

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2007 Wisconsin Act 34 [2007 Senate Bill 214]

Disclosure of Certain Library Records to Law Enforcement Officers

Current law provides that records of any library supported in whole or in part by public funds, including records of a public library system, that indicate the identity of an individual who borrows or uses the library's documents or other materials, resources, or services may not be disclosed except by court order or to persons acting within the scope of their duties in the administration of the library or library system, to persons authorized by the individual to inspect such records, to custodial parents or guardians of children under 16 years old, or to libraries for the purpose of borrowing materials for the individual.

2007 Wisconsin Act 34 requires that upon the request of a law enforcement officer who is investigating criminal conduct alleged to have occurred at a public library, the library must disclose to the officer all records pertinent to the alleged criminal conduct that were produced by a surveillance device under the library's control. In addition, if a library requests the assistance of a law enforcement officer and the library director determines that records produced by a surveillance device under the library's control may assist the officer to render the requested assistance, the library may disclose the records to the officer.

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Prepared by: Jessica L. Karls, Staff Attorney December 4, 2007

JLK:ksm