

Trumbull Library Material Review and Reconsideration Policy

Background:

The Trumbull Library (TL) welcomes expressions of opinion concerning materials, programs or displays. In accordance with the Trumbull Library Collection Development and Management Policy, all library materials are evaluated and made accessible in accordance with the protections against discrimination set forth in section 46a-64 of the general statutes. Individuals with a vested interest to challenge any library and other educational material, display, or program must complete and submit a Request for Reconsideration Form. In accordance with Public Act 25-168 Sec. 322, 323, the Trumbull Library abides by the following statutory requirements:

- TL limits the consideration of requests to reconsider material, displays or programs to individuals residing in the town of Trumbull.
- No library material, display or program shall be removed, or programs be cancelled, because of the origin, background or viewpoints expressed in such material, display or program or because of the origin, background or viewpoints of the creator of such material, display or program.
- Library materials, displays and programs shall only be excluded for legitimate pedagogical purposes or for professionally accepted standards of collection maintenance practices as adopted in the collection development and maintenance policy or the display and program policy.
- The process for town residents to challenge any library material, display or program shall never favor nor disfavor any group based on protected characteristics.
- The individual completing a reconsideration form must include specific information about which portion or portions of such material, program or display they object to and provide an explanation of the reasons for such objection. The Request for Reconsideration Form must include the individual's full legal name, address and

telephone number. Individuals shall not submit a request for reconsideration without this information included.

- Reconsideration requests are not confidential patron records under section 11-25 of the general statutes.
- Any library material being challenged will remain available in the library according to its catalog record and be available for a resident to reserve, check out or access until a final decision is made by the library director.

Review Process:

Upon receiving the request, the Library Director, shall:

- evaluate the Request for Reconsideration Form
- read the challenged material in its entirety
- evaluate the challenged material against the Collection Development and Maintenance Policy
- make a written decision on whether or not to remove the challenged material not later than sixty days from the date of receiving such request.

The library director shall provide a copy of the library director's decision and report to the individual who submitted the form.

The final authority regarding removal or retention of library materials, programs or displays rests with the Trumbull Library Board of Trustees (Library Board). The individual who submitted the Request for Reconsideration Form may appeal, in writing, the library director's decision to the Library Board.

The Library Board, after evaluating the challenged material under the Collection Development and Maintenance Policy shall consult with the library director, State Librarian, or State Librarian's designee, a representative of the cooperating library service unit as defined in section 11-9e of the general statutes, the president of the Connecticut Library Association, or the president's designee, and the president of the Association of Connecticut Library Boards, or the president's designee who shall deliberate on such a request for reconsideration, provide a written statement of the reasons for the reconsideration or refusal to reconsider the library material, and provide any final decision that is contrary to the decision of the library director.

Once a decision has been made by the library director or the board of trustees or other governing board on the reconsideration of any library material, such material cannot be subject to a new request for reconsideration for a period of three years. The Library Director is permitted to consolidate any requests for reconsideration of the same challenged library material.

In accordance with Connecticut State law, the Trumbull Library prohibits the removal, exclusion or censoring of any book on the sole basis that an individual finds such book offensive.

Any librarian or staff member who, in good faith, implements the policies and procedures described in this policy shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding that results from such implementation.

The TL subscribes to the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, the Freedom to View Statement and supportive documents of the American Library Association.

[Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/legislation-issues/library-bill-rights)

[The Freedom to Read Statement | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/legislation-issues/freedom-read-statement)

[The Freedom to View Statement | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/legislation-issues/freedom-view-statement)

Adopted by the Trumbull Library Board of Trustees on November 12, 2025