

Armoral Tuttle Public Library Policy

Vulnerable Adult

The Library uses the definition of a **vulnerable adult** as defined by the State of Idaho Code under Section 18-1505(e):

"Vulnerable adult" means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older who is unable to protect himself from abuse, neglect or exploitation due to physical or mental impairment which affects the person's judgment or behavior to the extent that he lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate or implement decisions regarding his person, funds, property or resources.

Library staff will use their judgment and discretion to determine whether or not an adult is vulnerable or at risk of harm. The following guidelines are provided to assist Library Staff in making that determination.

The adult

- (1) appears to need staff help beyond assistance with normal library services.
- (2) is involved in a situation that is potentially harmful to the health or safety of the vulnerable adult or others.
- (3) seems to be at risk from another person at the library.
- (4) is alone, frightened and/or crying in the library.
- (5) needs assistance procuring transportation at closing time.
- (6) does not know or have the information necessary to contact someone to provide him/her with assistance.
- (7) violates the customer behavior policy but is unable to leave the library alone.
- (8) must leave the library due to an unexpected emergency (storms, power outages, etc.) and needs assistance procuring transportation.

If an adult is determined to be vulnerable or at-risk, staff will attempt to contact a responsible adult (18+ years of age). If library staff cannot contact a responsible adult, the Payette County Sheriff's Department will be notified and asked to assume care of the vulnerable adult. Library staff members are not permitted to transport vulnerable adults away from library facilities.

For any vulnerable adult remaining at closing:

1. Library Staff will attempt to contact a responsible adult.
2. If the person contacted is unable to pick up the vulnerable adult within 15 minutes of closing, the Payette County Sheriff's Department will be contacted and asked to assume care of the vulnerable adult.
3. If library staff are unable to contact a responsible adult, Library Staff will wait up to 15 minutes after closing with the vulnerable adult.
4. If the vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes, the Payette County Sheriff's Department will be contacted and asked to assume care of the vulnerable adult.