# CoDA Service Conference 2011

## Motion Form #7

Committee: **Issues Mediation Committee (IMC)** Date: **July 5-8th, 2011**

**Motion Number: (data entry purpose only):_____**

## Result (data entry purpose only):

**Motion**

**(1) To update Section 8, Voting Entity Structure:** Insert highlighted sentences as noted in the second paragraph under section 8, Page 38, FSM - Voting Entity Service Structure.

**A Voting Entity may also choose to divide into two or more Voting entities according to By-laws Section 2. Please see FSM section 10, paragraph "Voting Entity Division" for IMC guidance regarding the process. Each separate Voting Entity may then…..**

***(2)* To update Section 10 in FSM's "Board Overseen Service Functions and Coda Standing Committees" Issues Mediation Committee's (IMC) description as indicated in the attached document. *See attachment with requested new additions.***

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## Intent:

**To update Section 8 (Voting Entity Structure) & Section 10 (the description of IMC's duties) as outlined in Section 2 of the By-Laws in the FSM regarding splitting of Voting Entities. IMC has created a registration, application & approval process for splitting of VE's.**

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## Remarks: According to By-Laws, Section 2.

Section 2, Definition of "Voting Entities" (Entities) or that can send Delegates

"Each State and Territory of the United States of America and each Country is automatically entitled to send two (2) Delegates. Any Voting Entity may surrender its two (2) Delegates and request to subdivide. The governing principle is that a member of the Fellowship will only be represented by one (1) set of two (2) Delegates An entity may request subdivisions for reasons of geographical separation, language, or other recognizable characteristics. Each entity may request that it be split along an internally agreed upon division and each subdivision of the entity granted two (2) Delegates. Each subdivision should have enough members and meetings to support a viable service group so that all meetings are still represented.

The Issues Mediation Committee will handle requests for CoDA to recognize Voting Entities. Through the group conscience process, Voting Entities select Delegates and Alternate Delegates to carry the will of the Membership to CoDA, Inc. meetings. In order to guarantee voting rights, each Voting Entity service board must be duly authorized by the Issues Mediation Committee. In the absence of a Voting Entity service board, members of that Entity shall present an alternative selection process based on group conscience decision making to the Issues Mediation Committee. This procedure insures adherence to the program of recovery endorsed by this fellowship. "

**Attachment**

FSM Section 10, Page 52, (insert at end of current IMC description, after all bullet points (new, highlighted) Voting Entity Division:

## Voting Entity Division Process:

The By-Laws (Section 2) authorizes a VE to sub-divide and explains the logic and assigns IMC to oversee and approve the division. It also gives some guidance for the VE and IMC. After the division, both VEs will have two delegates.

The Process of Dividing a VE may arise for any of many reasons.

***The IMC recommends the following issues and process be considered.***

1. Make sure a division will solve some problem or issue with representation of the membership.
2. Consider Geographical boundaries.
3. Consider division by Language.
4. Consider city, county, parish, state boundaries.
5. The division should be agreed upon by both new VE's.
6. All meetings from the current VE should be included in one of the new VE's.

***The IMC application requirements for the process of VE's Dividing (items which should be included):***

1. Acknowledgment from both proposed VEs agreeing to the division (letters with signatures),
2. Explanation of what the boundary will be,
3. List of meetings for each VE or a way for CoDA split the meetings by zip code or county boundaries, or some other recognizable line in the meeting DB,
4. Email address for each VE,
5. Postal address for each VE,
6. Web site identification (if exists) for each VE,
7. Any Phone numbers for info lines and/or contact individual(s),
8. List of Current officers.

Submissions to the IMC may be made at any time. Please consider submitting far enough in advance of CSC to allow the IMC to review, ask questions, receive answers, and approve or disapprove registration.