

**Subject: Reconsideration of Materials**

**Section: Service**

**Amended: October 23, 2023**

## **RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

The selection of library books and materials is predicated on the library customers' right to read, and similarly, their freedom from censorship by others. Many titles are controversial, and any given item may offend some persons. Selections for this Library will not, however, be made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the material in relation to the building of the collection and to serving the interests of the readers.

This library holds censorship to be a purely individual matter and declares that--while all are free to reject for themselves books and other materials of which they do not approve--they cannot exercise this right of censorship to restrict the freedom of others.

### ***A. General Requests for Reconsideration***

1. All requests for reconsideration shall be submitted in writing to the library on the Franklin Parish Library Request for Reconsideration of Library Material Form (See Attachment A.)
2. Requests for reconsideration may be made by any library patron. Library patron is defined as "a person residing in the parish in which the parish or municipal library is located who has reached the age of majority and who holds a library card from the library." [R.S. 25:225 B (2)].
3. The library shall make a written determination and notify the library patron.
4. Appeal(s) of these determinations can be made to the library board of control within thirty (30) days of the notification of the determination.

### ***B. Requests for Reconsideration Related to R.S. 25:225: Minors' Access to Sexually Explicit Materials***

1. All requests for reconsideration shall be submitted in writing to the library on the Franklin Parish Library Request for Reconsideration of Library Material Form (See Attachment A.)
2. Requests for reconsideration may be made by any library patron. Library patron is defined in A.2. in the preceding section.
3. Pursuant to LA R.S. 25:225, all requests for reconsideration on the basis of the material being sexually explicit as defined in the statute shall be reviewed by the Library Board of Control in an open meeting.
4. The Library Board of Control shall determine whether the library material meets the definition of sexually explicit material by majority vote in an open meeting pursuant to the requirements of LA R.S. 42:11 et seq.
5. The Library Board shall make a written determination and notify the library patron.
6. The decision of the Library Board is final.

**Request for Reconsideration of Library Material**

All fields below are required and must be completed.

Date of Submission: \_\_\_\_\_ Library Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ LA Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ LA Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ \*E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Complainant Represents:  Self  
 Organization or Group (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 School (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer to correspond in reference to this request for reconsideration of library material?  
 Email  Mail (indicate which address) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this complaint related to LA R.S. 25:225 (Access of Materials to Minors)?  Yes  No

1. Type of resource on which you are commenting:  
 Book  Audiobook  Video  
 Magazine  Newspaper  Electronic Resource  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title of Work: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author/Producer of Work: \_\_\_\_\_

3. At which library location or in which electronic resource did you encounter this material?

4. What brought this item to your attention?

5. Did you review/read the entire item? If not, what sections did you review/read?

6. What course of action do you recommend in regard to this material?

7. Please state your reasons for making this recommendation. To what in the item do you object? Please be specific: cite pages, scenes, or sections. Consider commenting on the resource as a whole, as well as being specific on the matters which concern you.

8. In its place what materials would you recommend on this topic?

**NOTE: This statement will be referred for review. You will be advised in writing of the decision after review. Thank you for your concern and input. Information submitted to a public body, such as this form, may be subject to public records requests pursuant to the provisions of the Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, et seq.**