

# VIRGINIA AREA AFG

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Virginia Area is using the Informed Group Conscience Process on issues facing Al-Anon and Alateen. This includes providing as much printed information in advance as possible prior to the meeting. Printed information may include a historical perspective, motions that are related, etc. An overview of this information will also be reviewed at the meeting prior to the discussion.

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### **Issue to be discussed:**

Proposal to change the VA Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Guidelines

### **Recommended by:**

The VA Area Alateen Safety Guidelines Committee

### **Related Historical Information and motions:**

On December 8, 2003 the Board of Trustees for the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. passed a motion that every area must have area must have safety and behavioral requirements for all Alateen members and Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service. These safety and behavioral requirements must meet the minimum requirements of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

After much discussion, the Virginia Area created and passed the VA Area Safety and Behavioral Guidelines. Over the years since these guidelines were developed it became clear that there was an issue that needed clarification. In April of 2008, the VA Area Alateen Safety Guidelines Committee began discussion concerning housing non-certified adult participants in Alateen Conferences.

Once the VA Area Safety and Behavioral Guidelines Committee developed a draft proposal for change, the proposal was sent to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. (WSO) to insure that the changes were not substantial enough to require VA Area hire a lawyer to review the changes. In addition to answering that question, WSO made a number of other recommendations. For example, WSO informed us that these are not "Guidelines" but should be called "Requirements." These recommendation were reviewed and approved by the VA Area Alateen Safety Guidelines Committee

### **Attachments:**

Proposed changes to the VA Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Guidelines

Alateen Conferences Guideline G-16

Alateen Safety Guidelines G34

Message from WSO, Associate Director for Group Service–Alateen and Special Projects