

STATEMENT To: Members of OA Foot Steps Fellowship
STATEMENT From : OA Foot Steps Virtual Intergroup (VIG) Board and Security Committee
SUBJECT: Zoom Security Issues
DATE: December 14, 2021

Dear OA Foot Steps Member,

Many meeting leaders and attendees have experienced “Zoom Bombings” or intrusions with greater frequency in the past few weeks. Since OA Foot Steps began on April 14th, 2019 as an online intergroup, this has been an ongoing issue. Due to the nature of our Traditions and Fellowship, we expect Security and Safety in OA Foot Steps meetings to continue to be an ongoing concern for as long as we exist.

The purpose of this communication is to raise awareness of how the OAFS VIG and Security Committee view and are addressing this concern in service to the fellowship.

Zoom intrusion is a global problem that doesn't have a clear solution. There are numerous social media and other channels that allow for the formation of groups for Zoom intruders to organize. They are easy to create and operate with the intention to do others harm.

Due to the inclusive nature of our open community and our ongoing practice of Tradition Three, outsiders with nefarious intentions are able to join OA meetings and cause disruptions. They have created stress and new trauma for us in a way that is unique to the online environment. Now more than ever, trusted servants are dealing with stressors that are far beyond what was initially expected when OA Foot Steps was established.

For many of us, these intrusions trigger past traumas or leave us with new traumatic experiences that we now must bear. As we continue to hold space for one another so we each may heal from the disease of [compulsive eating], let us also remember to be compassionate with our own trusted servants who are doing the best they can to mitigate these intrusions while serving in the meetings. Let us reach out personally to the individuals who have been victimized and offer our understanding and support.

While we may feel like taking on this larger problem is the right thing to do personally, let us remember to do what is within our control to preserve our fellowship's unity in earnest adherence to Traditions One and Five. We will continue to mitigate threats inside our meeting spaces by using Zoom Security features, the OAFS Emergency Zoom Protocols, and exchanging best practices in an intra-team effort to maintain the safe spaces for our members and newcomers.

In response to Zoom Intrusions, the OAFS Security Committee's current activities are focused on:

1. Staying updated on Zoom security features available for our use as clients
2. Training OA members on the use of these security features
3. Maintaining an evolving list of Security Best Practices, based on Zoom's Trust Center updates and our fellowship's lessons learned

As we build out our capacity to address our fellowship's unique challenges, the security committee would greatly benefit from members who have personal or professional backgrounds in internet and Zoom security. Trusted servants with those backgrounds can help us communicate our challenges and shortfalls to other security professionals at the Zoom Trust Center. If you are able to help with this, please email the OAFS Security Committee at security@oafootsteps.com

For questions regarding this statement, please contact the OAFS VIG Board at VIG@oafootsteps.com.

Yours in Service,

OAFS VIG Board
OAFS Security Committee

OA Foot Steps Emergency Zoom Protocols: <https://oafootsteps.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/emergency-zoom-protocolsUPDATE1.pdf>

Intruder's Prayer: <https://oafootsteps.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/The-Intruders-Prayer.pdf>