

## **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