

SANTA CRUZ AREA NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 5143, Santa Cruz, CA 95063 | www.santacruzna.org

We, the Santa Cruz Area Narcotics Anonymous Administrative Committee, are issuing the following statement in order to clear up any confusion as to what our position is with regards to “in-person” meetings.

The Santa Cruz Area Administrative Committee trusted servants **do not** advise having in-person meetings while the California State and Santa Cruz County restrictions are not allowing in-person gatherings. The Northern California Regional committee has advised NA Areas to follow local public health orders. In having this difference of opinion and internal controversy we are making the choice to follow these guidelines given to us by the Northern California Narcotics Anonymous Regional committee and our local public health department and comply with them because we feel that this is in the best interest of our group members safety and health.

We suggest your group considers several factors, including studying the [Santa Cruz County Public Health Orders](#) while considering our 12 Traditions. Some of these restrictions could be in direct conflict with our Traditions. Here are some examples of how the restrictions could specifically affect Traditions #1, #3, and #4.

Tradition #1: Our common welfare should come first, personal recovery is based on NA unity.

We are united in the necessity of meetings for continued recovery, however the common welfare could be at stake if an outbreak occurs and is contact traced to an NA group.

Tradition #3: The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using.

Some members value their anonymity. Contact tracing may expose a member’s anonymity to a matter of public record. Should a member need to sign their first, last name and contact information, and be required to social distance and wear a face mask to attend an NA meeting? What if the member does not follow these requirements?

Tradition #4: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting NA groups, or NA as a whole.

We recognize that each meeting has the autonomy to conduct their meeting to best serve its members. However, please consider how the reputation of NA as a whole could be damaged if a news story traces an outbreak to a NA meeting.

We encourage you to educate your group when considering how to move forward with in-person meetings. Please take time to review the California State and Santa Cruz County guidelines:

- California State <https://covid19.ca.gov>
- Santa Cruz County Public Health
<http://santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>

Remember we are here to help, please reach out to a member of ASC administration at scnaadm@gmail.com.