

BP 5301 - Hammond Public Library Bill of Rights

Purpose

The purpose of the administrative *Board* policy is to cultivate organizational efficiency with procedures that ensure effectiveness. For efficiency, the *Library* is responsible for developing consistent guidelines for adequate service operations.

Guidelines that Involve the Hammond Public Library Bill of Rights and Its Service Operations

In collaboration with the American Library Association (ALA), the *Library* advocates and endorses ALA's Library Bill of Rights and its subsequent revisions and interpretations. The *Library* also encourages research and study by maintaining a public service environment that is conducive to lifelong learning, reading and literature.

The following guidelines have been established to affirm that the *Library* seeks to serve as a community forum for information and ideas, and that the following affirmations guide its service operations:

- 1) Books and other material shall provide for community enlightenment, information and interest;
- 2) Material shall not be excluded due to the origin, background or view of those contributing to its creation;
- 3) The *Library* shall provide material and information presenting different views on current and historical issues;
- 4) Material shall not be proscribed or removed due to partisan or doctrinal disapproval;
- 5) The *Library* shall not engage in censorship in the fulfillment of its responsibility to provide information and enlightenment;
- 6) The *Library* shall cooperate with persons, groups and organizations concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas;
- 7) An individual shall not be denied or abridged the right to use the *Library* due to origin, age, background or view;
- 8) The *Library* shall allow the community to use available exhibit display space and meeting rooms;
- 9) The *Library* shall allow accessibility per availability on an equitable basis, regardless of belief and / or affiliation of an individual, group or organization; and
- 10) Although the *Library* Bill of Rights are unambiguous statements of basic principles, they shall be governed in accordance with service operations