

# **INTERNET USAGE POLICY**

Use of the Internet at the Jefferson County Law Library's terminals constitutes an agreement to follow the Library's Computer and Internet Policy which is posted in the library, available at the circulation desk, and is published on the library's web page (lawlib.jccal.org/IUP). Each patron is responsible for reading this policy before using the Library's computers to access the Internet. The Library staff reserves the right to review usage of its public terminals for purposes of assistance, for security, and to assess conformity with the standards described in this policy. Misuse of the Library's computer equipment or Internet, and/or failure to abide by the Law Library's Internet policy, may result in the suspension of a patron's privileges.

#### DISCLAIMER

Providing access to electronic information does not imply that the Jefferson County Law Library endorses information obtained on the Internet. The Law Library exercises no control over the Internet and disclaims any responsibility or liability for the quality, accuracy, or currency of information posted. Since the Internet is largely an unregulated medium, each individual Internet user must be a discriminating information consumer and accept personal responsibility for accessing and relying on Internet information by questioning its reliability, accuracy, and currency. The Library's public terminals are to be used only for legal research purposes.

### DAMAGES/LIABILITY

Users must not load, develop, or run programs that have not been installed by the Law Library staff. Users must not destroy, deface or abuse Library equipment, hardware, software, materials or data. Users must avoid introducing computer viruses or other disruptive/destructive programs into the Library's network. These rules will help insure that the Library's computers are used only for research purposes and will also help to control the spread of viruses that could infiltrate the Library's computers and the personal computers of its patrons. Any damage to the Library's computers or peripheral devices is the responsibility of the user and deliberate and malicious damage may result in prosecution.

Downloading files from the Internet is a possible source of computer viruses so users are advised to have virus-checking software on their personal computers. The Jefferson County Law Library uses a virus-checker on its computers but this will not completely protect against all viruses. Users are responsible for any direct or indirect damages suffered from their use of the Internet. The Jefferson County Law Library is not responsible for damages to users' computers, peripheral equipment, or external drives, nor is the Law Library responsible for any loss of data, damage, or liability that may occur from a patron's use of the Library's computers.

### COPYRIGHT/LICENSING

Use of the Law Library's computers constitutes an agreement to obey all applicable federal, state, and local laws governing copyright, licensing, and content restrictions. Users are responsible for any infringement of copyright or software licenses that could result from the copying or distribution of materials found on the Internet. The Library reserves the right to terminate or restrict the user's Internet privileges for abuse of these conditions.

## **ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES**

The use of the Jefferson County Law Library's computers for unauthorized, illegal, or unethical purposes is prohibited. Patrons may not use the Library's computers to engage in any activity that is libelous or slanderous or that would offend, harass, intimidate or threaten anyone.

#### PRIVACY

Patrons must not invade the privacy of other users. Users will not save their work to the hard drive. The Library will not be responsible should subsequent users view work saved on a hard drive or on the desktop. Users must not represent themselves as another user. Users will not seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files or other data. Users will not attempt to enter or change passwords.

### ASSISTANCE

Ask for assistance at the circulation desk if you have difficulty using the computers or Internet. While the Library staff cannot offer in-depth computer training, we can give general assistance in using the terminals and will assist with suggestions regarding research databases and research queries.

### TIME LIMITS

Use of the Library's computers is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Because of the limited number of public terminals patrons will not have unlimited use of the computers and will have to terminate their research when requested by the Library staff.

#### **DIRECT CHARGES**

The Jefferson County Law Library's contract with some legal publishers restricts access to certain titles. If you try to access a title not covered under our contract, a screen may inform you that you are about to incur a charge which will be **billed to the user**. If you are unsure if you are about to go out of contract, check with a member of the Library staff.

## DOWNLOADING/PRINTING

It is the responsibility of each user to familiarize himself with the all federal, state, and local laws regarding use of the Internet, and with the copyright and licensing laws of the material they are accessing, downloading, or printing. Users may not download materials onto the computer's hard drive. Unauthorized downloaded data will be deleted on a regular basis. Patrons may bring in a personal thumb drive and copy material on to it. Some publishers have provided the means to e-mail retrieved information. There is no cost for this service.

Users may print pages from the Internet for \$0.20 per page. Pages printed, which have no legal research significance, may not be released to the patron, or if released, may incur a charge of \$1.00 per page. Price changes will be posted.

# **RESPONSIBLE USE**

Adoption of the Library's Computer & Internet Policy is meant to ensure that Internet users will behave in a manner that does not disturb other Library users, disrupt the operation of the Library, or endanger Library materials and equipment. Failure to use the computer workstations appropriately and responsibly as defined in these procedures may result in the suspension or revocation of users' computer and Internet privileges. Suspension or revocation may occur if a Library patron damages computer equipment, engages in disruptive or illegal behavior, fails to pay for computer printouts, infringes copyright laws, accesses non-legal databases, uses the computers as a word processor, saves material to the computer hard drive, or changes default settings.

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