

GUIDELINES FOR THE ORANGE COUNTY AREA SERVICE OFFICE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Final November 2025

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The Twelve Concepts and Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous shall guide the Orange County Area Service Office.

NAME AND AREA

The Orange County Area Service Office of Narcotics Anonymous is also known as the OCASO or ASO. The ASO primarily serves the Orange County area. It is, however, open to any NA member, group, or the public.

OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSE

The objective of the ASO shall be to provide services to members of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and to the public. The purpose is to help make available the program of recovery that has been developed by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. This may be accomplished through the distribution or selling of literature and other merchandise through the ASO. The ASO, in the spirit of unity, will work with other area committees to accomplish this objective.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS

- A. Maintain an office or location, centrally located, that is available to act as a sales office or distribution point for NA literature and merchandise.
- B. The ASO will be open on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Set up to be from 2-3 pm, board meeting from 3-4 pm, and open from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm to sell literature and accept orders. 2nd Sunday orders will be available for pickup until 6:30 pm, so money can be collected and receipts given by that time in order to begin cash closing and balancing. Occasionally, the actual day of sale may be changed due to holidays.
- C. The ASO will maintain an adequate supply of literature and merchandise to meet the overall needs of the members of Orange County NA.
- D. The ASO may provide literature and merchandise at various NA functions throughout the year on behalf of the NA fellowship.
- E. The ASO is responsible for printing and selling Orange County Area directories, which is currently done every even month to save the expense of printing costs.
- F. The ASO will be responsible for approving all artwork with any NA logo or trademarks used on shirts, flyers, etc., per ASO, ASC, ASC Activities, RSO, and WSC guidelines.

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MEMBERS OF THE ASO

The Orange County Area Service Office is a legal non-profit corporation. The ASO has a Board of Directors consisting of (9) nine Directors. Six (6) of these Directors are elected from within the ASO. Three (3) of these Directors are elected through the Orange County Area Service Committee (ASC). All nine Directors have a vote on ASO matters except for the Chair unless in the case of a tie.

- All Executive Board Members must have at least two (2) years clean.
- The ASO Executive Board is composed of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Vice Treasurer, and Secretary.
- All board members are required to sign a financial agreement.
- Anyone is welcome to volunteer to work in the ASO at the discretion of the ASO Board.

DEFINITIONS

- Officers: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer (Bylaws, Section 7.01)
- Executive Board members: Officers plus Vice Treasurer
- Direct-Elect members: Three people elected by the Area Service Committee
- Board of Directors (Directors): All nine Board members (Officers plus Literature/Merchandise Director plus Direct-Elect members)

TERMS OF OFFICE

- The Vice Chairperson, Vice Treasurer, Lit/Merchandise Director, and the three (3) Directors that are elected by the Area Service Committee (ASC) shall serve one (1) year each.
- The Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve two (2) years each.
- No Director may serve for more than six consecutive years.
- For additional information regarding the Terms of Officers, see (Bylaws, Section 6.04).

REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

A Director may be removed from office due to relapse, misappropriation of funds, lack of participation, participation or attendance violations (unexcused absences in excess of two meetings per year), inability to perform position responsibilities, the conviction of a felony while a Board member or by being declared of unsound mind by a court. No Director shall be removed without just cause. See the section titled “Quorum” below for voting guidelines.

For additional information regarding the Removal of Officers, see (Bylaws, Section 6.06).

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BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

Business meetings for the ASO are held beginning at 3 pm, following the set-up of the room for sales and wrapping up by 4 pm in order to staff each position on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the location or office of the ASO. All Board members are required to attend. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate attendance records. Business meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

A special meeting may be called by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, or two (2) Board members when necessary. Each Board member must be contacted with correct information regarding the time and location of the meeting.

Action without a meeting may be taken if all Board members are contacted in writing, by email or text, and are given the same specific information that needs to be addressed. This shall be done using a simple majority of the respondents within a 48-hour window. This will determine if consent will be given to the action needed.

All members of the Board of Directors are expected to attend all semi-annual inventories and guideline reviews. Regarding check signatures, two (2) signatures (or initials of the second signer on the check stub) will be required for the check in the amount of five hundred dollars or more.

QUORUM

Any five (5) of the current Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If five Board members are not available (because various positions remain unfilled), then a simple majority of directors in attendance will vote on those matters. A quorum should also be used in special meetings or in situations where action without a meeting is being used, if possible. A quorum of five is needed for the removal of any Director.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elections of the Directors are to be held annually, with nominations in October and elections in November, unless a replacement is needed to be voted in. All Outgoing and Incoming Board members are required to attend the December meeting for mandatory training. There is a minimum requirement to attend 3 consecutive ASO meetings to qualify for election to a board position.

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CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

The Chairperson must have at least three (3) years of clean time. Must have served in previous executive board positions for a minimum of (2) years in Narcotics Anonymous. The position is a two (2) year term. The Chairperson may be voted in for an additional one (1) year term but cannot be the Chairperson for longer than three consecutive years.

Duties of the Chairperson:

- A. Provides meeting agenda.
- B. Presides over the business meeting in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- C. Signs on the ASO bank account & may act as an online banking liaison.
- D. Work with Bank and subcommittee chairs to set up new signature cards as needed for ASO, ASC, Dare to Care, Activities & Learning Day.
- E. Provides ASC with a verbal and written report on ASO business, including a financial summary from Quick Books.
- F. Cannot make motions at regular business meetings and only votes in case of a tie vote.
- G. May nominate people to become Directors and may vote for Directors.
- H. Coordinates with other Board members for staffing for sales at various events.
- I. Remains until all monies have been counted at the close of business; the Chair needs to know the dollar amount to be deposited for verification purposes (or vice chair if the chair is not available).
- J. Is the single point of accountability for the Area Service Office.
- K. Orders OC meeting directories for all groups.
- L. Orders printing of various reorder forms (meeting supply and special order).
- M. Ensures mail pick up from the post office box within 72 hours prior to the ASC meeting.
- N. Attends ad-hoc meetings regarding subcommittees as the ASO representative and has a vote toward the outcome.
- O. Knows the location of assets and agreements, knows who to contact for information regarding all business and government entities, various filings, and reporting and maintains all corporate officer forms (i.e., update as needed).
- P. Finds ways to run this business more successfully, in a way that is reflective of our traditions and concepts, by monitoring our efficacy.
- Q. Is responsible for managing the ASO staff in a respectful and effective manner.
- R. Is expected to answer phone calls & emails as a representative of NA/ASO, with a contact number on the directory cover, and maintain the ASO email communications.
- S. Properly trains the Vice Chair to take over the position.

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VICE CHAIRPERSON

The Vice Chairperson must have at least three (3) years of clean time. The position is a one (1) year term. The Vice Chairperson may be voted in for up to two additional one (1) year terms but cannot be the Vice Chairperson for longer than three consecutive years.

Duties of the Vice Chairperson:

- A. Trains on all duties of the Chairperson.
- B. Assumes duties of the Chairperson if the Chairperson is absent. When acting as the Chairperson, is bound by the same guidelines as the Chair.
- C. Must have a willingness to step up to fill the Chair position.
- D. Signs on the ASO bank account.
- E. Can vote on all matters, except when acting as chair.
- F. May be needed for staffing at sales at various events.
- G. Handles the purchasing of literature from World or Regional Office if the Literature/Merchandise Director is unable to complete this task.
- H. Coordinates semi-annual inventories of all literature and merchandise.
- I. Chairs the annual Guideline Review meeting of the ASO, typically in April.
- J. Works with the chair on annual tax filings.
- K. Understands and stays current with the treasurer on quarterly sales tax and other “calendared” legal and business tasks.
- L. Monitors the legal and financial calendar.
- M. Works with each Board member to create and maintain a book with Standard Operating Procedures for all business operations.
- N. Is familiar with QuickBooks.
- O. Included in answering phone calls & emails as a representative of NA/ASO, with a contact number on the directory cover, and maintaining the ASO email communications.
- P. Assists chair in the updating of State of Calif Dept of Corporations officer registration (online) which is done if chair or secretary changes. THIS WILL NEED TO BE DONE BEFORE ANY BANK ACCOUNT CAN BE UPDATED. BANK MUST HAVE CURRENT COPY (SOI 100).
- Q. Alternates with Chair to complete all business on Area Sunday, including the responsibility to stay until all money has been counted and recorded for deposit and everything is put away and locked up.

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SECRETARY

The Secretary must have at least two (2) years of clean time. The position is a two (2) year term. The Secretary may be voted in for an additional one (1) year term but cannot be the Secretary for longer than three consecutive years. The Secretary must have access to a computer and printer.

Duties of the Secretary:

- A. Takes minutes at ASO business meetings and special meetings.
- B. Provides copies of minutes to all members present at each business meeting.
- C. Shall keep a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws as amended to date.
- D. Is responsible for all correspondence from the ASO to Board members, NAWS, the RSO and outside enterprises (excluding literature orders-which the records are to reside with the Literature/Merchandise director.) The Secretary will maintain copies of all correspondence in Secretary Notebook.
- E. Is responsible for keeping copies of business license, State Board of Equalization license, insurance and certificate of occupancy if applicable.
- F. Is responsible for maintaining the Secretary Notebook. The Secretary Notebook is to contain each month's minutes, including the Secretary's typed minutes. It should also have copies of all licenses as referenced in "E" above.
- G. Is responsible for maintaining attendance records of all members in attendance on monthly minutes.
- H. Is to maintain an accurate contact list/roster of all Board of Directors and have copies available for all members.
- I. Is familiar with Robert's Rules of Order.
- J. Ensures the following are available at every meeting: the Secretary Notebook, Articles of Incorporation, and By-Laws.
- K. Purges records as necessary from Secretary folder into archives filing cabinet.
- L. Signs board resolution sheets attached to any new bank signature card (per bank rules).
- M. May work with chair or treasurer on updating any of our accounts (usually done starting January).
- N. Manage the shared digital drive and ensure all executive board members have access.

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TREASURER

The Treasurer must have at least three (3) years of clean time. The position is a two (2) year term. The Treasurer may be voted in for an additional one (1) year term but cannot be the Treasurer for longer than three consecutive years. The Treasurer must have a verifiable source of income and disclose any garnishment or levies against them.

Duties of the Treasurer:

- A. Is responsible for all monies that the ASO generates; oversees bank deposits and deposits all monies within 72 hours of receipt.
- B. Must maintain accurate financial records at all times.
- C. Must have working knowledge of QuickBooks and general accounting.
- D. Manages the ASO checkbook and maintains accurate records on check receipts for accounting.
- E. Pays bills on time, and ensures stamps and envelopes are available for mailing.
- F. Maintains accurate signature cards at the bank.
- G. Signs on ASO bank account.
- H. Maintains an accurate count of the cash box and coin supply.
- I. Reconciles bank statements and provides reconciliation report to ASC and ASO when requested.
- J. Creates invoices for groups and subcommittees according to pricing guidelines.
- K. Provides all necessary information for the accountant to file annual tax returns and documents completely and on time.
- L. Provides ASO with budget and balance sheet as needed.
- M. Provides all data needed if an outside service is hired.
- N. Maintains QuickBooks backup on the shared drive, and on a flash drive to be held by another board member(s).
- O. Provides up-to-date order forms to the chair for printing as needed.
- P. Trains Vice Treasurer.
- Q. Oversees set-up of the computer and opens QuickBooks to begin with bank account work.
- R. Enters invoices from suppliers, including ASO, H&I and PR orders.
- S. May communicate with Bank regarding the account to include fees and stock of checks and deposit slips.
- T. Alternates with Vice Treasurer to complete all business on Area Sunday, including the responsibility to stay until all money has been counted and recorded for deposit.
- U. Maintains a prudent reserve of \$1,500.00.
- V. Maintains accurate inventory list in QuickBooks.
- W. Is familiar with Robert's Rules of Order.

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VICE TREASURER

The Vice Treasurer must have at least two (2) years of clean time. The position is a one (1) year term. The Vice Treasurer may be voted in for up to two additional one (1) year terms but cannot be the Treasurer for longer than three consecutive years. The Vice Treasurer must have a verifiable source of income and disclose any garnishment or levies against them.

Duties of the Vice Treasurer:

- A. Trains on all duties of the Treasurer.
- B. Assumes all Treasurer duties in the absence of the Treasurer.
- C. Signer on ASO bank account.
- D. Must have a willingness to step up to fill the Treasurer position.
- E. Sets up the computer and other room needs for business on Area Sunday.
- F. Verifies cash counts.
- G. Assists the Treasurer as needed.
- H. Alternates duties with the Treasurer to ensure proper training, including cash register and closing/end of day balancing procedures.
- I. Knowledge of QuickBooks and basic accounting.
- J. Assists treasurer in maintaining current order forms and updating as tax, price or availability of items change.
- K. Organizes, purges, and files the records in the treasury portable file box. Purged files should be moved to archives file cabinet as necessary.

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LITERATURE/MERCHANDISE DIRECTOR

The Literature/Merchandise Director must have at least two (2) years of clean time. The position is a one (1) year term. The Literature/Merchandise Director may be voted in for up to two additional one (1) year terms but cannot be the Literature/Merchandise Director for longer than three consecutive years. Access to computer, printer, and email are required for this position.

Duties of the Literature/Merchandise Director: Literature

- A. Orders literature and merchandise from appropriate supplier based on sales and inventory in ASO.
- B. Determines what supplies are needed by referencing sales details provided by treasurer and maintains current inventory.
- C. Is responsible for picking up monthly merchandise order and invoice from supplier (or arranging for shipment) & delivering order/invoice to ASO.
- D. Provides Treasurer with reconciled packing slip for computer inventory input. E. coordinates bundling of all IPs with rubber bands with help from other members.
- E. Places special orders as needed.
- F. Gets final corrected invoice or makes adjustment as needed with RSO so that order balances with invoice submitted to treasurer.
- G. Is the single point of accountability with representative from current supplier.
- H. Collects copies of all literature orders received and invoices on a monthly basis.

Duties of the Literature/Merchandise Director: Merchandise

- A. Helps get quotes from vendors on NA-related merchandise i.e., t-shirts, mugs, pens, etc. A minimum of two quotes is required.
- B. Informs ASO Board members of quotes, specifications, etc. and gets approval to place an order.
- C. Places orders with outside vendors to produce merchandise as needed.
- D. Arranges transfer of merchandise to member for sale at event.
- E. Keeps accurate records of merchandise bought and sold at events for future reference for purchasing and provides receipts to Treasurer.
- F. Maintains a vendor log of contact information, phone numbers, etc.

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DIRECT ELECT MEMBER

Any Direct Elect member (as elected by the ASC body) must have at least one (1) year of clean time. The position is a one (1) year term. Direct Elect members may be voted in for up to two (2) additional one (1) year terms but cannot be a Direct Elect member for longer than three (3) consecutive years.

Duties of the Direct Elect member:

- A. Assist with table set-up for business on area Sundays.
- B. Assist with filling and checking orders, door sales, cash register, or other duties.
- C. Assist with closing duties and returning inventory and tables to storage.
- D. Helps with finding other direct elects.
- E. Learns & assists other board positions with intention of eventually succeeding them.

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GUIDELINES FOR APPROVING USE OF NA REGISTERED TRADEMARK/LOGO

Approval of Orange County Area Activities Committee Event Flyers/Shirts, etc. (Approval only required if using NA Logo):

- A. Area name.
- B. Date, time, and address of the event. If a facility/location name is used, flyer must include "Narcotics Anonymous is not affiliated with this location".
- C. Amount of donation, if any.
- D. Contact name and two phone numbers, including area code.
- E. Type of function (i.e., meeting and dance, picnic, etc.).
- F. Any use of an NA logo must also have a clear and visible registered trademark symbol.
- G. Other logos should not be used.

Approval of Group/Meeting Event Flyers/Shirts, etc. (Approval only required if using NA Logo):

- A. Group/meeting name.
- B. Date, time, address of event. If a facility/location name is used, flyer must include "Narcotics Anonymous is not affiliated with this location".
- C. Amount of donation, if any.
- D. Contact name and two phone numbers, including area code.
- E. Type of function (i.e., meeting and dance, picnic, etc.).
- F. Any use of an NA logo must also have a clear and visible registered trademark symbol.
- G. Other logos should not be used.

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PRICING GUIDELINES *(When applicable)

The ASO pricing structure is Vendor cost + 10% + SALES TAX = Final Price for literature, chips and other merchandise purchased from NAWS or the RSO.

The ASO's responsibility for T-shirts for the Orange County Area is as follows (if providing shirts):

- A. Subcommittee submits artwork to ASO (or RSO, NAWS) for approval.
- B. Subcommittee submits quote to ASC for approval.
- C. Approved invoice is submitted to ASO for payment.
- D. ASO pays invoice to vendor.
- E. ASO creates invoice for subcommittee, *including markup and sales tax.
- F. Subcommittee handles their own pick up of printed tee shirts.
- G. Subcommittee determines their own price and are responsible for their own sales at event.
- H. Within 3 days of event, subcommittee shall pay ASO invoice in full.
- I. In the event not all shirts are sold at the event, the responsible subcommittee is still liable for the full cost of the order (as noted above), and will come to an agreement as to when they can pay all money due. If the subcommittee event is insolvent, or if monies due are not paid within 30 days of the event, the ASC will then cover any unpaid monies due to the ASO (and will continue to collect from the responsible subcommittee).

*This allows the ASO to generate revenue to cover overhead costs and fulfill our purpose