

**Please direct all  
communications to:**

Grand Central Station,  
P.O. Box 459,  
New York, NY 10163  
Fax: (212) 870-3003

Date: May 24, 2022

**To:** Area Delegates, Regional Trustees and Area Committee Officers in the Northeast and Southwest Regions

**Re:** **April 2023 Vacancies for Class B Regional Trustees**

Dear A.A. Friends,

At the General Service Conference in April 2023, Class B regional trustees from the Northeast and Southwest regions will be elected to succeed Francis G. and James D., respectively.

The notification of regional trustee vacancies is distributed widely within the A.A. fellowship by G.S.O, using available channels of distribution including, but not limited to, use of the Corporation's and A.A.W.S.' mailing lists [electronic and paper], publication on Websites and posting in Box 4-5-9, and whenever possible, in the next available issues of Grapevine and LaViña magazines.

Each area in your region may nominate a regional trustee candidate, and the suggested procedure for this is outlined in the enclosed, "Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada."

While a background with business or other professional experience is helpful, the General Service Board is also interested in other strengths that regional trustees can bring.

**Time Required of Regional Trustees:**

Since much is asked of the trustees with respect to their time, please be sure your candidate understands the commitment.

Trustees are expected to attend the following:

- Three Quarterly Board weekends (Summer, Fall & Winter) - meetings typically run from Saturday morning through Monday noon.
- A fourth Quarterly meeting (Spring) combined with the General Service Conference (seven days) in April/May.
- Special meetings of the Board.
- Trustees serve on committees of the General Service Board and may also serve on trustees' subcommittees involving multiple tele and videoconference calls.
- Regional Forums in their own Area.
- Rotational attendance at Regional Forums in other Areas.
- May be asked to serve two years on either the A.A. World Services Board or A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board, which meet more frequently than the General Service Board and also include possible corporate board subcommittees.
- Frequently invited to participate in regional or area activities such as service conferences, area assemblies, etc.

Trusteeship is for four successive annual terms. Applicants are encouraged to discuss this time commitment with their families and employers. Trustees are reimbursed for travel, hotel and meal expenses.

Prior Conferences have recommended that no area submit the same person as candidate for both regional and trustee-at-large/U.S. or Canada at the same Conference. Also, a General Service Conference delegate is not eligible as a trustee candidate until one year after their last Conference. Panel 71 delegates will not be eligible for a trustee position at the 2023 Conference.

As soon as possible after your area has elected a candidate for regional trustee, the General Service Conference delegate only must send to the secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee, [nominating@aa.org](mailto:nominating@aa.org), the name and contact information of the candidate. The secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee will forward a link to a Resume Sheet, or email a PDF form, for the candidate to complete. The candidate completes the Resume Sheet and submits it electronically to [nominating@aa.org](mailto:nominating@aa.org); or by fax 212-870-3003; or by mail General Service Office, 475 Riverside Drive Suite #1100, New York, NY 10115; to be received before the January 1 deadline.

The 27th General Service Conference recommended that any elected candidates and resume sheet submissions received by G.S.O. after the January 1 deadline be returned to the delegate in the submitting area, and not be considered. (In other words, the candidate will not be eligible for election in April 2023).

Please prepare the resume carefully. A 1983 Conference Action recommends that all resumes be presented to the Trustees' Nominating Committee and the Conference Committee on Trustees exactly as received, with the exception that spelling and grammatical errors may be corrected by the General Service Office staff preparing resumes for distribution. Original resumes are retained for reference.

If your area chooses not to elect a regional trustee candidate, please let us know. It would be helpful if resume forms and all other correspondence pertaining to trustee elections are addressed to: Attn: Secretary, Trustees' Nominating Committee, at the General Service Office in New York City or by email to [nominating@aa.org](mailto:nominating@aa.org).

We look forward to hearing from you, as soon as your election takes place, and all here send warm wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Linda L. Chezem, J.D., Chairperson, General Service Board

Included: Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada

cc: Trustees' Nominating Committee

## PROCEDURE No. 11

### **PROCEDURES FOR ELECTING REGIONAL TRUSTEE CANDIDATES IN THE U.S. AND CANADA**

Notifications of Class B regional trustee vacancies will be emailed to Area Delegates, Area Committee Officers and the regional trustee in regions scheduled to elect regional trustee candidates. This notification will be sent following the conclusion of the 2nd quarterly meeting of the General Service Board.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

Ten years of sobriety is recommended but is not mandatory. Candidates should have experience in both Conference Area and local A.A. service. They should have the background and the willingness to make decisions on matters of A.A. policy and should recognize that trustees serve the entire Fellowship rather than geographical areas. In seeking applications for vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large file of qualified applicants that reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself.

Business or Professional Experience: It has proved desirable to have some of the trustees experienced in business and professional matters. Because the primary business of the General Service Board, calls for important budgetary and administrative decisions, such qualifications are regarded as welcome additions to sound A.A. experience.

#### **Time Required of Regional Trustees:**

All candidates should be aware of the significant time commitments required of the regional trustees. Trustees are expected to attend a minimum of: three quarterly Board weekends, with meetings running from Saturday morning through Monday noon; a quarterly meeting combined with the General Service Conference (seven days) in April/May; and any special meetings of the Board. Regional trustees also serve in rotation for attendance at regional forums other than in their own regions. In addition, regional trustees are asked to serve two consecutive one-year terms on either the A.A. World Services Board or AA Grapevine Corporate Board, which meet more frequently than the General Service Board. Trustees serve on committees of the General Service Board and may also serve on trustees' subcommittees or corporate board subcommittees, whose work often involves tele and video conference calls. Trustees are often invited to participate in regional or area activities such as service conferences, area assemblies, etc. Trusteeship is for four successive annual terms. Applicants are encouraged to discuss this time commitment with their family and employer. Trustees are reimbursed for travel, hotel and meal expenses.

Prior Conferences have recommended that no area submit an individual as a candidate for both regional trustee and trustee-at-large/U.S. or Canada in the same year. Also, a General Service Conference delegate is not eligible to be submitted as a trustee candidate until *one year after* their last Conference.

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**PROCEDURES FOR ELECTING REGIONAL TRUSTEE CANDIDATES**  
**IN THE U.S. AND CANADA (Continued)**

PROCEDURE RECOMMENDED FOR ELECTION OF REGIONAL TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

1. Each area may select one candidate. A candidate may be selected from each of the Conference areas or two or more areas may jointly propose a single candidate.
2. The General Service Conference delegate and committee members should decide how their area will select its candidate. Each area will make its own decision:
  - a. Will the candidate be selected at a meeting of the Area Committee?
  - OR
  - b. Will the candidate be selected by G.S.R.s and committee members at the Area Assembly and, if so, when and where will the Assembly be held?
3. The Third Legacy procedure, particularly the practice of written or electronic ballots, two-thirds vote, automatic withdrawals, drawing by lot (if necessary) should be used, whether the election is by the Area Committee or by the Assembly.
4. For Resume Sheet Submissions:
  - a. As soon as possible after the election, the General Service Conference delegate only must send to the General Service Office secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee, nominating@aa.org, the name and contact information of the candidate.
  - b. The secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee will forward a link to a Resume Sheet, or email a form, for the candidate to complete.
  - c. The candidate completes the Resume Sheet and submits it electronically to nominating@aa.org; or by fax 212-870-3003; or by mail General Service Office, 475 Riverside Drive Suite #1100, New York, NY 10115; to be received before the January 1 deadline.

Important! The 27th General Service Conference recommended that any elected candidates and resume sheet submissions received by G.S.O. after the January 1 deadline be returned to the delegate in the submitting area, and not be considered.

5. If a trustee candidate withdraws after the January 1 deadline, that area may not submit another candidate.
6. The Notification of Regional Trustee Vacancies is distributed widely within the A.A. fellowship by G.S.O, using available channels of distribution including, but not limited to, use of the Corporation's and A.A.W.S.' mailing lists (electronic and paper), publication on Websites and posting in *Box 4-5-9*, and whenever possible, in the next available issues of *Grapevine* and *La Viña* magazines.

**PROCEDURES FOR ELECTING REGIONAL TRUSTEE CANDIDATES**  
**IN THE U.S. AND CANADA (Continued)**

7. The final election of a regional trustee nominee from among area candidates will be made at a joint meeting of the Conference Committee on Trustees, the Trustees' Nominating Committee of the General Service Board, and the General Service Conference delegates from the electing region during the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference. All delegates from the electing region and an equal number of voters—one-half from the Conference Committee on Trustees and one-half from the Trustees' Nominating Committee—are eligible to vote in the election. Third Legacy method of election will be followed.
8. The slate of members and officers of the General Service Board will be presented at the General Service Conference. Election to the General Service Board will follow at the Annual Meeting of the members of the Board, following the General Service Conference.
9. For unexpected vacancies,
  - a. If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then the nomination to fill the vacancy would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region (Refer to Procedure 11 Recommended for Election of Regional Trustee Candidates #1 through #8). An individual elected to fill such vacancy shall not be eligible to serve more than three consecutive one-year terms.
  - b. If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates from the affected region would be given an option, should they decide to fill such vacancy, to nominate an individual to fill such vacancy and any such individual, if elected, may not serve more than five or six one-year terms, as the case may be, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs.
  - c. If the vacancy is filled, the Regional Trustee would be expected to serve two years on one of the two affiliated corporate boards.