

April 14, 2022

Dear A.A. Friends,

**Please direct all  
communications to:**

P.O. Box 459  
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As we approach our General Service Conference, we are grateful for all your tireless preparation to fulfill your obligations of participation at the Conference.

As you know, there has been much concern within the Fellowship regarding the service material on safety as revised last Fall, specifically SMF-209. We wanted to update you on the ongoing efforts and our solution which we believe addresses multiple touchpoints brought to light in heartfelt sharing received by your General Service Office, AAWS Board, and the General Service Board.

The AAWS board met on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and discussed these concerns at length. Sharing from both G.S.O. Staff and from the Fellowship helped to inform our discussion. The board concluded at that meeting that a revision of SMF-209 was in order. It was also agreed that, in the spirit of unity and trust, the planned revision would be undertaken by office Staff and include the broad sharing received from the Fellowship as well as from our collective discussions among trustees, directors, and Staff.

An office working group was formed in early December that consisted of four G.S.O. Staff Members. This group met eight times over the next few weeks and a revised draft was presented at a special AAWS board meeting held on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. We then sought input from our legal counsel who also reviewed the two related service pieces, F-211 (The Safety Card for A.A. Groups) and F-228 (Safety and A.A. Flyer). At the March 10<sup>th</sup> AAWS board meeting, the board and office reached a group conscience in support of the revisions and we are now prepared to post this material on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and again begin distribution within the Fellowship.

On behalf of your General Service Office and the AAWS Board of Directors, we would like to thank all who communicated with us. The active engagement of our membership in helping to make our service material beneficial to as wide an audience of alcoholics as possible is an integral part of the process. We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in difficult discussions with as wide a range of A.A. experience as possible to help inform the group conscience.

In Fellowship,



Bob W.  
General Manager, G.S.O.



Jimmy Dean  
Chairperson, A.A.W.S. Board