

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS POLICY

The choice of library materials by patrons is an individual matter. The library recognizes that some materials may be controversial or offensive to an individual, but maintains that individuals can apply their values only to themselves. Parents and legal guardians have the responsibility and right to guide the values of their children. As such, parents and legal guardians are responsible for the materials that their children borrow and should make decisions accordingly. No one can exercise censorship of others by restricting access to library materials.

The Rogers Free Library supports intellectual freedom and the right of library users to read and seek information. The Library endorses the [American Library Association \(ALA\) Freedom to Read Statement](#), [Freedom to View Statement](#), the [Library Bill of Rights](#), and all relevant [interpretations](#).

Bristol residents requesting reconsideration of library materials must complete the Rogers Free Library Request for Reconsideration form (below) in its entirety. Only signed, completed forms will be considered. The Library Director will acknowledge receipt of the form within fourteen business days. The Library Director will respond to the request for reconsideration within thirty business days.

The relevant library staff will review the library material to ascertain whether it meets the standards set forth in the library's [Collection Development Policy](#), and will make a written recommendation to the Library Director as to the validity of the request. During this process the material in question will remain on the shelf and available for circulation.

The Library Director, after reviewing the recommendation, will render a decision on taking the action requested and will notify the patron of said decision. A final appeal may be made to the [Library Board of Trustees](#).

Decisions regarding materials that are part of a series may be applied to the entire series. The library does not accept lists of items for reconsideration. Each item must be accompanied with an individually completed reconsideration form. The Library will not convene a materials review relative to the same complaint for a period of three years.

A copy of the request form without identifying patron information will be sent to the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom and the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Intellectual Freedom Committee. The request form in its entirety may be publically available per [RIGL 38-2](#).

[Click here to download the Request for Reconsideration Form](#)

Approved by the Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees 10/19/2023