Theft of Library Materials

The removal of any library materials without checkout constitutes theft. If the theft detection system sounds as a person exits, he/she must wait until a library staff member has granted permission to exit.

State law permits library staff to search purses, bags, parcels, briefcases, backpacks, and other packages.

To prevent the theft of books and library materials, state law authorizes the detention for a reasonable period of any person using the facilities who is suspected of committing library theft, (California Penal Code section 490.5).