

Attorney Review of ASBR

The Board voted to have an attorney perform a thorough review of the ASBR, rather than the more limited review required by the Board of Trustees.

- Required by Board of Trustees (original 2003 BOT motion) <https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/alateen/starting-alateen-group/>
- Any revisions to the ASBRs “must be current, compliant, and on file with the World Service Office (WSO).”
<https://al-anon.org/for-members/world-service-conference-wsc/world-service-conference-summary/> (pg. 124-127)

We wanted to outline some of the considerations for engaging an attorney who would be suitable for this task.

The *purpose* of the engagement:

1. ensure that the ASBR are in keeping with local laws regarding child abuse and child welfare, including any reporting requirements
2. review paperwork that potential AMIAs fill out to ensure proper processes are being adhered to.

We would ask the attorney to read the *Alateen Service e-Manual*, which has additional information about the original BOT motion and Alateen policies and procedures. The *e-Manual* can be found on the WSO website: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/alateen-service-e-manual/>

What experience and qualifications should we be looking for?

1. A lawyer whose law practice involves a concentration in the area of California State Law governing the reporting of Child Abuse and Sexual Abuse.
2. The lawyer could be one whose practice involves “advising” clients respecting compliance with the law and/or could be a litigator who defends clients charged with alleged violations of the law.
3. Experience with nonprofits may be helpful (i.e., issues regarding responsibility for training and managing volunteers).
4. Knowledge of Al-Anon’s Twelve Steps/Traditions/Concepts of Service be helpful given that our program is based on certain principles that may not be typical for nonprofits.

What are our financial considerations?

1. Having the attorney’s services provided *pro bono* or at a reduced nonprofit rate would be preferred.
2. The SCWS Board can approve expenditures below \$2,000. Any expenditure above \$2,000 requires approval by the Assembly.

(revised 11-22-19)