

ANONYMITY STATEMENT

(for use at DA meetings open to the public)

Some of you may be unaware of DA's Eleventh Tradition, which provides that: "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and television."

Consequently we request that you respect this principle of anonymity whenever you tape, photograph or broadcast reports of our meetings. There should be no television or other broadcast appearances in which the DA member is recognizable by appearance or voice. This also applies to all new media technologies such as social networking sites. In all media, please refer to our members by using only first names and last initials and please understand that an individual's opinion and experience in recovery is not necessarily the view of Debtors Anonymous as a whole.

Making the decision to join our fellowship is never an easy one. If potential members saw a current member identified in the media by the use of full name or likeness, we believe this would make them less likely to seek help from DA, and if just one person were so deterred we would consider that a tragedy for that person and all those whose lives are affected by their compulsive debting behavior. Please help DA keep our treasured Twelfth Tradition: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

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This is D.A. Service Material, developed from the shared experience of D.A. members throughout the worldwide Fellowship. It also reflects the guidance of the Twelve Traditions, the General Service Board and the General Service Office. In keeping with our Tradition of Autonomy except in matters affecting other groups or D.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of Service Material is to assist in reaching an informed group conscience. Since Service Material reflects the current and ever-developing conscience of our Fellowship as a whole, it does not undergo the usual conference-approval process, but may be updated periodically under the auspices of the General Service Board to reflect current Fellowship experience.