

Sharing Session following the September 20, 2015 General Assembly Meeting

A member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 55 asked the Delegate to hold a sharing session on the topic of signing court slips.

On page S40 of the A.A. Service Manual it says. "In a sharing session, everyone has a chance to use their experience, strength and hope to contribute ideas and opinions about the welfare of A.A."

27 A.A. members shared their experience, strength and hope on the ideas that follow.

- The meeting schedule needs to list what groups sign slips. It was explained that Central Office puts out the meeting schedule and it would be difficult to put that information in because of the information they get from the groups. Also it would not be in the spirit of the Tenth Tradition.
- We sign if the person is on time. We checked with other Areas and they reported it was up to the group.
- We stopped signing slip because of a gang issue.
- Groups do not have to sign slips but we do it in the spirit of cooperation.
- I contacted GSO and was encouraged to contact the Area Delegate about holding a sharing session.
- A.A. has a court action in California, legal liability and enforcing Court probation.
- I asked people coming to our meeting why they were getting slips signed. Responses were: courts, treatment programs, self and suboxone treatment. Also the State of Ohio requires doctors to have Individual Treatment Plan with one part requires 12 Step Program participation.
- If we list it would be affiliation.
- Tradition 4
- Group conscience.
- The games people play with slips.
- Individuals reported their experience of getting slips signed and how it helped them.
- Each meeting is autonomous / change with the times.
- Take away courts slip and we are turning away helping an alcoholic.
- Traditions 3 and 10, it is not my business why they are here.
- Courts have ruled A.A. is a religious origination.
- General consensus was, each group is autonomous and they are guided by their Group conscience.