

Motion #2: Amend Motion 23.2 to No Geographic Boundaries within U.S. & Canada Conference Area

Motion and Background

Assembly Motion #2: Amend Motion 23.2 to No Geographic Boundaries within Conference Area

Move to amend Motion 23.2 to read: In the spirit of unity, we affirm that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.

Proposed by Patty S., Third Legacy Chair, District 25, and advanced to the Assembly Agenda at the April 2026 Quarterly Meeting by the Area Committee

Background:

1. This motion seeks to realign Area 72 with the U.S. and Canada Conference geographic boundaries.

The question is raised, does Area 72, as 1 of 93 geographic areas of the U.S. & Canada Conference,¹ have the autonomy, authority and/or resources to support online groups outside the U.S. and Canada Conference Boundaries? The question was raised this rotation by online groups with members outside the U.S. & Canada seeking access to the Area 72 website protected by a geofence limiting access to the U.S. and Canada. It proved a difficult, time-consuming and complicated task for the Web Steering Committee who sought guidance from the Area Committee and by group conscience concluded that this was a Conference issue, not a Delegate Area issue. It also raised the question whether a geographic Conference structure is even set up to support global international online groups.

2. Patty's Letter to District 25 Groups:

District 25 groups:

Regarding the idea that we are a global district has me wondering where that thought came from and what all this talk is about.

Since I was involved in the actual creation of District 25 from roundtable beginning; please allow me to share what our vision was and mission statement was for District 25.

When covid hit there were so many of use finding our way to virtual/online meetings. We found that our homegroups had GSRs and yet no way for us as groups to participate in the area 72 business and have a voice within our General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.

2020 brought us to the Area Assembly in October with a floor motion to create a virtual district. The motion was sent on to the January 2021 quarterly as a discussion topic. We advanced through the quarterly process with a motion (21.3) to create District 25 within Area72 and our general service conference area of the United States and Canada.

District 25 was created and we started the journey of learning how to make this all work in the virtual world. Trial and errors abound, but we now had a working district just like the rest of Area 72.

There arose the question to whether District 25 was going to admit those folks from outside of the Area 72 geographical area. So, motion 23.2 came into being. This was always about groups within the United State and Canada General Service Conference area.

Understand that District 25 was created within Area 72, which resides within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.

And now, all this global talk is disruptive and causing disunity, both within our district and at the Area. Thus an "us versus them" mentality over this fire wall.

¹ By Advisory Action at the 1955 General Service Conference and by Resolution at the 1955 International Convention,

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So, in the spirit of unity for all of us, I am proposing District 25 bring forward a motion to the Area April Quarterly to amend Motion 23.2 to read:

[“In the spirit of unity, we affirm that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.”](#)

I believe this will go a long way to ease any confusion and possible disunity that has arisen over the geofence and international groups.

/s/ Patty Smith, District 25 Third Legacy Chair

3. Background Information as presented at Jan. 2026 Quarterly:

Should Area 72 Welcome International Groups to District 25?

- **October 2021:** Area 72 passes **Motion 21.3**, creating a district for online groups and defining its boundaries as “all of Area 72.” Concerns are raised about authority and the inclusion of members from outside the Area.
- **October 2022:** A group from another Area (Florida) joins District 25. The Assembly discusses whether out-of-Area groups should participate in Area 72. Some express concern about voting and representation.
- **October 2023:** Area 72 passes **Motion 23.2**, affirming that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries. Some members express concern that including groups from outside the U.S./Canada may exceed Area 72’s authority.

Current Status:

- **District 25 has 52 groups**, with an average of **45–47 GSRs, Alt GSRs, or stand-ins** attending business meetings.
- **Two groups are based internationally**—one in **Spain**, one in **Ukraine**—and are primarily composed of **American A.A. members** (ex-pats, military), with some local members.
- A third group from **Colombia** has attended District 25 business meetings as a **visitor**, but has **not officially joined**.
- These international groups joined District 25 to participate in A.A. service due to the **lack of online districts or online Areas** in their regions.
- District 25 identifies fully as part of **Area 72** and does **not seek to form an online Area**. Prospective groups are encouraged to attend a business meeting and understand that participation means contributing to Area 72, not just their own group.

Purpose of This Discussion:

- This discussion provides an opportunity for the Area to: Discuss whether the participation of international groups in District 25 aligns with the Area 72’s group conscience.

4. Additional Background Materials:

- **F-30 New Group Listing Guidelines/Form** – Referenced in Discussion at the January and April 2026 Quarterly. SF-30 is the Form in Spanish. It provides GSO guidance on International Groups.
- **Web Steering Committee Minutes, February 22, 2026** – Solve International Groups issue before addressing geofence issues.
- **Minutes from April 2026 Quarterly on the Discussion** – For reference in determining developing conscience of Area Committee.
- **Minutes from January 2026 Quarterly on Discussion** – For reference in understanding the developing conscience of the Area Committee.