

## Sioux City Public Library Policy

### Statement of Concern Policy

Board Approved: August 16, 2023

Sioux City Public Library welcomes all people and provides equitable access to quality resources and services. (Mission Statement, adopted by Board of Trustees, December 2022)

The Library Board of Trustees recognizes that the diversity of the collection and the Library resources may not align with everyone's point of view and could result in concerns. The Library hopes to resolve any patrons concerns in a face-to-face discussion with Library administration. This policy was developed to hear further concerns in a formal session, if needed.

1. The individual or group wishing to protest the presence of an item in the collection, a Library program, or other resource will first contact the Director in writing. The Director, upon receiving the concern, will send a written response to the concerned party within ten (10) days of receipt.
2. After receiving the Director's decision and if the concerned party wishes to carry their objections further, a Statement of Concern about Library Resources Form may be filled out and signed. **The party making the complaint must be eligible to receive a Sioux City Public Library card** and is encouraged to read, listen to, or watch the entire material in question.
3. The written concern will be taken to the Library Board of Trustees at their regularly scheduled meeting. The concerned party may appear before the Board if desired, following the Public Comment at Library Board Meeting Policy. The Board will reply within thirty (30) days in a written response. No item shall be removed from the Library collection without a court order if the Board of Trustees and Director deem it appropriate for the collection. Items will not be removed while under review.
4. If a Statement of Concern is refused, the Library resource submitted in the statement will not be submitted for review for the next two years. If there is another concern on the same resource within the two-year window, the person expressing the new concern will receive the finding of the Board of Trustees.