



Al-Anon Family Groups
Southern California World Service
10073 Valley View Street, #260
Cypress, CA 90630

To Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups of Southern California:

The Board of Trustees determined that the Al-Anon fellowship should take all necessary steps to provide a safe environment for Alateens and the Al-Anons involved with Alateen service. Therefore, it passed the 2003 Alateen Motion, a legal resolution of the Board. (see www.al-anon.org/member to view the Alateen e-manual for complete text of the 2003 Alateen motion)

Motion 12 of the 2004 World Service Conference affirmed that the minimum safety and behavioral requirements for Alateen were put into effect in December 2003 (see 2004 and 2005 World Service Conference Summaries for additional background). CA(S) agreed and affirmed the 2003 Motion in October 2004 at a Special Assembly.

Yet, in January 2012, CA(S) was informed by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees that the Southern California Alateen Conference (SCAC) failed to comply with the 2003 Motion. Failure to comply would result in the loss of the use of the Alateen name. The immediate response of CA(S) was to create an Alateen Task Force to address the non-compliance issues, and to create mandatory Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) workshops, using WSO approved materials, to educate the AMIASs about Alateen safety.

In 2013, SCAC affirmed the current SCAC Bylaws, which outlined their own requirements to produce a safe event. One of the requirements is a detailed event plan that includes, but is not limited to: meeting topics, time schedules, who is eligible to attend SCAC, disciplinary procedures, and a commitment to zero tolerance policies with regard to weapons, alcohol, and drug possession and/or use at SCAC.

Four years have passed since the affirmation of the SCAC Bylaws, which include safety and behavioral requirements, and many of the same safety issues still exist in CA(S) that continue to be ignored at SCAC and SCAC-related events. CA(S) takes the 2003 Motion from the Board of Trustees seriously and is committed to providing a safe environment not only for the Alateens and AMIASs, but to protect and nurture the Alateen program itself.

The Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017, page 87 states, *"In order to use the Alateen name, the Area, all Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service, all Alateen members, and all meetings and events with Alateen participation must be in compliance with the Area's Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements."* Due to numerous violations at SCAC over the past four years, including non-compliance with the 2016 Event Plan, authored by SCAC, CA(S) has suspended all support of SCAC, effective immediately. This includes, but is not limited to: any SCAC fundraising and/or any AMIAS support.

The suspension of all CA(S) support of SCAC was discussed at the Sunday, September 18, 2016, SCAC Work Group turnover meeting. The SCAC Work Group is comprised of SCAC Committee members, SCAC Sponsors, SCWS Board members, and a past Delegate. At this meeting, an Alateen Conference Restructuring Work Group was established, composed of an equal number of Al-Anon and Alateen members, whose work begins immediately.

The Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017, page 190, Concept Five states *"The rights of appeal and petition protect minorities and insure that they be heard."* The Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017, page 191 states, *"It should be noted that while minorities, whether groups or individuals, have the right to be heard, it does not mean that the action in question will be delayed while the petition or appeal is being considered, nor does it guarantee that the decision will be overturned."*

CA(S) will hold an Area-wide meeting to discuss the future of Alateen, including Alateen meetings and events in CA(S), with voice for all Al-Anon and Alateen members, on November 5, 2016 from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm at:

Faith Presbyterian Church, 5000 Colfax Ave, Valley Village, CA 91601

Yours in Service,

CB S.
SCWS Area Chairperson
chairperson@scws-al-anon.org

Elizabeth K.
SCWS Area Delegate
delegate@scws-al-anon.org

Tarisa R.
Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator
alateen@scws-al-anon.org