Confidentiality of Identifiable Information About Library Users

Wisconsin State Statute 43.30 protects the privacy of library users. Confidentiality extends to information sought or received; materials consulted, borrowed or acquired; database search records; reference interviews; usage records; interlibrary loan records; and any other personally identifiable uses of library materials, facilities or services.

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees freedom of speech and of the press. It protects the corresponding right to hear what is spoken and read what is written, free from fear of intrusion, intimidation, or reprisal. Confidentiality is essential to protect the exercise of these rights from invasions of privacy.

The Frank L. Weyenberg Library recognizes that law enforcement agencies and officers may occasionally believe that Library records contain information that would be helpful to the investigation of criminal activity. If there is a reasonable basis to believe such records are necessary to the progress of an investigation or prosecution, our judicial system provides the mechanism for seeking release of such confidential records. The issuance of a court order, following a showing of good cause based on specific facts by a court of competent jurisdiction, is required for release of such information.

In accordance with Wisconsin law, custodial parents or guardians of children under age 16 may, upon request, review Library records pertaining to their children's use of the Library's documents or other materials, resources or services. Custodial parents and guardians must sign the Frank L. Weyenberg Library form certifying that the requester is the custodial parent or guardian of the child whose records have been requested before the Library will provide those records to the parent or guardian.