

Request for Reconsideration of Materials Form

The Livonia Public Library welcomes comments and suggestions regarding the continued appropriateness of materials in the collection, especially concerning outdated materials. Suggestions will be considered and utilized by the library in the ongoing process of collection development.

Individuals may take issue with library materials that do not support their tastes and views. Staff is available to discuss concerns and identify alternate materials that may be available. If a patron's concern is not satisfied through discussion with staff, a formal written request for reconsideration of materials may be submitted to the library director. Copies of this form are available at the circulation desk.

The Livonia Public Library is not a judicial body. Laws governing obscenity, subversive materials, or other questionable matters are subject to interpretation by the courts. Therefore, no challenged material will be removed solely for the complaint of obscenity or any other category covered by law. No materials will be knowingly added to the library collection that has been previously determined to be in non-compliance with local laws.

Challenged materials that meet the criteria for selection in the materials selection policy of the Livonia Public Library should not be removed under any legal or extra-legal pressure. The Library Bill of Rights (<http://www.ala.org/files/content/ala/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillrights.htm>) states in Article I that "Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation," and in Article II, that "Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval." Freedom of expression is protected by the Constitution of the United States, but constitutionally protected expression is often separated from unprotected expression only by a dim and uncertain line. The Constitution requires a procedure designed to focus searchingly on challenged expression before it can be suppressed. An adversary hearing is a part of this procedure.

Therefore, any attempt, be it legal or extra-legal, to regulate or suppress materials in libraries must be closely scrutinized to the end that protected expression is not abridged.

For a request for reconsideration to be deliberated, this form must be completed in full. The patron submitting the request must be a resident of the chartered area served by the Livonia Public Library and hold a valid borrower's card. The director will respond, in writing within thirty days of receipt, to the patron's request for reconsideration. The response will indicate the action to be taken and reasons for or against the request. An item will only be evaluated for reconsideration once in a twelve-month period.

Date _____

Patron's Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Do you represent: self? ____ Organization? ____

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

____ Print ____ Video ____ Magazine ____ Audio Recording ____ Newspaper

____ Electronic information/network

____ Other _____

Title _____

Author/Producer _____

2. What brought this resource to your attention?

3. Have you examined/read the entire resource?

4. What concerns you about the resource? (use other side or additional pages if necessary)

5. Are there resource(s) you suggest to provide additional information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?

Date receive by library director _____

Revised by the American Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee: June 27, 1995

Approved by:

Livonia Public Library Board of Trustees Date:

Amended: November 13, 2018