

SEX ADDICTS ANONYMOUS (SAA) RESOURCES FOR THE ADDICT WITH LEGAL ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

Individual SAA fellows and the ISO have developed resources for those fellows whose acting out behavior have risk of legal consequences, whether formally charged or not. Legal engagement falls into these phases:

- acting out period with no/minimal police/legal contact.
- time between arrest and court sentencing.
- incarceration in jail or prison.
- probation or parole time period.
- those in state-appointed “civil commitment” within mental hospitals.
- up to a lifetime of 290 (sex offense) registration--a more respectfully term for this group would be “registrants” instead of "sex offenders," which implies lack of recovery and continuous illegal offending or acting out.

1. ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

For many years before COVID there were L2/L3 meetings at the Annual Convention and Conference. “Level 2” and “level 3” refer to more serious categories, including legal and incarceration, of acting out activity. It originates from an influential non-SAA literature source (Patrick Carnes, Out of the Shadows: Understanding Sexual Addiction, pp. 48-67). These meetings are informally organized.

2. SAA TELEMEEETINGS

As of March 2023, these SAA recovery meetings specifically address legal issues:

A. Breaking the Chains

Closed monthly meeting only for SAA fellows only. Contact meeting secretary before joining for Zoom meeting information. Scheduled on the second Saturday of each month.

[https://saatalk.info/us/meetings/meeting?xmeeting\[id\]=287](https://saatalk.info/us/meetings/meeting?xmeeting[id]=287)

B. MAPS (Minor Attracted Persons) in Recovery

Closed meeting for SAA fellows only. MAPS currently has 1 in-person meeting in the Santa Clara, CA and 4 ZOOM meetings:

Mon, Wed, Fri at 6pm PT, Sun 10:30am PT.

Zoom ID: 6277627712 (MAPSMAPS12 on a phone keypad) Password: step12maps (the password will change occasionally) [confirmed 8Apr2023]

C. Pornography focused SAA meetings

Available meetings are listed at <https://saa-recovery.org>. San Francisco area has 2, Chicago has 2, Pittsburgh area has 2 and New York has 1. Call the ISO office for details.

3. ISO PRISONER OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Prisoner Outreach Committee (POC) is an ISO committee that carries the message to the prisoner sex addicts who still suffer. It a) coordinates with the ISO Office to pair prisoners with SAA fellow letter-writers as sponsors and b) coordinates the arduous process of forming and maintaining SAA meetings in prison.

The POC meets on the first Wednesday of the month, 7pm Central Time
Zoom URL: <https://saa-iso.zoom.us/j/6096466960>, passcode: serenity
or telephone at 646-558-8656, meeting ID: 609 646 6960

4. SAA SERVICE WEBSITE (<https://saa-iso.org/mbrs/po/index.php>)

The ISO POC has the following resources for sponsoring prisoners by mail:

- online application to serve as letter writer/sponsor.
- guidelines for letter writer/sponsors.
- pointers for starting a meeting inside a prison/jail.
- sample worksheets for sponsoring.

5. SAA OFFICE

Harvey A in the ISO Office processes prisoner's requests for letter writing/sponsors and literature requests among many other things.

This is an example of the sponsor requests from prisoners (February 5, 2022):

- Unresponded letter requests: 89 English 35 Spanish
- prisoner letters written 4
- literature orders filled: 84
- unread letters: 12
- pending requests for literature 42 Mixed
- pending requests for sponsors: 14 English 17 Spanish
- New writers: 15
- Prisoners assigned writers 104

6. AUTONOMOUS AND LOCAL INTERGROUPS AND MEETINGS

Reaching out to prisoners from Intergroups and meeting groups. Some examples are:

- Colorado Intergroup,
- UK Intergroup,
- Southern California Intergroup administers the California Prisoner Outreach Program
- Raleigh, NC meeting group,
- Twin Cities, Minnesota meeting group.

CONCLUSION

SAA and legal institutions have different perspectives regarding harmful sexual behavior. SAA Traditions state we have no opinion on outside issues, including legal consequences. However, SAA meetings are not above the law and some fellows are mandated reporters. 12 Step anonymity is important but does not guard against illegal behavior which may be reportable. Furthermore, the legal system has allied itself with the counseling profession and SAA generally considers our call to service to be supplemental.

Last updated September 22, 2023. This document is not affiliated with ISO of SAA and has not been reviewed by the SAA Literature Committee. Send updates, email Rey G at rey_g@sputnik57.com.