

Missing Persons Policy

It is the policy of the Woonsocket Harris Public Library to investigate all reports of missing persons and to make a reasonable effort to help locate them in the library or on library grounds. It is also the policy of the Woonsocket Harris Public Library to help support and assist in missing person investigations originating from the local community, i.e. Amber Alerts and Silver Alerts.

Missing Persons Procedure

The person in charge of the building will obtain all essential information about the person (description, clothes last worn, shoes, where subject might be, who they might be with, vehicle description, etc).

Appropriate library staff will be notified to aid in the search for the individual.

The person in charge will assign staff members to monitor entrances and exits. A quick, but thorough search will be conducted in all library areas including grounds and parking lots.

If the missing person is not located after a search of the facility, the person in charge will consult with the reporting patron and decide whether to notify the Woonsocket Police Department by either calling 911 or the police department's non-emergency phone number at 401-766-1212.

Notwithstanding the foregoing policy, if the Woonsocket Harris Public Library has information or determines that the missing person is dangerous, armed, intoxicated, under the influence of controlled substances or otherwise poses a potential danger or threat to library staff, the general public or themselves, the only steps that shall be taken by the library staff is to contact local law enforcement.

Approved by the Woonsocket Harris Public Library Board of Trustees 12/13/2023