

Attention
WSB & RSR "Working Group"
to which "Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust
Document" was "committed" at WSC'92....

c/o Becky Meyer & Stu Tooredeman

7-22-92

Good Morning,

Time is short for both addicts seeking recovery and NA as such, so I will be brief and concise.

Attached please find personal input to Trust Document, Group Input, and explanatory notes. All stated "viewpoints" represent facts which can be established and documented in court if need be.

We now know that there is legal precedent for a group of people (fellowship) such as ours to own and register copyrights collectively.

Perhaps, if you have a sincere desire to settle this matter without further division of the fellowship you should inform Narcotics Anonymous that the legal counsel retained by WSOinc. does NOT represent NA but represents WSOinc. For negotiation/input-factoring-in to proceed equitably, Narcotics Anonymous should be advised by an independent legal counsel, expert in intellectual property law, who resides outside of California, paid by WSC and/or WSB.

I am glad to discuss this at any time with any of you. I pray that your commitment to recovery from addiction will allow you to see that we can grow in harmony together through surrender to spiritual principles.

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THE FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS MADE TO ORIGINAL
TRUST DOCUMENT WORKING GROUP

5-16-91

...Nothing significant has happened since we first talked (late feb.'91) to bring NA together. I believe, at this point, some real healing actions must occur if Narcotics Anonymous is to remain intact.

Members aware of the facts will no longer tolerate the existing situation. More "Illicit" texts and other literature will appear. More members will be hurt. We could lose our non-profit status. Most important: fewer addicts could find recovery.

A Literature trust document that reinforces the solution rather than compounding the problem could be an honest initial effort.

SOME POINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS RE: LITERATURE TRUST

1) **for our common welfare:** A document should be written which accurately describes and formally defines the unwritten "trust" and de-facto contractual agreement that already exists. The different entities that are party to this trust and contract need to be accurately defined and characterized. The roles of these parties and their relationship should be realistically specified. This document should surpass current or past written or perceived limitations, definitions, guidelines, policy or procedure.

2) (simply stated) **NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS TRUSTS IT'S SERVICE BOARDS, COMMITTEES, TRUSTED SERVANTS AND (EMPLOYEES) SPECIAL WORKERS TO RESPONSIBLY PRODUCE(PUBLISH) DISTRIBUTE, CONSERVE AND DEVELOP IT'S PROPERTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE "ADDICT WHO STILL SUFFERS" ACCORDING TO THE SPECIFIC OPERATIVE GUIDELINE/CONTRACT IN THE 2ND, 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH TRADITIONS**

3) ... (The "property" is fellowship approved NA literature etc.)

4) The parties of a traditional trust are: Trustor (owner), Trustee, and beneficiary. In this case Narcotics Anonymous (the unorganized spiritual fellowship) owns the property and is the Trustor. All of the property is a vehicle to carry the "message"

that fulfills an NA member's program in step 12, and defines an (NA) group's primary purpose in tradition 5. The Trustee is composed of an agent:WSOinc. who is employed by (service boards and committees directly responsible to Narcotics Anonymous) the ASC's, RSC's, WSC & WSB.

The Beneficiary is any recipient of the NA message contained in these vehicles defined as property (the addict who still suffers).

5) The reality of our situation and therefore the wording of this document may be cumbersome for the secular legal system, however, it is the responsibility of that legal system to accommodate us - not the other way around.

6) [reiterated] the fellowship Narcotics Anonymous creates the property and wishes it to be given to those who need it. Service boards and committees (ASC's, RSC's, WSC & WSB) and their agent WSOinc. package the property and offer it for use according to the direction of the fellowship. Addicts who still suffer acquire the property from the agent and use it to their benefit.

7) A (real) "trust" already exists: the preceding is accurate description of that trust. --- Document is only formalization.

8) Whether this trust is formalized or not whenever the spirit of the trust is broken the owner/trustor will assign different "trustees" to achieve goal of gifting "property" to beneficiary.

Lit.Trust general input (to original working group)
6/20-21/'91

(Proposed) Lit.Trust Background Statement - Introduction

During the years between 1978 and 1982 Narcotics Anonymous began the process of self-definition and maturity that would allow our Fellowship to become a significant worldwide force for recovery from addiction. A relatively small group of people, ordinary recovering addicts, developed our fellowship's first significant item of property - our Basic Text - the book entitled Narcotics Anonymous. This collection of NA members worked as part of the literature sub-committee of the world service conference. The Four major writing/editing literature conferences were located both centrally and at geographical

extremes across the fellowship so that the maximum number of NA members could attend and participate.

Every NA member who wanted to help write our book had the opportunity. The committee eventually numbered in the hundreds of active participating members. Each had a role and a voice in the content of our basic text. During this time these members and the fellowship of which they were representative developed a trust bond with the service structure that the results of their work would be used in the same spirit and manner it was developed. This is the basis and foundation of the Literature Trust Document.

(LETTER FROM AN NA GROUP TO THE CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL)

We are a "group" a local chapter of the spiritual fellowship Narcotics Anonymous. As a discreet unit, an autonomous but integral part of this fellowship we wish to clearly state that we are part_owners in each and every item of "Intellectual Property" that belongs to Narcotics Anonymous, and we do not assign or give ownership of any item of this "Intellectual Property" to any service board or committee of Narcotics Anonymous.

All service boards and service committees of Narcotics Anonymous are defined by one principle; the Ninth Tradition of Narcotics Anonymous..."N.A. as such ought never to be organized, but we may create service boards and committees, directly responsible to those they serve."

Our group has but one ultimate authority, a loving God as He may express himself in our Group Conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern. All Narcotics Anonymous service boards and committees are theoretically composed of these trusted servants who do not govern.

"THE FELLOWSHIP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRUST" is a legal document proposed to the World Service Conference of N.A. by the World Service Board of Trustees. In this legal document the "Parties" of the trust are: Trustor (owner) _ World Service Conference of N.A., Trustee _ World Service Office of N.A., and Beneficiary _ Fellowship (Groups) of N.A. This is **wrong**; the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous_the groups of Narcotics Anonymous own all of the property of Narcotics Anonymous. Therefore, this document, as proposed, is invalid. There are many other errors and misrepresentations in the document but this one major flaw is the basis of our severe objection to the document and our refusal to be legally bound by it.

We also wish to state that the World Service Conference,

the World Service Board of Trustees, and the World Service Office Board/WSO inc. have regularly and intentionally compromised the spiritual principles stated previously (2nd & 9th Traditions of N.A.) as well as the seventh Tradition which states our principle of self_support. The spiritually based, non_governing, directly responsible, inclusive service boards and committees which once characterized N.A. world service no longer exist. In their place are business_ oriented, bureaucratic, power centers manipulating information and "services" through clever propaganda and political control. We refuse to lend them credibility. The "decisions" of the world service conference bear little or no resemblance to the group conscience of Narcotics Anonymous. The trustees, in the name of expediency, regularly compromise those very principles they are trusted to guard; the Traditions. And the office funds all of this disservice through selling "products", our literature, which was written as a gift to benefit all addicts seeking recovery. Each of these world service entities presents the fellowship polished propaganda as justification. We are not fooled. The nature of N.A. world services in 1992 renders any "decision" made at the world service conference, any decree made by the board of trustees, any legal action taken by the world service office null and void, and not binding on the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

We suspect, regretfully, that where there is smoke there may also be fire; perhaps, while violating the spiritual principles of N.A. service, members of our office board or staff chose also to violate the law. Our basic text, the book Narcotics Anonymous has generated millions of dollars in cash_flow for the WSO inc.. Our requests for an unbiased audit have been uniformly refused. We pray no_one has used N.A. dollars for their personal gain but we are not naive. Narcotics Anonymous is a non_profit fellowship; we need for our office to be above reproach as regards our non_profit status.

In summary, neither N.A. world services in general, nor The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust specifically, are representative of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous or the spiritual principles upon which that fellowship is based. We, as part of Narcotics Anonymous will not assign any of our "Intellectual Property" to, nor be bound by, any decisions of any world service board or committee of N.A., until such time as these bodies embrace the spiritual guidelines of Narcotics Anonymous service: The Twelve Traditions.

(THE NEW WATERFORD GROUP OF NA)

PERSONAL OBSERVATION/EXPERIENCE

I participated in discussions held at MRLCNA in Harrisburg, Pa. in February, 1991.

The purpose of these discussions was to heal the division in the Narcotics Anonymous fellowship which resulted in case #907631 before the Eastern District Federal Court. We were to be part of a working group that was drafting an Intellectual Property Trust document which would accurately describe the origin, ownership, and purpose of Narcotics Anonymous literature and the bond of trust between the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous and it's service boards, committees, and service office.

The participants in these discussions were: George Hollohan, Stu Tooredman, Bo Sewell, David Moorhead, Oma Jackson, Jim E Miller, and Kathleen Miller.

Stu Tooredman clearly stated during these discussions that WSO Inc. would not suggest any definitive action regarding the copyrights on NA literature during WSC '91. Mr. Tooredman re-affirmed his promise during a conference call April 19, 1991. When suggestions were made regarding WSO's reference at WSC '91 to work in progress on literature-copyrights and this trust document He responded, "...we'll keep things status quo until we get finished..."

Mr. Tooredman broke his promise when, during the WSO Inc. report to WSC '91, he called upon attorney Terry Middlebrook to address the conference regarding copyrights. Subsequently, Mr. Tooredman initiated the motion that the conference re-affirm WSO inc.'s "exclusive rights" to copyright and publish NA literature.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim E Miller

MY PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTENTION WITH THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRUST DOCUMENT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) IN ALL OF OUR DISCUSSIONS, WE WERE TOLD THAT A DRAFT PROPOSAL OF THE DOCUMENT WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FELLOWSHIP FOR REVIEW. MEMBERS WOULD BE GIVEN A PERIOD OF TIME FOR THE FELLOWSHIP TO MAKE COMMENTS AND GIVE INPUT

THAT COULD BE DRAFTED INTO THE FINAL FORM BEFORE THE DOCUMENT WOULD BE AGAIN DISTRIBUTED TO THE FELLOWSHIP FOR APPROVAL (OR DISAPPROVAL) .

2) THE ORIGINAL TRUST DOCUMENT WORKING GROUP CONTAINED TWO OF THE ORIGINAL "AUTHORS" OF THE BASIC TEXT. THEIR IDEAS CONCERNING THIS TRUST WERE DISCARDED WITHOUT FIRST OFFERING THESE IDEAS TO THE FELLOWSHIP FOR CONSIDERATION. ALL OF THE CONSIDERED INPUT FROM THE ORIGINAL GROUP SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FELLOWSHIP FOR CONSIDERATION.

3) NOWHERE IN THE TRUST DOCUMENT IS THERE PROVISION FOR THE FELLOWSHIP TO ACQUIRE INFORMATION REGARDING FULL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF MONEY GENERATED BY SALES OF LITERATURE AND OTHER PROPERTIES. WE REQUEST A FULL INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDIT. IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS FOR WSO, Inc. (As every group does when it announces Basic Texts or other literature for sale), WE NEED TO KNOW:

A) FINANCIAL RECORDS PERTAINING TO:

1. TRAVEL OF WSO STAFF
2. TRAVEL OF WSC, WSO, and BOD EXPENDED TO WSO, Inc.
3. ALL OTHER TRAVEL OF NA MEMBERS EXPENDED TO WSO, Inc.

B. RECORDS EXPLAINING THE REASONS FOR THE TRAVEL AND THE GOALS ACCOMPLISHED.

4) THE CURRENT "LEGAL" (albeit fraudulent) REGISTRATION OF COPYRIGHTS ON N.A. LITERATURE DEMEANS THE SELFLESS SERVICE OF THOSE MEMBERS WHO WRITE AS PART OF THEIR PERSONAL 12th STEP "WE TRIED TO CARRY THIS MESSAGE TO ADDICTS..." THERE IS A MORE ACCURATE WAY TO DESCRIBE OUR GIFT TO THE ADDICT WHO STILL SUFFERS.

5) ONE OF THE REASONS TO DRAFT THIS DOCUMENT IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS THE QUESTION OVER THE EXCESSIVE COST OF OUR LITERATURE. THIS DOCUMENT NOT ONLY DISALLOWS THE FELLOWSHIP THE ABILITY TO HELP DETERMINE THE PRICE OF ITS LITERATURE, BUT PLACES COMPLETE CONTROL OF PRICING IN THE HANDS OF WSO, Inc.

POSITION PAPER (DRAFT)

A member at WSC '92 stated "...your ideas are respected by

many here, however, your methods are unacceptable." To all of you who may embrace this feeling: We have worked in and through the existing structure for the last ten years, only to have our characters assassinated, our ideas ridiculed (the same ideas shared by the vast majority of the informed fellowship), our service discredited, our recoveries threatened, and our input/comments discarded or ignored. Some of us have even had our lives and families threatened with physical harm, or even outright been attacked. For us to continue to work through the existing structure would be pointless and insane. WE HAVE BEEN LEFT NO ALTERNATIVE - WE LOVE AND NEED THIS FELLOWSHIP ENOUGH TO FIGHT FOR IT. WE WILL NOT GO AWAY.

OUR PRIMARY THESIS

ALL N.A. LITERATURE BELONGS TO (IS OWNED BY) NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - THAT IS, N.A. GROUPS, AND MAY BE USED BY THOSE GROUPS - (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS) AS THEY SEE FIT. The copyrights on our Basic Text have been registered not only improperly, but FRAUDULENTLY: The book was not written as a work "made for hire," but written by N.A. members as part of "we can only keep what we have by giving it away" and "we tried to carry this message to others." The copyrights cannot, and never will be "owned" by any other entity than Narcotics Anonymous. The copyrights were entrusted to WSO, Inc. as a fiduciary. WSO, Inc. has flagrantly ignored and superceded its fiduciary responsibilities. The "trust" has been broken. WSC & WSB have condoned and reinforced this activity. If WSC & WSB cannot do something corrective about this situation, we can, we will, and we are.

in dedicated and loving service,

Those N.A. members involved supportively
with the "Motion to enforce or vacate"
the order of Eastern District Federal Court.