



ZCLA Buddha Essence Temple

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LIMITED ACCESS AGREEMENT

for Michael Jimyo Smithe

The Zen Center of Los Angeles affirms the worth and dignity of all persons. We are committed to inclusivity as a Sangha, and we acknowledge the possibility of each practitioner to grow and change. However, based on your background, we have concerns about your contact with children in the community, as well as with those adults who are survivors and are uncomfortable in your presence. To accommodate your needs and those of the community at large, we have created the following agreement:

I, Michael Jimyo Smithe, understand that:

- 1) I may attend meditation and a dharma talk on Thursday evenings at the Zen Center, as well as the tea following in the Sangha House. This will be the only time that I will be present at the Center for the foreseeable future.
- 2) a support person must accompany me during the whole of my visit. (A support person is one who knows about my history and has been designated to accompany me throughout the duration of each Thursday evening visit.)

- 3) it will be my responsibility to contact the support person who will accompany me on my visits, so I can set up a time to meet outside the sangha gates. (A list of support persons and their rotational schedule will be given to me.)

- 4) I am not to talk with nor interact with children or minors under the age of 18 at any time. If a child should approach me, I will politely and immediately excuse myself from the situation. Should I initiate contact with a child or minor, this would be grounds for an immediate termination of my connection with the Center.

- 5) I will avoid being anywhere on ZCLA grounds unsupervised, i.e. without my support person present.

- 6) I may have access to the members of the Teacher's Circle by phone or by appointment.

- 7) I will meet every four months with members of the Right Response Circle, (RRC) who will evaluate with me how this agreement is working, to explore any issues which might arise. I can at any time contact the RRC Steward, (Luminous Heart Thompson, 213-255-0776) with any concern about this arrangement I might have.

- 8) I agree to continue my therapy and to give written permission to the members of the RRC and to my therapist to have Lynda Golan, a therapist from the ZCLA community, and a member of the RRC, contact my therapist to verify my ongoing treatment.

I have reviewed this agreement and agree to abide by its provisions. I agree that if I violate this agreement, I will be denied further access to ZCLA property and any of its functions. I understand that this agreement will be reviewed regularly every four months for one year, at which time a renewal of this agreement will be discussed. I also understand that ZCLA may amend or revoke this agreement at any time without prior notice, and that the agreement does not create any enforceable contractual rights against ZCLA.

Michael Jimyo Smithe

Date

ZCLA Abbot: Roshi Egyoku Nakao

Date

Steward, RRC: Penelope Luminous Heart Thompson

Date

Board Chair: Patti Muso Giggans

Date

[Final, February 2009]