

## **Internal Use of NA Intellectual Property**

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### **The NA Fellowship’s policy on the reproduction and use of copyrighted NA fellowship-approved recovery literature and the use of registered NA trademarks and service marks by NA groups, service boards, and committees.**

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The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) describes in detail how NA’s name, trademarks, and recovery literature are protected and administered by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (NAWS) At the request of the Fellowship as given voice by its groups through their regional delegates at the World Service Conference, and for the benefit of the Fellowship as a whole (who is the Beneficiary of this Trust), NAWS is the sole publisher and distributor of all NA recovery literature and is directly accountable to the WSC. Additional policies, contained in this and the other Intellectual Property Bulletins, for the use of NA’s intellectual properties by the Fellowship are presented as an adjunct to the FIPT. These policies are based partly on legal considerations and partly on the nature of NA. By following these simple steps, the Fellowship helps ensure that NA’s name, trademarks, and recovery literature will always be available to fulfill our primary purpose.

### **Our fiduciary duty**

NA World Services has been entrusted with the responsibility to obtain and maintain copyright and trademark protection for NA’s name, trademarks, and recovery literature on behalf of the Fellowship. Because no one person, or group of people owns Fellowship-approved literature, copyright ownership is registered in the name of NA World Services. This ensures, among other things, that the Fellowship’s message as presented in our books and pamphlets is not tampered with, used, or sold by others. This is first and foremost about the integrity of the NA message and the need to protect NA’s property so that NA can continue to own its own material. NAWS has been delegated the responsibility to ensure that Narcotics Anonymous literature contains text agreed upon by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. Protecting our copyrights is an essential way to guarantee the conceptual fidelity of NA literature and to safeguard the property of the NA Fellowship.

In order to maintain that copyright ownership, NA recovery material can only be reproduced with permission of NAWS as the copyright holder. All recovery material has a Fellowship –Approved logo described later in this document. This bulletin attempts to outline that permission within Narcotics Anonymous. You can find additional information about these efforts at [www.na.org/fipt](http://www.na.org/fipt).

### **Making our Message Available**

NA World Services goes to great lengths to ensure access to the NA Message. Fellowship-approved recovery pamphlets, meeting readings, and booklets are posted on [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) in over fifty languages. Fellowship websites that wish to provide access to this material should include a link to these pieces, rather than posting this material themselves. NAWS does not currently post book-length pieces of NA literature online because of our previous experience with the widespread proliferation of PDF versions. Our inability to control this widespread distribution could weaken the Fellowship’s ability to protect its copyrighted material. We fulfill this need by distributing thousands of books to addicts in need each year.

Most of World Services’ income comes from proceeds on the sales of literature, and we currently give away or subsidize more than a half million dollars’ worth of literature each year. The money members do or don’t spend on literature affects our ability to respond to requests for literature from addicts across the globe. We are not a normal business; we are a spiritual Fellowship that has to manage a business. But in order to fulfill our mission—to work toward a future where “every addict in the world has a chance to experience the message in his or her own language and culture”—we need to remain financially stable and to protect the property of Narcotics Anonymous.

### POLICY FOR USE & REPRODUCTION OF NA RECOVERY LITERATURE BY GROUPS AND SERVICE BODIES

#### Use by individual NA members or others

Policies, in this or other Intellectual Property Bulletins, do not grant individual NA members or those outside NA permission to use NA trademarks or intellectual property. Individual NA members or others who wish to use NA's trademarks or copyrighted recovery literature should write directly to NA World Services.

#### Use by NA groups

As a general rule, no one has the authority to reproduce NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature without prior written permission from Narcotics Anonymous World Services. However, given the nature of our Fellowship, our experience indicates that NA groups *and only NA groups* should have the authority to reproduce current Fellowship-approved recovery literature with the limitations described here. This permission applies to all current pamphlets and booklets but excludes all Fellowship-approved book length pieces. A description of the NA group—its nature, function, and role in the NA Fellowship—can be found in the Group Booklet. When considering the need to reproduce NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature, NA groups should consider the spiritual principles of responsibility, unity, and autonomy as referenced in our Fourth Tradition and follow all of these general policies:

1. An NA group can only reproduce current booklets and pamphlets of NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature when it has a clear *need* to do so.
2. NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature reproduced by an NA group can only be distributed within that group and never distributed online or in an electronic format. Such materials should always be given away free of charge; they cannot be sold to generate income.
3. The text of NA Fellowship-approved booklets and pamphlets reproduced by an NA group cannot be altered or modified in any way.
4. The copyright for the item being reproduced should be shown prominently as follows: "Copyright © [year of first publication], Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved."

#### Use by registered NA service bodies

NA service bodies that are registered with NA World Services may quote or reproduce portions of NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature, up to 25% of the original piece. In the case of NA books, registered NA service bodies may reproduce or quote up to 25% of a single chapter; daily meditation entries are considered a chapter. If you have questions or want approval to exceed these limits, please contact NA World Services.

For locally developed resources, we ask that the piece clearly state what it is and what service body approved it. In order to avoid confusion, the formatting should not resemble NA recovery literature. Translations of NA recovery literature often involve local reproduction during the local approval process. Approvals of this type can be obtained by contacting NA World Services. Any use of NA's name, trademarks, or recovery literature that is not specifically covered here is reserved to NAWWS, Inc.

NA service bodies that are registered with NA World Services that wish to quote or reproduce portions of NA Fellowship-approved recovery literature should always include the proper notation or credit identifying the origin of the quote or portion.

### POLICY FOR USE OF NA TRADEMARKS BY GROUPS AND SERVICE BODIES

#### Use by individual NA members or others

Policies, in this or other Intellectual Property Bulletins, do not grant individual NA members or those outside NA permission to use NA trademarks or intellectual property. Individual NA members or others who wish to use NA's trademarks or copyrighted recovery literature should write directly to NA World Services.

#### Use by NA groups and service bodies

The policies below outline how NA groups and service bodies (registered with NA World Services) may use NA's trademarks.

Some of the NA Fellowship's registered trademarks are: the name "Narcotics Anonymous," the stylized NA initials, the diamond in a circle, the original NA group logo, and the PR "stamp" logo, all shown below:



Narcotics  
Anonymous®



### Policies for Use

Use of Narcotics Anonymous trademarks should always reflect the seriousness of our primary purpose and our spiritual foundation of anonymity. The Narcotics Anonymous name or trademarks should not be used by an NA group or service body in any way that would imply affiliation, legal liability, or financial responsibility by or to another part of the Fellowship, service structure, or outside enterprise. That means that we should not use the Fellowship's trademarks, name, or logos:

- in any way that would serve to endorse, finance, promote, or affiliate the NA Fellowship with any outside enterprise;
- in conjunction with any law enforcement, political, medical, or religious slogans, themes, or other related materials;
- in a manner as to possibly offend or disrespect the sensibilities of other organizations, groups, or NA as a whole; or
- in any manner that could draw us into public controversy.

### “NA Fellowship Approved” trademark

The “NA Fellowship Approved” trademark is used to indicate that a piece of recovery literature has been approved by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as given voice by its groups through their regional delegates at the World Service Conference. Literature with this trademark is typically the only type of literature read in NA meetings. The “NA Fellowship Approved” trademark is only used by NA World Services and may not be used on any other materials.



### Marking trademarks

The capital letter “R” ® should be placed inside a small circle to the right of all registered NA trademarks every time any of them are used, whenever possible. By doing so, we are showing that these logos are legally owned or registered trademarks. This is one way in which we help preserve the Fellowship's legal right to ownership of its trademarks.

### Protecting artwork

Whenever an NA group or service body has an artist create original artwork, drawings, designs, or screens using any NA trademark, the NA body should always be sure the artist signs a document releasing to the NA body his or her rights to the artwork, including the original rendering. By doing so, we ensure that neither the NA logos nor any artwork that has been created for the benefit of the Fellowship can later be used to benefit a private individual or an outside business enterprise.

*NA Intellectual Property Bulletin #1 was approved by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as given voice by its groups through their regional service representatives at the World Service Conference on 27 April 1993, applicable as of 1 May 1993. It was amended at the World Service Conference in 1997 and 1998. This bulletin supercedes all previous Bulletins and policies pertaining to the use of copyrighted literature and registered trademarks and service marks by NA groups, service boards, and committees.*

*This is the document identified by name in the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Operating Rules, Article V, Section 1. It was approved by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as given voice by its groups through their regional service representatives at the World Service Conference as Trustor of the Fellowship IP Trust on 27 April 1993, and revised by the regional delegates at the World Service Conference on 30 April 1997, and 27 April 1998. It may be changed only by the Trustor.*

**To register, or for more information, contact the NA World Services,  
PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA, Tel: (818) 773-9999, Website: [www.na.org](http://www.na.org).**