4.0 Computers and Electronic Resources

4.1 Statement of Purpose

The Library provides free public computer access to the Internet to meet the information needs of our users and to provide residents with opportunities for learning about information technology. The Library has no control over the quality or accuracy of information found on the Internet. Users should critically evaluate its content.

4.2 Internet Safety Policy

The Internet Safety Policy of Tulare Public Library is intended to prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications.

Technology Protection Measures
The Library has technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") in place on all of its Internet accessible terminals to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act. This filtering software helps protect against access to visual depictions deemed "obscene", "child pornography", or "harmful to minors" as defined in sections 1460 and 2256 of title 18, United States Code, and section 1703, Pub. L. 106-554.   Prevention of inappropriate network usage also includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking', and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Supervision and Monitoring
It is the position of the Tulare Public Library that staff presence and use of a filtering system should not serve as a substitute for parental supervision of a minor while using the Internet. It is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to educate minors about inappropriate online behavior including cyber bullying or other improper use of social networking and chat rooms. Furthermore, minors should be warned against giving out any personal information while using the Internet, email, or other direct electronic communications to protect their safety and security. Parents are also encouraged to learn how to access the Internet along with their children, so that they may help guide the child toward appropriate and useful information. Please see the library's *Internet Safety for Parents and Minors Guidelines* for more helpful information.

Filtering Software
Filtering software is not 100% full proof. It is impossible to prevent access to all objectionable resources. Filters may not block material that should be blocked, and conversely, may block images that should not be blocked. The filtering software will not be disabled for minors.

Designated library staff may temporarily disable the filter for adult users for lawful purposes. However, if the nature of the content being viewed on the Library workstation disturbs other Library users, the viewer will be asked to cease, to use a privacy screen, or be moved to another

workstation. See also TPL Policy 7.1 Customer *Rules of Conduct*. Parents, guardians, or staff may also report an incident to the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children* at 1-800-843-5678 or local authorities if one becomes aware of the transmission of child pornography.