

# Reconsideration Procedures Update

Library Commission Meeting November 27, 2023

### **Book Bans in Texas**

- Texas had over 90 challenges of over 2,300 books, nearly double the number of attempts as the next state on the list.
- Texas had the most book challenges of any state last year, according to the American Library Association (ALA)
- According to the ALA's dataset, Florida had 35 challenges last year. California had 32 attempts, and New York saw 33.

## **APL's Collection by the Numbers**



#### **Circulation Data**

- FY2023 -- 10/01/22-09/30/23
  - Adult Print 1,745,744
  - Youth Print 2,516,489
  - Total Physical 4,266,892
  - Total Digital 956,549

#### Acquisitions Info.

- FY2023 10/01/22-09/30/23
  - 120,000 new physical items added to collection
  - 250,000 items placed on hold
  - 969,523 virtual items



### **Recent Book/Materials Challenges**

- World's Greatest Dad, DVD December 2022
- The Astrology of Sex by Sarah Bartlett March 2023
- What is an abortion, anyway? by Carly Manes November 2023







### **Reconsideration Procedures**

- Available for all staff on SharePoint
  - <u>Reconsideration Procedures</u>
  - <u>Reconsideration Request Form</u>
- Provides staff guidelines, expected timeline, professional, courteous responses with customers
- Additional resources:
  - APL's Materials Selection Policy
  - <u>COA's Freedom to Read Resolution</u>



### Reconsideration Committee, 2024

#### Committee Members:

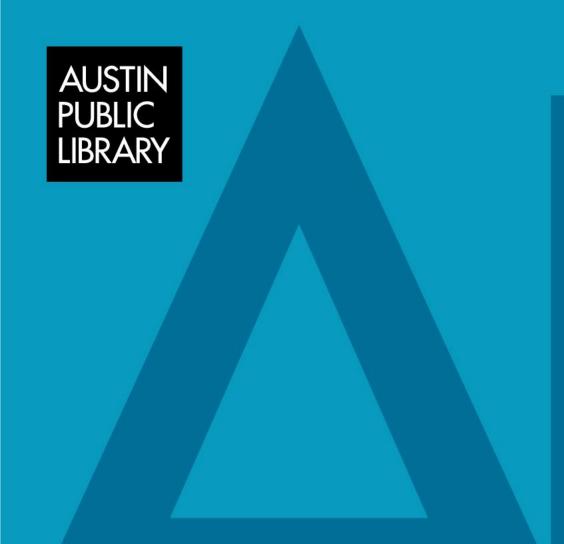
- Customer Access Division Manager
- 2 professional librarians (1 Adult & 1 Youth)
- 2 community members
- Library commission member
- EDI officer for APL, Carmaleta McKinnis-Williams

Effective Date:

• January 1, 2024

#### Expectations:

- Meet only as needed to review reconsideration requests
- ACAD team would gather data points to be evaluated
- Committee would meet to review the request and associated data
- Committee would provide a recommendation to the Library Director regarding the material(s).





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