

# Board of County Commissioners

## Leon County, Florida

### Policy No. 98-13

Title:	Materials Selection - Library
Date Adopted:	December 12, 2006
Effective Date:	December 12, 2006
Reference:	N/A
Policy Superseded	Policy No. 81-2, "Materials Selection-Library" April 28, 1981; Policy No. 98-13, Materials Selection – Library, adopted October 13, 1998

It shall be the policy of the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, that Policy No. 98-13, adopted on October 13, 1998, is hereby superseded and a revised policy adopted in its place, to wit:

- A. The Board of County Commissioners adheres to the principles adopted by the American Library Association (ALA) with respect to access to library materials, services, and resources. The ALA's Library Bill of Rights prescribes at a minimum that:
1. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background or view of those contributing to their creation.
  2. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
  3. Libraries should challenge censorship attempts made to restrict them in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
  4. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
  5. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background or views.
- B. The Library Director shall be responsible for developing materials selection guidelines based on the above principles. In addition, factors considered in the evaluation of materials or acquisitions will include, but not be limited to, the following
1. Authenticity of the media: accuracy, currency
  2. Authoritativeness
  3. Clarity of presentation: readability and technical quality

4. Social significance
5. Importance of the subject matter to the collection
6. Availability or scarcity of materials on the subject
7. Timeliness or permanence of the work: its historical value
8. Appearance of the title in special bibliographies and indexes
9. Availability of the materials elsewhere in the area
10. Literary and artistic value
11. Public demand or popular appeal

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12. Reputation and qualifications of the creators, producer, publisher, and/or author
  13. Format; changing technology
  14. Price
  15. Recommendations from reviews in mainstream media sources, and in professional library and academic publications.
- C. The Library Director shall also be responsible for implementation of a formal procedure for the general public to request review and evaluation of library materials.

Revised: December 12, 2006