there is a business relationship;
- Authorizing or receiving payment for goods not received or services not performed;
- Authorizing or receiving payments for hours not worked or expenses not accrued and documented;
- Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of the Library's activities.

Fraud and related misconduct will not be tolerated. Employees found to have participated in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Board members and employees are expected to use their best efforts to recognize risks and exposures inherent to their areas of responsibility and to be aware of indications of fraud and related misconduct. Any board member or employee who knows or suspects fraud or related misconduct shall report that to the President of the Library Board or the Library Director.

When fraud or related misconduct is reported, an appropriate investigation and all necessary action will be undertaken. All investigations of alleged wrongdoing will be conducted in accordance with applicable laws and Library policies/procedures. During or following the investigation, the Board may choose to consult with legal counsel and take appropriate steps to minimize recurrence.