



ZCLA Buddha Essence Temple

923 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, Ca 90006

Phone: 213-387-2351 FAX 213-387-2377

Email: info@zcla.org Website: www.zencenter.org

RIGHT RESPONSE CIRCLE

For Limited Access Agreement with Michael Jimyo Smithe

The Right Response Circle will constitute the responsible group that will:

- Respond, should any exigent situation arise with Jimyo
- Oversee and monitor Jimyo over the long term
- Be the “On-call” persons to be contacted initially, and to respond, should any problematic situation arise at ZCLA.

The Right Response Circle will include 4 members, Luminous Heart as Circle Steward, Jotai Webb, Lynda Golan and Sensei Daishin Buksbazen, who will be the liaison to the Board. As a therapist, Lynda Golan will also serve as a consultant to the Circle as needed. She will be a liaison with Jimyo’s therapist. (This will entail a process of obtaining permission statements signed by Jimyo, for Lynda Golan and Jimyo’s therapist to discuss, as necessary, not the contents of his therapy, but his ongoing goodwill participation in the therapy.)

The functions of the Circle will include:

- a meeting with Jimyo once every four months to review the Limited Access Agreement, how it is being observed, and where potential problems may be arising.
- responsibility for being with Jimyo on Thursday evenings, from the time of his arrival to his departure, along with other support persons. (These other support persons who may accompany Jimyo will not be members of the

Circle but will act in support of the Circle. They will be apprised of the situation and how to handle it appropriately. In this way there will be additional persons who are available to serve as the designated support person on any given Thursday evening.)

Jimyo will be given a list of all possible supporters. It will be his responsibility to contact a supporter to set up the time to meet on any Thursday he wants to attend.

The Steward of the Right Response Circle (Luminous Heart Thompson) will be the person to contact Jimyo and set up a meeting with him and the RRC to review the covenant and sign it together. Should there be a change in the members of the RRC, particularly the Steward, the new Steward must be given a thorough orientation and education on the nature and background of the circle and situation.

To inform the Sangha at large about the process, Roshi will send a dharma flash to the whole sangha, which will include

- A summary of the conditions under which Jimyo would attend Thursday evenings
- An explanation of the accompaniment process and the every 4 month review process
- The identity of the members of the RRC
- The identity of the persons who will carry the long-term oversight responsibility
- Encouragement of sangha members to speak to a Circle member with any concern they might have, as well as to request support, should Jimyo's presence cause them emotional difficulty.

Persons with special concerns will be consulted on a regular basis, should a change to any portion of the Limited Access Agreement or specific visitation arrangements be under consideration by the RRC. Each of them will have an important voice in whatever decisions were made, as well as the Board and the Abbot. Any change to the agreement will be sent in advance to the community at large, and any concerns will be invited to be spoken at that time, to the RRC.

A copy of the signed agreement will be given to the Abbot, Jimyo, the Steward and all of the members of the Right Response Circle.

[Final, February 2009]