CARL LEVIN MICHIGAN

## United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-2202

October 12, 2006

Mr. Fred Kirby Benton Harbor Public Library 213 East Wall Street Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Mr. Kirby:

I would like to congratulate you and the entire staff of the Benton Harbor Public Library for being named the 2006 Federal Depository Library of the Year. Unfortunately, I am unable to join you in person for the award ceremony, but I'm delighted to offer my congratulations to all of the individuals who have worked so hard to make the Benton Harbor Public Library such an exceptional institution.

In order to ensure openness and honesty in Government, it is essential for citizens to have free access to Government documents and publications. I commend the Benton Harbor Public Library staff not only for its commitment to providing citizens with access to a wide range of Government resources, but also for presenting these resources in a manner that so directly meets the needs of the community.

You and your staff certainly deserve this national recognition for your continuing efforts to provide outstanding public service. Again, it is my honor to salute the Benton Harbor Public Library for being named the 2006 Federal Depository Library of the Year.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin