

Geauga County Public Library
Operating Policy Manual

SECTION: STATEMENT OF ETHICS FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEES
NUMBER: 250
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 13, 2009
PAGE: 1 of 1

Revised using wording from the 1989 amendment to the ALTA/PLA Ethics Statement for Public Library Trustees (the most recent update I could find)

Trustees in the capacity of trust upon them, shall observe ethical standards with absolute truth, integrity and honor.

Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues or the situation.

It is incumbent upon any trustee to disqualify himself/herself immediately whenever the appearance of a conflict of interest exists.

Trustees must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of the institution, acknowledging the formal position of the board even if they personally disagree.

A trustee must respect the confidential nature of library business while being aware of and in compliance with applicable laws governing freedom of information.

Trustees must be prepared to support to the fullest the efforts of librarians in resisting censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.

Trustees who accept library board responsibilities are expected to perform all of the functions of library trustees

Library Trustees are bound by The Ohio Ethics Law Chapter 102 and related statutes 2921.42, 2921.421 and 2921.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Appropriate statutes are included in the Trustee Handbook provided to each trustee.

Adopted by the Boards of Directors of the American Library Trustee Association and the Public Library Association, July, 1985.

Amended by the Board of Directors of the American Library Trustee Association, July 1988 and approval of the amendment by the Board of Directors of the Public Library Association, January 1989.

Revised February 13, 2009
Approved November 21, 2000