

Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library Material Reconsideration Policy

The Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library adopted this Material Reconsideration Policy in accordance with AR Act 372. These guidelines fully comply with Act 372.

Challenging Library Materials

A person affected by the material to be challenged or an employee of the CCJPL may challenge the appropriateness of material available in the library. The material being challenged shall remain available throughout the challenge process.

Before a person can file a challenge, the person shall request a meeting with the library director. Before a meeting, the library director shall provide a copy of the following to a person who requests a meeting:

- Material Reconsideration Policy
- Material Reconsideration Form
- Collection Development Policy

After the meeting requested by a person challenging the material, if the person who requested the meeting wants to formally challenge the appropriateness of the material that was the subject of the meeting, the person shall complete and submit the request for reconsideration using the Material Reconsideration Form.

In conducting a review of material being challenged, the library director shall select a library committee of library personnel. The library director shall be a member of the library committee and may serve as the chair of the library committee. The library committee members who are not the library director shall have knowledge appropriate for the material being challenged and be representative of diverse viewpoints. The library committee shall determine if the material being challenged meets the criteria of selection.

Material being challenged shall not be withdrawn solely for the viewpoints expressed within the material and shall be reviewed in its entirety and shall not have selected portions taken out of context.

The library shall convene a meeting of the library committee after allowing a reasonable time for the library committee members to adequately review the material being challenged and the request submitted by the person challenging the appropriateness of

the material.

The library committee shall allow the person who submitted the request to present his or her request to the library committee.

After hearing from the person who submitted the request, the library committee shall meet to discuss the material being challenged. The library committee shall vote to determine whether the material being challenged shall be relocated within the library's collection to an area that is not accessible to minors under the age of eighteen (18) years.

A member of the library committee who votes with the majority shall write a summary of the reasons for the majority's decision. Notice of the library committee's decision shall be given by hand or by certified mail to the person who submitted the request.

If the library committee decides not to relocate the material being challenged, the person who submitted the request may appeal the library committee's decision to the executive head of the city within five (5) working days of the library committee's decision or written receipt of the library committee's decision. For a library that is funded by both a county and city, the executive head of the county or city that provides the majority of the funding for the library will be the governing body that shall review the information submitted to them and shall make a decision on the appeal within thirty (30) days of receiving the information

The decision of the governing body of the city is final. A meeting held regarding a challenge or an appeal submitted under a written policy adopted by the library shall be a public meeting and the records submitted and considered at a meeting shall be public records under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101.

Revised August 31, 2026, by the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library Board in accordance with AR Act 372.