

## Brooklyn Public Library - Contact Us Submission

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 - 10:48

**Name:** Noah

**Email:** [noahd34@gmail.com](mailto:noahd34@gmail.com)

**Barcode:**

**Question**

Hello!

I was wondering what the process was by which periodicals are selected for inclusion on library shelves, as well as whether a process existed for re-evaluating those selections.

When visiting my local branch the other day, I was surprised to see a Chinese state publication prominently displayed in the magazine area. I'd love to get some context on what informed the decision to put foreign propaganda on display.

Many thanks,  
A customer

Reply from Amy Mikel (Nov 04 2022, 11:17am):

Hello Noah-

Thank you for sharing your concerns.

BPL periodicals, as well as other materials in the library's online and circulating collections, are selected by librarians in our neighborhood branches in partnership with a team of trained selectors. We use BPL's Materials Selection policy as our guide, which you can review here: <https://www.bklynlibrary.org/use-the-library/policy/materials-selection>

Titles selected for displays are made at the discretion of the local branch librarians. Please note that while you may not be supportive of everything that the library has in its collection, we are happy to help you find something that better suits your interests.

If you'd like to issue a formal complaint to have this title re-evaluated for addition in the library's collection, you may submit a Request for Reconsideration form (found above via the link). Requests for Reconsideration are reviewed in a timely manner by our Intellectual Freedom Committee. A decision will be made and issued to you in writing should you wish to proceed.

Best,

Amy Mikel

Director of Customer Experience

**From:** Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)>

**Date:** Monday, February 6, 2023 at 3:37 PM

**To:** Noah <[noahd34@gmail.com](mailto:noahd34@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Follow up - Request for Reconsideration of Library Material

Dear Noah- we are still undertaking the review process for this item. Please hang tight about 2-3 weeks longer, hopefully the resolution will not take longer than that.

Amy

**From:** Noah <[noahd34@gmail.com](mailto:noahd34@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Monday, February 6, 2023 at 1:26 PM

**To:** Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Follow up - Request for Reconsideration of Library Material

What's the latest here please?

On Wed, Jan 4, 2023 at 4:55 PM Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)> wrote:

BPL received your official request for reconsideration form via email attachment on 12/9/22. Please allow approximately 6-8 weeks from that date for the Reconsideration Committee to thoroughly review the item in question and issue a recommendation. A written response will be mailed to the address provided.

Amy

**From:** Noah <[noahd34@gmail.com](mailto:noahd34@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 4:43 PM

**To:** Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Follow up - Request for Reconsideration of Library Material

Happy New Year!

It has now been 8 weeks since I mailed my request to reconsider NEWS CHINA, a publication of the Chinese Communist Party.

May I have an update on the status of this request?

Respectfully,

On Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 3:51 PM Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)> wrote:

Thank you. I can confirm receipt of your Reconsideration Request today 12/9. I did not receive a version of the attached form prior to today, however I did correspond with you on November 4 regarding your shared concerns.

Please allow for 6-8 weeks for a response given the upcoming holidays. You can learn more about the Library's policies and process [here](#) (Reconsideration of Materials).

--

**Amy Mikel | Director of Customer Experience**  
Brooklyn Public Library  
[bklynlibrary.org](http://bklynlibrary.org)

**From:** Noah <[noahd34@gmail.com](mailto:noahd34@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 at 3:10 PM

**To:** Mikel, Amy <[AMikel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:AMikel@bklynlibrary.org)>

**Subject:** Follow up - Request for Reconsideration of Library Material

Hello Amy,

It's been one month since I submitted the attached request to have Chinese state propaganda removed from the Library shelves.

May I please have an update on this request?

Regards,

--

Noah

--

Noah

--

Noah