

~~A 12-Step~~ An 11-Step Program for Recovering Lawyers

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1. I admitted I was addicted to large settlements, fat retainers, billable hour reports, publicity, sarcastic jabs at other lawyers, verbose writing based on the passive voice and phrases such as *inter alia*, smart phones, laptops, and other electronics so I am online at all times - that my professional life had become unmanageable.
2. I came to believe that a Power greater than myself *might* be able to restore me to sanity. That Power is frozen margaritas.
3. I made a decision to turn my life over to the care of God *as I understand him*. I currently understand God to be a [universal flowing energy](#) that likes [Jerry Jeff Walker](#), [gigantic dogs](#), and [TaB](#) cola.
4. I made a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself. I found only one fault.
5. I admitted to God, to myself, and to another human being the exact nature of my one flaw: I sometimes use bad words.
6. I was entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character. However, God, *as I understand him*, may also use bad words, so who knows?
7. I humbly asked God to remove my one shortcoming.
8. I made a list of all persons I had allegedly harmed, and became theoretically willing to make amends to them all.
9. ~~I made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.~~ I'm sorry, I can't do it. If I sued you for a client, you refused my efforts to settle the case prior to filing suit. If I had you served with papers at work, you refused to sign a Waiver of Personal Service or evaded service. If I humiliated you on cross examination, you were not truthful and got what you deserved.
10. I continued to take personal inventory and in the highly unlikely event I was wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through frozen margaritas and meditation to improve my conscious contact with God, *as I understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for me and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, I tried to carry this message to other lawyers, and to practice these principles in all my affairs.