

Chmara, Theresa. *Privacy and Confidentiality Issues: A Guide for Libraries and their Lawyers*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2009. 98p. \$40.00 (ISBN: 9780838909706)

This short, library-friendly book is well organized and easy to reference. Laid out over seven chapters, the information in the book is presented in a question-and-answer format. A snapshot of state laws regarding library privacy and confidentiality is provided in an appendix. Important to keep in mind, however, that the survey of state information was completed in September 2008, and laws are subject to change. The author has spent an extensive amount of time working for and with libraries in her capacity representing the American Library Association, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and the American Booksellers Association on First Amendment-related issues.

The beginning of the book contains discussions about the instances where privacy and confidentiality arise in the normal patron use of the library. The author pays attention to the distinction between – and the need for – use policies regarding patron Internet use, video use, and materials use, especially as various local, state and federal laws differ. Court cases are scattered throughout the text, and their direct link to libraries are treated. One well-known case, *Tattered Cover, Inc. v. The City of Thornton*, which made it all the way to the Colorado Supreme Court in 2002 is discussed in some detail as well as *Board of Education v. Pico* (1982) and *FCC v. Pacifica Foundation* (1978). The appropriate response to receiving a National Security Letter, a subpoena, or a search warrant is also covered in some depth.

Privacy and confidentiality policies in libraries create a space of trust, where patrons can pursue their First Amendment rights to the receipt of information without the need to worry about action by the government that would chill the exercise of those rights. These policies are discussed in some depth in the final chapter. Some of the details covered include the creation of these policies, the library's responsibility in making this information as publicly known as possible, and a place to begin in this process. She recommends the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom as a starting point.

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