

Statement of Censure

After extensive thoughtful prayer and meditation as well as considerable consultation, as members of this 44th General Service Conference, we find no alternative but to make the following statement:

Our Concepts state that ultimate authority should practically never be used in full, except in an emergency.

We have an emergency. There is a need to take action.

Delegated authority **has** gone wrong. It has **repeatedly** exceeded its spiritual scope and purpose. The General Service Board is responsible to oversee AAWS, Inc. AAWS, Inc. is responsible for the operations and employees at the General Service Office.

Acutely aware of the seriousness of these words, we nonetheless request that this 44th General Service Conference formally censure the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous for not fulfilling its responsibility to oversee AAWS, Inc. As a part of this censure statement, we hereby request that the General Service Board forward to all members of the General Service Conference, a comprehensive plan which will achieve the following course of action:

- I. Review the need for a Services Director at GSO, New York. If that need is so determined, redefine specific areas of responsibility.
- II. Use whatever means necessary to bring together the members of the 44th General Service Conference as soon as possible, location need not be New York City. This gathering should be brief and include newly elected AAWS, Grapevine and General Service Board members, as well as those who recently rotated off these same boards. (As Gary Glynn stated at the April, 1994 General Service Conference, there are spiritually sound reasons to utilize the Reserve Fund.)

This plan is to be forwarded to ALL Conference members no later than September 1, 1994.

To quote Concept II - "The power of the groups and members to alter their world service structure and to criticize its operation is virtually supreme. They have all the final responsibility and authority that there is. The operation is really theirs, they really own it. This has been true ever since the groups took over from the founders and old-timers at St. Louis in 1955."

This Conference, as those who came before us, is mandated to be the active voice and effective conscience of our whole Society. Let us not shirk that responsibility entrusted to us. It is with sadness, but firm resolve, that we hereby affix our names by letter (fax or proxy).

May God guide us all.

References:

Article 4, The Conference Charter sub paragraph 5 & 6
Article 11, The Conference Charter paragraphs 1,2,3
Concept II, page 10, paragraph 1 "
Concept III, page 14, paragraph 4; page 15, paragraph 2,4
Concept X, page 44, paragraph 2; page 45, paragraph 1,3
Concept XI, page 56, paragraph 2,4

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