

Lafayette Public Library
Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

The library welcomes citizens' expressions of opinion concerning purchased materials. Requests to remove materials or have materials identified as containing sexually explicit materials as defined by La. R.S. 25:225 will be considered within the context of Section X of the Collection Development Policy, contained herein.

Your Name (print): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Organization Represented: _____

Author/Producer: _____ Publisher: _____

Title: _____

Copyright or publication date: _____

Type of Material:

___ Book ___ Audiobook ___ DVD ___ Magazine ___ Music CD ___ Other: _____

1. How did this material come to your attention?

2. Did you read/listen/view the entire work? If not, which parts?

3. What are your concerns about the material? Be as specific as you can; list page numbers as appropriate.

4. What action are you requesting?

5. Are you claiming that the material contains sexually explicit materials as defined by La. R.S. 25:225?

Signature

Date

Thank you. Your request will be reviewed by the Library Director within 30 days of receipt.

Please send completed form to:

Library Director, Lafayette Public Library, P.O. Box 3427, Lafayette, LA 70502

Form approved by LPL Board of Control December 18, 2023 as part of the LPL Collection Development Policy.

Lafayette Public Library (LPL) Collection Development Policy

X. Request for Reconsideration of Materials

The library recognizes that some materials are controversial and that any given item may offend some patrons. Selection of materials is not made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval but solely on the basis of the principles set forth in this Policy. One objective of the public library is to reflect within its collection differing points of view. The library does not endorse particular beliefs or views, nor does the selection of an item imply endorsement of the viewpoint of the author. Library materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents.

The library welcomes citizens' expressions of opinion concerning purchased materials. Requests to remove materials or have materials identified as containing sexually explicit materials as defined by La. R.S. 25:225* will be considered within the context of this Policy. A library card holder who wishes to request that a specific item be considered for reclassification or for removal from inclusion in the collection is asked to complete and sign the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form. This form is available online or at any library location at any service desk. The questioned material and information provided on the form will be reviewed in its entirety at each step of the reconsideration process.

The form is sent to the Library Director for consideration. If the Director does not grant the request, the Director then gives the form to the library's Reconsideration Committee**. If the Reconsideration Committee does not grant the request, the Request for Reconsideration will be placed as an agenda item at a regularly scheduled board meeting. The Library Board shall determine whether the Request for Reconsideration should be granted by a majority vote in an open meeting. The Library Board's decision will be final.

Once a decision has been made regarding the retention, reclassification, or removal of the material, a letter will be sent by the Library Director to the person via email and first class mail at each step of the reconsideration process. If a Request for Reconsideration will be considered at a Board meeting, the notification letter shall issue at least 10 days prior to the Board meeting.

The Library Director, at his discretion, may identify any physical or digital material in the library as containing sexually explicit material without the receipt of a Request for Reconsideration form. Similarly, the Library Board may identify any physical or digital material in the library as containing sexually explicit material without the receipt of a Request for Reconsideration form, by majority vote in an open meeting.

*La. R.S. 25:225

3. "Sexual conduct" means any of the following:

- a. Masturbation or lewd exhibition, actual, simulated, or animated, of the genitals, pubic hair, anus, vulva, or female breast nipples.
- b. Sadomasochistic abuse, meaning actual, simulated, or animated, flagellation, or torture by or upon a person who is nude or clad in undergarments or in a costume that reveals the pubic hair, anus, vulva, genitals, or female breast nipples, or in the condition of

- being fettered, bound, or otherwise physically restrained, on the part of one so clothed.
- c. Actual, simulated, or animated touching, caressing, or fondling of, or other similar physical contact with, a pubic area, anus, female breast nipple, covered or exposed, whether alone or between humans, animals, or a human and an animal, of the same or opposite sex, in an act of apparent sexual stimulation or gratification.
 - d. Actual, simulated, or animated stimulation of a human genital organ by any device whether or not the device is designed, manufactured, or marketed for that purpose.
 - e. Actual, simulated, or animated ultimate sexual acts, whether between human beings, animals, or a human being and an animal.

4. “Sexually explicit material” means textual, visual, or audio material, produced in any medium that depicts or describes sexual conduct.

**The Reconsideration Committee is an ad hoc committee that conducts business in a closed meeting. It is composed of two library staff members appointed by the Library Director and one Library Board member.