



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT POLICY

It is the policy of the Geneva Public Library District (GPLD) to permit access to and copies of public records in accordance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), balanced by the limited exemptions established by state law. . Many records, including minutes, ordinances, and financial reports are available through links on the Library's website at www.gpld.org.

I. A brief description of our public body is as follows:

- A. The Geneva Public Library District is a District Library established under the Public Library District Act of 1991, 75 ILCS 16. The Library is governed by an elected Board of Trustees consisting of seven members. Trustees are elected to serve four year terms without compensation. Trustees bear fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers of the Geneva Public Library District. The Library Director, hired by the Board of Trustees, manages day-to-day operations of the Library.
- B. The mission of the Library is: *Connecting our community to discover, inspire, and grow!*
- C. An organizational chart for the Library is attached.
- D. The working budget for the Library is attached. Funding sources are property and personal property replacement taxes, state and federal grants, fines, fees, and donations.

Tax levies are:

- 1. Corporate (for general operating expenditures)
- 2. Maintenance
- 3. IMRF
- 4. Audit
- 5. Liability insurance
- 6. Social Security

- E. The Library has one office located at this address: 227 S. 7th Street, Geneva, IL 60134.
- F. The number of full and part-time employees employed by the Library can be found at: <http://www.gpld.org/foia>.
- G. The following organization exercises control over the Library's policies and procedures: Geneva Public Library District Board of Library Trustees, which meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at the Library. For a list of Library Board Trustees and officers, please see: <http://www.gpld.org/boardoftrustees>.

II. Public records may be obtained in the following manner:

- A. The Geneva Public Library District follows the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. An individual may request the information and the records available to the public by providing their name and a means of contacting them, preferably an email address and daytime phone number. The description of the public records sought should include sufficient detail so that the Library can identify and locate the requested records. Providing as much information as possible will expedite the search process. Requests may be submitted by mail, personal delivery, fax or email.

Before submitting a FOIA request, you may wish to check the Library's website at <http://gpld.org> to see if the records you are looking for are already available online. When records are available on the Library's website, the Freedom of Information Act provides that the Library may direct the requester to the location on its website where the records can be accessed instead of providing them separately through FOIA. However, if a request is re-submitted to the Library stating that the requester is unable to reasonably access the records online, the Library will provide the requested records in accord with the Act.

- B. The following individual is the FOIA officer for the Library:

Christine Lazaris
Library Director
(630) 232-0787

Mail requests to: Geneva Public Library District, Attention: FOIA Officer, 227 S. 7th Street, Geneva, IL 60134

Fax requests to: Geneva Public Library District, Attention: FOIA Officer, (630) 232-0881

Email requests to: foia@gpld.org

FOIA requests may also be delivered in person to the Geneva Public Library District, 227 S. 7th Street, Geneva, IL

- C. Please specify whether the records requested are to be inspected at our office or to be copied. If you desire that any records be certified, please specify which ones. If inspected, a Library District employee must be present throughout the inspection. Records will be made available for inspection by appointment Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. excluding holidays at the address listed above.
- D. The Library will respond to a FOIA within the timeframes permitted under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Typically, that will be within five (5) business days of receipt of the request (with a possible five (5) business day extension). However, the Act provides for alternate response timeframes for certain types of requests. Also, the Act provides a different timeframe may be agreed upon by the person making the request the public body/Library.

A “business day” is a regular day of the week (Monday through Friday). Saturdays, Sundays and state holidays are not business days and cannot be counted in the five (5) day time period.

If a request is denied, or partially denied, the requestor will be informed in writing with reference to the specific legal reason(s) under FOIA to justify the non-disclosure.

Any denial or partial denial of a FOIA request may be appealed to the State of Illinois Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the office of the Illinois Attorney General. An appeal, or request for review, must be submitted within 60 days of the response, include a copy of the FOIA request and any responses provided by the Library, and submitted to the Public Access Counselor at:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Illinois Attorney General
Public Access Bureau
500 South Second Street
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone 1-877-299-3642

The Public Access Counselor will process the request for review in accord with the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Additional information may be obtained from the Illinois Attorney General's website at foia.ilattorneygeneral.net.

- E. Fees for the actual cost of reproducing the requested records will be charged as follows:
For traditional black and white, letter or legal-sized copies, the first 50 pages are free. Additional pages are 10 cents each.

Adopted 7.28.16

Rev. 02.20