



## REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

### Freedom to Read

The Dodgeville Public Library Board of Trustees believes that borrowing items from the library is an individual matter. While anyone is free to select or reject materials for themselves, they cannot restrict the freedom of others to read, watch, or inquire. Parents have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the reading of their own minor child(ren). The library does not stand in loco parentis.

The library contains materials presenting various points of view concerning problems and issues of our times, international, national, and local. No materials should ever be excluded because of the beliefs or characteristics of the writer nor be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval. Censorship of books, urged by morals or political opinions must be challenged by libraries in maintenance of their responsibility to provide public information and enlightenment.

Opinions may differ regarding the appropriateness of materials in any library. Resolution of conflicts between freedom of expression and information and an individual or groups wish to restrict certain materials use is often a difficult task.

### Collection Development Process

In an attempt to ensure the rights of all parties, Dodgeville Public Library has established procedures for handling complaints for or against materials housed within the library.

Dodgeville Public Library professional staff work within budget constraints to provide services and materials to all people in the community. Staff are responsible for the selection of resources for the library. The Library Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read Statement will always be important foundation statements underlying selection questions.

### Filing a Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials and the Review Process

The Dodgeville Public Library Board has established a materials selection policy and a procedure for selecting and deselecting items in the collection. If you wish to request reconsideration of a resource, please complete and return the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials Form to the Library Director.

If any part of the form is incomplete, the request for consideration will not take place. Anonymous submissions are not allowed. Additionally, due to the amount of time required for the reconsideration process, a household may only have one active Request for Reconsideration on file at a time. Reconsideration requests from individuals who do not reside in Iowa County will not be considered.

After a complaint has been lodged, the staff member responsible for the selection of materials in the collection area or genre will read and review the questioned material and research reviews and evaluations within professional literature. Recommendation for action will be referred to the Library Director and an answer will be sent to the complainant.

If the complainant is unhappy with the final decision of Library staff, they may appeal the decision to the Library Board. The Library will then procure copies of the item for each trustee. Trustees will be required to read the materials and will review the professional research compiled by library staff. The Library Board will have final decision-making power over whether the item will be removed from the collection.

**The Request for Reconsideration review process can be a months-long process. Because of this, any item under review will continue to be made available to patrons upon request until a final decision has been made.**



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Please attach additional pages if more space is needed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you represent yourself or an organization?  Self  
 Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What type of resource are you requesting reconsideration of?  
 Audio Recording  Book  Database  
 Digital Resource  DVD  Magazine  
 Newspaper  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title of Item: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Author/Producer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you read our Collection Development Policy?  Yes  No

5. Has the item won any awards?  Yes  No

6. What brought this resource to your attention?

7. Have you read, watched, or examined the entire resource? If not, what section(s) did you read/view?

8. What concerns you about this resource? Please summarize your concerns along with references to specific page/chapter numbers.

9. Are there resources you suggest to provide additional information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?

10. What action are you requesting the committee consider?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_