



## City of Long Beach

Working Together to Serve

## Memorandum

**Date:** May 27, 2016  
**To:** Patrick H. West, City Manager *T. Mc*  
**From:** Glenda Williams, Director of Library Services *Asst. Williams*  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** Amnesty Program at Long Beach Public Library

With the City Council's approval on March 8, 2016, the Department of Library Services offered an overdue fine amnesty program as part of its annual celebration of National Library Month in April. Patrons were given the opportunity to return all overdue materials without having to pay outstanding fines. In addition, patrons with unpaid overdue fines for materials they had previously returned could have their fines waived upon the donation of a new book to the library's collection.

The goals of the April Amnesty program were:

- Return of overdue books to make them available once again for checkout by Long Beach residents;
- Restore to good standing patron accounts so that more Long Beach residents might benefit from library resources, services and programs; and
- Add new donated books into the library's collection.

The response to this program was overwhelming and the feedback received from patrons was extremely positive. 4,055 patrons participated, returning 10,103 items with an estimated value of \$181,854. Also, 3,220 items previously considered lost were returned. These items have an estimated value of \$57,960. Additionally, the library received 2,911 new donated books to add to its collection. The total amount of overdue fines waived in during the month-long program was \$71,265.

If you have additional questions or comments regarding the overdue fine amnesty program, please contact Glenda Williams at (562) 570-6016.

GW:ml

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