



City of Berkeley Proclamation

IN HONOR OF LIBRARIAN WHISTLEBLOWERS

WHEREAS, Whistleblowers have long stood as champions of the First Amendment and bulwarks against wrongful misconduct, misinformation, and other abuses of institutional power which undermine the principles and tenets of a free democracy; and

WHEREAS, Libraries remain sanctuaries of thought, strongholds against public miseducation, and indispensable resources for scholars both academic and public, in the highest service of learning, intellectual freedom, cultural expression, open access to literature, art, and information; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's librarian and retired librarian whistleblowers have embodied and enacted the highest ideals of the American Library Association in displaying "leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all"; and

WHEREAS, The librarian whistleblowers have tendered an invaluable service to the community of Berkeley, by responding to the community's concerns asking important questions, providing transparent and accurate information as to the removal of 39,140 items from circulation; and

WHEREAS, Some librarian whistleblowers in their defense of the public interest have reported harassment, gag orders, and threats of termination; and

WHEREAS, The librarian whistleblowers' valiant actions have not only displayed great ethics, honesty, and integrity, but also have affirmed the City of Berkeley's commitment to and promotion of public interest and civic transparency,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Jesse Arreguin, the Mayor of the City of Berkeley hereby recognize and honor the distinguished librarian whistleblowers in their actions reflecting the values of the City of Berkeley, and proclaim

February 28th 2017 as Berkeley Librarian Whistleblower Day

Jesse Arreguin

Mayor Jesse Arreguin

February 28, 2017

