Government Publishing Office
Charter for the Depository Library Council

1. Committee's Official Designation (Title). The name of this advisory committee shall be the Depository Library Council (DLC).

2. Authority. The DLC is established by the authority of the Director of the Government Publishing Office (GPO), who has determined that the DLC is necessary and in the public interest. The DLC will apply best practices of Federal advisory committees, as much as is practicable.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities. The DLC serves in an advisory capacity to the Director of the Government Publishing Office on matters that relate to improving public access to our Government's information through the Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents:

Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP);

Cataloging and Indexing Program (C&I);

GPO's System of Online Access, GovInfo; and

National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information.

The DLC shall provide advice on policy and operational matters that provide and support services to Federal depository libraries and the general public.

4. Description of Duties. The DLC fosters dialogue between the GPO and the depository library community and other Government information stakeholders, studies issues, solicits comments, and develops recommendations for improving public access to Federal information. The Depository Library Council serves in an advisory capacity only.

5. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports. The DLC will report to the Director of the Government Publishing Office.

6. Support. GPO and the Library Services and Content Management business unit will provide funding and administrative support for the DLC to the extent permitted by law and within existing appropriations.

7. Designated Federal Officer. The Superintendent of Documents, or a designee, will serve as the Designated Federal Official (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the advisory council, committee, and working group meetings; prepare and approve all meeting agendas; attend all DLC, committee, and working group meetings; adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest; and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Director of the Government Publishing Office.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings. The DLC shall meet no more than twice a year. The Director of the Government Publishing Office may call additional meetings as may be necessary.

9. Duration. The need for the DLC to carry out its purposes is continuing.

10. Termination. This Charter shall be eligible for renewal every three years.

11. Membership and Designation. The DLC shall consist of no fewer than twelve members, who are appointed to overlapping terms by the Director of GPO. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy from an unexpired term will serve for the remainder of that term. Members will be selected based on specific needs of the Depository Library Council in order to balance those viewpoints required to effectively address activities and policy issues under consideration.

At least half of the membership shall represent employees of an FDLP library. Further, these members will represent regional and selective depository libraries, the four National Collection Service Areas, and various types and sizes of libraries. Other Depository Library Council members will represent GPO's designated communities[1] and a diverse cross section of the United States/Territories and properly reflect, as much as is possible, diverse ethnicities and racial groups; gender; geographic areas; and required expertise in the areas of information lifecycle management, education and training, and information technologies.

To maintain continuity, the immediate past-chair will be an ex-officio member of Council and serve in an advisory non-voting capacity for six months, through 30 November.

GPO actively seeks to maintain a diverse membership on the DLC to ensure the Director of the GPO is provided with impartial advice. Membership will be composed of Representative members and Regular Government Employees.

[1] The Designated Communities are a representative subset of the broader groups who provide content to and consume information from GPO's system of online access, GovInfo, including the general public and the following stakeholder groups: Academic (education/research), Data Consumer, Federal depository, and non-depository libraries, Government (Federal, state, and local), Interested Citizens, Internal GPO, Legal, News Media, Non-profits, Private Industry, and Transparency Organizations.

12. Committees and Working Groups. The GPO Director may approve the creation of DLC standing committees, as necessary to support the Council's work. The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) or a designee may create temporary working groups. Chairpersons shall be a member of the DLC. Other members of committees and working groups may be in whole or in part from the DLC. Committees and working groups shall report to the DLC; they must not provide advice or work products directly to the GPO.

14. Recordkeeping. Records of the DLC and its established committees or working groups shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying.

APPROVED _____ (GPO Director) DATE _____

Digitally signed by Halpern, Hugh N. (GPO Director)
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HUGH NATHANIAL HALPERN

Director, Government Publishing Office

Revised October 2026