

## **Long Timer Interviewer Confidentiality Statement**

Long Timer Interviewer Confidentiality Statement I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of Interviewer) hereby acknowledge that I am taking this interview on behalf of Area 10 Archives Committee and not for any other purpose. I will send this Confidentiality Statement, along with the Oral History Release Form, and the digital recording of the interview only to the Area 10 Archives Committee. I understand that this interview may be made available for research and such public programming as the Area 10 Archives Committee may determine is appropriate. In keeping with the spirit of personal anonymity I promise not to play or otherwise disseminate the contents of this interview with any person, entity, or organization other than the Area 10 Archives Committee.

Interviewer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Area 10 Alcoholics Anonymous Oral History Release Form**

Area 10 Alcoholics Anonymous Oral History Release Form We, the undersigned Narrator and Interviewer, hereby give this interview recorded on \_\_\_\_\_ (insert date) to the Area 10 Archives as a donation. With this gift, we transfer to the Area 10 Archives legal title and all literary rights, including copyright. We understand the interview may be made available for research and such public programming as the Area 10 Archives may determine. This includes right and license to reproduce, copy, modify, display, distribute, perform, broadcast, transmit, and create derivatives from the recording. This may include use of the interview material in print and in live or recorded programs for radio, television, or any electronic publishing medium. **We transfer all of the above rights without limitation, to support the mission of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and to disseminate information about AA, upon the condition that we and any other AA member identified, remain anonymous at the level of the public media.**

Narrator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Long Timer Interview Suggestions for Interviewers**

Thank you for your service in becoming a Long Timer Interviewer for the Area 10 Archives Committee! You have undertaken a critical role in preserving the stories of recovering alcoholics in Colorado for future generations of AA members.

We are seeking to preserve the recovery stories of our Long Timers. We are not looking for our Long Timers' drinking story. We want to preserve their stories about where, when, and how they found sobriety through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. To that end we are providing you with some suggestions which our in experience result in a successful interview.

- Be sure that your audio recorder or app will allow you to record for approximately 60 minutes. Depending on the app you use you may have to pay a small amount to obtain this ability.
- Be sure that the audio recorder or app you are using will record in either mpg3 or mpg4 format.
- Please remind the interviewee that you do not want any last names used during the conversation.
- When you begin the interview introduce yourself by your first name only and state the date and city where the interview is taking place. Then ask the interviewee to state their first name, sobriety date, and home group.
- We would like you to ask open-ended questions and not questions that can be answered with a "yes" or "no". We want to capture the interviewee's story in their own voice. Beginning your questions with one of these words: "Who", "When", "Where", "Why", and "How" is an effective way to do so. Another good way of getting a narrative answer is to simply begin a new topic with "Tell me about ...". Do not be too quick to move on to your next question or topic. Often the interviewee is simply giving your prior question some more thought. Your silence can encourage the interviewee to expand upon his prior answer. Also prompts such as "Can you tell me more..." are also likely to encourage complete answers.

When the interview is completed email the audio file, the Oral History Release Form, and your Confidentiality Statement to [Archives@coloradoaa.org](mailto:Archives@coloradoaa.org). You can photograph and email the Release Form and Confidentiality Statement if you can't convert those documents to a pdf.

## **Area 10 Long Timer Interview – Suggested Topics**

Here is a list of suggested questions to guide you in conducting Long Timer Interviews. You are free to add questions of your own, allow the interview to take on a life of its own, and, most importantly, to have fun and learn about a Long Timer's recovery story. The focus is on our AA history as revealed through the recovery stories of our Long Timers. The emphasis should be on **recovery** and not drinking.

We are **primarily** interested in covering the following topics:

- The circumstances of how and why the interviewee came to AA;
- Their first meeting;
- Their sobriety date;
- Their first home group and what type of meeting it was;
- Who were the Long Timers in their home group and how did the interviewee's recovery benefit from those individuals.
- What other meetings did they attend over the years; what was the formats of these meetings.
- Sponsorship – both as a sponsee and sponsor.
  - Who was their first sponsor and how did they work the steps. Was sponsorship an important part of their recovery; their experiences both as a sponsor and sponsee.
  - How many sponsors
  - The benefits of sponsorship they have experienced.
- Service – Their service experience at both the group and general service levels;
  - What positions have they held; how did that service benefit their sobriety.
- Which of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions do you believe had a profound effect on your long term recovery. Any specific profound experiences involving those Steps/Traditions.
- What role do you believe that the 12 Tradition of Anonymity had on your recovery.
- Attendance at conferences, assemblies, and/or conventions.
- Experiences interacting with intergroup or central offices.
- Have you personally had any contact with G.S.O. in NYC? Any interaction as a trusted servant.
- Has AA changed over the years? How?
- In view of your answer to the last question, are there any cautions you would like to pass on to the new comer today?