OLA AND OTHERS FORM ANTI-CENSOR COALITION

By Duane Meyers

At the request of the American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom, OLA took the lead in forming a state Coalition Against Censorship in November of 1986.

Organizations committed to the defense of First Amendment rights were invited to send representatives to the first meeting, which was held in the south conference room at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

After two subsequent meetings, the new coalition succeeded in adopting a statement of purpose and by-laws. It also set annual dues and elected officers.

This writer was elected president at the February 1987 meeting. Other officers, elected at the April meeting, were: Charles McCauley, the Oklahoma Education Association’s delegate, vice-president; Joan Jester, treasurer, and Debra Krittenbrink, secretary — both OLA members.

Complete “Statements of Concern, Purposes, Endorsements” and “BY-LAWS” are reprinted elsewhere in this issue of the Librarian.

Among our “purposes,” perhaps the following two are most important:

“Act as a liaison between groups and individuals in Oklahoma who support freedom of expression and information.”

“Counter-balance censoring forces in our society and help those who are confronted with censorship problems.”

From its inception, the coalition has attracted media attention and it is there, in the media, that most of our activities have centered.

As president and chief spokesman, I have appeared on half-a-dozen or more radio talk-and-news programs as well as several television news programs.

I have also made presentations at a church gathering, a civic club meeting, a forum on intellectual freedom sponsored by a university literary publication, a university library science graduate seminar and a university journalism class. An interview with me was published in The Sunday Oklahoman and one or two of our regular news releases have been printed in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa press, I believe.

I regret that I have not had time to do more of this promotion for the coalition. Most of the feedback has been positive and we have recruited several members to the coalition directly from this exposure. If nothing else, we have made some headway in letting some of the public know that we exist and that those who believe in the First Amendment are not alone out there.

During the course of the year, I have been asked to comment on the First Amendment as it applies to so-called “pornography” and “obscenity,” on nude dancing, adult book stores, free-

continued on page 66
Over the past two decades, America has been victimized by the growing power of a narrow, restrictive philosophy of public education pushed by individuals such as the Gablers in Texas and ubiquitous television evangelists. They succeeded in mobilizing fundamentalist religious groups all over the country who feared their children were headed for hell when they headed for the classroom. They insisted, and became more vocal and strident in their insistence, that their own religious convictions should be protected and, indeed, promulgated in and by the schools. They preach that diversity should be avoided; certainty should be taught. Simply put, they seem to be saying; "This and only this is what the kids should learn... not 'how to learn' but 'what to learn."

Lengthy and expensive court cases resulted in Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana and in other places across the nation as fearful families tried to use the First Amendment, not for freedom of expression and learning, but to attack the foundations of public education in the guise of the free exercise of religion. This has led to an inhibiting process called by some the "dumbing down of America."

It has also brought a repressive and chilling atmosphere to classrooms and school libraries. Over the past four or five years, blatant censorship has occurred in (among other locales) Salisbury, Fort Towson, Edmond, and, most recently and sadly, in Stillwater, where some school librarians, possibly infected by fundamentalist pressures against any mention of natural, human, bodily functions in books, self-censored (failed to stock) a book from the Sequoyah Masterlist.

How can the coalition help to counteract the censoring, dumbing-down process? For one thing, it can suggest sounder premises and less simplistic and less dogmatic language for documents and laws dealing with public education, libraries and fundamental rights and, for another, it can publicly challenge those who are covertly or unabashedly in favor of censoring not only what their own children may read but also what other members of the public may read.

In addition to OEA and OLA, we have, as voting member-organizations, the Oklahoma Civil Liberties Union, the Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English and the Oklahoma chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi.

Although these five organizations together represent about forty thousand members, the coalition very much needs more voting memberships. OLA members who also belong to or know someone in other professional organizations such as the Association of University Women and Association of University Professors are urged to try to persuade them to join the coalition.

Organizational memberships are only $25 per year; individual, associate, non-voting memberships are only $5. The coalition has a dozen associate members who are also members of OLA. We need more of them, too. Our total membership has grown slowly. We now have 30 associates and the five organizations previously mentioned.

We also have one benefactor: Elliot Goldstein, chairman and publisher of Social Issues Resources Series, Inc. (SIRS), Boca Raton, Fl. Mr. Goldstein contributed $300 last spring to help the OCAC get moving.

So far, our expenses have been largely for postage. As president, I send out meeting agendas and attachments and, sometimes, voluminous updates on court cases and meeting minutes. We need all the help we can get, financial and otherwise.

At the moment, we are soliciting member sentiment for the next meeting date, which will probably be in January or February 1988.

I thank OLA for supporting the coalition and for having asked me to take on the job of organizing it, I think.

HELP DEFEND YOUR ZONE OF PERSONAL AUTONOMY... FIGHT CENSORSHIP.
Rights; and the Freedom to View Statement of the Educational Film Library Association adopted by the ALA Council.

OKLAHOMA COALITION AGAINST CENSORSHIP

BY-LAWS

Adopted 2-4-87; Revised 4-17-87

Article One — Membership
1.1 Members — Any organization supporting the purpose of the Coalition shall be eligible for membership. The Membership shall consider all membership applications and approve members by a majority of affirmative vote of the entire membership. Upon acceptance to membership, each organization shall be responsible for appointing one official delegate and one alternate delegate. Member organizations have the authority to select and replace their delegates and alternate delegates.

1.2 Associates — Organizations or individuals agreeing in whole or in part may join as associates. Associates shall receive mailings of the Coalition and may attend Coalition meetings. Other powers of full membership shall not rest with associates; however, if an associate is elected as an officer, he shall have full membership powers during his term of office.

1.3 Voting — Each member organization shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. There shall be no cumulative or proxy voting.

1.4 Transfer of Membership — Membership in the organization is not transferable nor assignable.

1.5 Member Response — Member organizations shall have the option of responding to any censorship issue which may come before the Coalition. Involvement with any censorship issue shall be at the discretion of each member organization.

Don’t take the First Amendment for granted!

Article Two — Termination of Membership
2.1 Resignation — Any member organization may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary or President.

2.2 Removal — Action against the Coalition's Statement of Concern and Statement of Purposes may be cause for removal by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership. Removal shall occur only after the member complained against has been given an opportunity for defense.

Article Three — Annual Dues and Expenses
3.1 Dues — Annual dues shall be $25 for a year for each member organization and $5 for associates.

3.2 Expenses — Expenses which may be incurred in excess of income from dues shall be financed by voluntary contributions by the member organizations and external funding sources. The membership shall not obligate expenditures beyond the funds in the treasury. The President may authorize the Treasurer to contract expenditures up to $100 without prior vote of the membership.

Article Four — Conducting Coalition Business
4.1 Meeting Rules — The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern parliamentary procedure at each Coalition meeting.

4.2 Officers — Shall consist of:
- President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall serve one-year terms or until successors can be chosen at an election of the membership. Associates may be elected to any of these offices.

4.3 Committees — Shall be determined as needed by the membership.

Best Wishes for the New Year

ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT

FBI Visits to Libraries

In response to inquiries received about the article, the FBI offered the following press response. The statement was not available in written form, but was dictated over the telephone.

The FBI is responsible for countering the intelligence gathering efforts of hostile foreign intelligence services. The damage being done to our country by such foreign intelligence services is substantial. The FBI's foreign counter intelligence investigative efforts encompass a variety of approaches, all of which are within U.S. Attorney General guidelines and United States laws.

The FBI has documented instances, for more than a decade, of hostile intelligence officers who have exploited libraries by stealing proprietary, sensitive, and other information and attempting to identify and recruit American and foreign students in American libraries. The FBI therefore, in an effort to thwart this activity, is endeavoring, on a limited basis, to educate knowledgeable individuals in specialized libraries to this hostile intelligence threat.

The FBI has historically depended upon the American public's assistance in carrying out its investigative responsibilities. The FBI has absolutely no interest in interfering with the American public's academic freedoms or First Amendment rights.

ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee is preparing the Association's response to this FBI program which has extended apparently over the past year. FBI agents have also approached staff at the libraries of major univer-
Government Information

Several university libraries have recently called the Washington Office's attention to federal agency restrictions on the use of government information. The Department of Energy Office of Scientific and Technical Information has notified recipients of DOE microfiche that OSTI will begin distributing microfiche copies of some limited reports in September 1987. Although the library buys these microfiche, DOE is restricting use of the reports to government agencies, DOE offices and their contractors. The notice from DOE to recipients includes the following proviso:

By electing to receive this material, you are agreeing to limit access to the microfiche to only those persons and organizations authorized to receive them.

Another university reports that they have a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for access to NASA RECON, a bibliographic aerospace database. A recent contract the library has been asked to sign has a new clause restricting use of the database to U.S. citizens.

INFORMATION NEEDED: The ALA Washington Office is interested in hearing from other libraries which have had similar or other experiences involving access to government information.

Exemplary Library Programs

The Department of Education has published Check This Out: Library Program Models, a description of 62 exemplary public, state, school and college library programs. The 319-page publication was prepared by the RMC Research Corporation for the National Diffusion Network and the Division of Library Programs. It can be ordered for $15 from GPO/SuDocs, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 065-000-00303-1.

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<th>OLA SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND DEADLINES</th>
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<td>*OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN deadline — Out February 12</td>
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<td>Source copy due — Out 2nd week in February</td>
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<td>Jan. 8-13</td>
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<td>ALA Midwinter Conference — San Antonio</td>
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<td>*Submit Items for Bulk Mailing to be mailed February 1</td>
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<td>Sequoyah Children's Selection Subcomm., 10 a.m., ODL</td>
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<td>ODL Medium Libraries Workshop</td>
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<td>Sequoyah Young Adult Book Award Committee</td>
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<td>Sequoyah Children's Book Award Committee, 10 a.m., ODL</td>
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<td>Legislative Day</td>
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<td>Support Staff Roundtable Workshop</td>
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<td>Executive Board/Program Committee — ODL</td>
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<td>*Count Ballots for OLA Officers (Nom. Com. Chairs)</td>
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<td>ODL Mid-Library Workshop</td>
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<td>Reference Roundtable Library Education Division Workshop</td>
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<td>Executive Board/Program Committee — Lecture Room, TCCL</td>
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<td>Microcomputer Workshop</td>
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<td>*Prepare Predecessor's Notebook for OLA Archives</td>
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(See OLA Handbook, Appendix F)
ALA Receives Funding To Encourage Poetry Programming In Libraries

The American Library Association (ALA) has received funding to develop library programming materials in conjunction with the new PBS series "Voices & Visions," 13 programs on modern American poets. The funding is provided by the Annenberg/CPB Project in association with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the MacArthur Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To help librarians encourage reading and study of American poetry along with viewing of the series, the ALA Communications Department is developing kits of materials — including a viewer's guide, programming and display ideas, clip art and a poster. Kits are being mailed to approximately 16,000 public and college libraries. Libraries may request additional copies of the viewer's guide using the response card in the kit.

"Voices & Visions," produced by the New York Center for Visual History, airs beginning January 26 on most PBS stations (check local listings). Videocassettes of the "Voices & Visions" series are available to libraries for $350 for the complete set of 13 one-hour cassettes on 1/2" VHS or $29.95 for each cassette about a single poet. Call 1-800-LEARNER for information on buying, renting or off-air taping.

The ALA/"Voices & Visions" project builds on last year's library project for "The Africans" funded by the Annenberg/CPB Project. New to this effort is the viewer's guide.

An insert in the January issue of American Libraries gives more details on the "Voices & Visions" series and the ALA project.

Applications Now Open For 1987-88 JMRT/Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grant

Library science students have the opportunity to experience the educational benefits of the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference March 9-12, 1988, through participation in the JMRT/Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grant Program.

The program offers one $250 scholarship to a student majoring in library science in an undergraduate or graduate program. Students enrolled in library technical assistant programs are also eligible to apply. To qualify, students must be members of the Oklahoma Library Association and OLA Junior Members Round Table. The winner will be selected on the basis of professional promise and leadership ability.

Baker & Taylor and the Junior Members Round Table of the American Library Association have offered Grassroots Grants in each state and the District of Columbia since 1978 to defray travel and housing costs for students attending library conventions. Any remaining money can be used for the student's library education.

If you would like to apply for the Grassroots Grant being given in Oklahoma contact Mary Marcum Evans, Linscheid Library, East Central University, Ada, OK 74820, (405) 332-8000 x370.

The deadline for Grassroots Grant applications is February 1, 1988.

Applications Now Being Taken For YASD/Baker & Taylor Grants

The American Library Association's Young Adult Services Division (YASD) has announced that applications are now being taken for the YASD/Baker & Taylor conference grants. The two grants of $750 each are awarded to librarians who work directly with young adults in either a public library or a school library and will enable them to attend the 1988 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, July 9-14, 1988.

The YASD/Baker & Taylor conference grants are made possible by the support of the Baker & Taylor Company and are administered by a committee of ALA's Young Adult Services Division.

Requirements for application are:

- the individual must be a YASD member, preferably for two or more years;
- the individual must have between one and ten years experience working with teenagers; and
- the individual must not have attended any previous ALA conference.

Completed applications and supporting statements should be sent to: YASD/Baker & Taylor Conference Grants Committee, YASD Office, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

The deadline for applications is March 1, 1988.

Williams Carlos Williams is one of 13 modern American poets featured in the PBS series "Voices & Visions," which premieres in January. With funding from the Annenberg/CPB Project, in association with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the MacArthur Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the American Library Association's Communications Department is mailing free programming kits based on the series to 16,000 public and college libraries.
LORI CURTIS NAMED ASSISTANT CURATOR

Lori N. Curtis has been appointed assistant curator of special collections at the University of Tulsa's McFarlin Library, effective October 1. Prior to this appointment, she attended the University of California, Los Angeles, Graduate School of Library and Information Science where she concentrated in special collections librarianship. While pursuing the M.L.S., she interned at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. Her specialization paper discusses the direction which the rare book cataloguing field is taking today and the quandary in which it has often found itself in the past.

In addition to the M.L.S., Curtis holds a Master of Arts in early modern and modern European history from the University of California, Riverside, with British history being of particular interest. Using quantitative research techniques, she performed a major study of nineteenth-century British electoral behavior. Curtis is in the process of preparing an article for publication which discusses the response of archives and manuscript repositories to the changing needs of social historians, particularly those involved in quantitative research. This article, which addresses the issue of collection development policies, brings together her work in archival studies and her experience as a quantitative social historian.

Curtis is a member of the American Library Association, Society of American Archivists, and the Society for Historic Preservation. She is also a member of the Cherokee-Shawnee tribe of Oklahoma.

Take an Active Interest in OLA

GODOCS
Steve Beleu
U.S. Documents Division, Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries

METRODOCS LIBRARY COOPERATIVE

Metrodocs is an informal, voluntary library cooperative comprised of the following seven depository libraries for U.S. government publications in the Oklahoma City Metropolitan area:

- Central State University Library
- Metropolitan Library System
- Southern Nazarene University
- Learning Resources Center
- Oklahoma City University Dulaney-Brown Library
- Oklahoma Department of Libraries
- University of Oklahoma Bizzell Library
- University of Oklahoma Law Library
- Mead Library
- Oklahoma City University Dulaney-Brown Library
- University of Oklahoma Bizzell Library
- University of Oklahoma Law Library
- Mead Library

Metrodocs was formed in 1986. Steve Beleu, who is the Regional Depository Librarian from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for the south half of Oklahoma, serves as chairperson. Metrodocs has adopted the following principles as its official statements of purpose:

1. Metrodocs is concerned with encouraging cooperation among depository libraries.
   A. To this end it holds meetings from time to time to share information about the activities of each depository and to work on projects and problems.
   B. Metrodocs has done preliminary work on an area union list of items selected.

2. Metrodocs has as its goal the promotion of access to government publications.
   A. To this end it creates and disseminates brochures, guides, and monographs on government publications.
   B. Metrodocs facilitates letter writing and other "political" activities aimed at supporting the Federal Depository Library Program.
   C. Metrodocs supports efforts to publicize the availability of information in government publications depository collections.

Metrodocs has published three library guides and is working on others (including a guide to Japanese technical literature in English translation):

- "U.S. Government Information at the Metrodocs Libraries"
  Metrodocs Brochure 1. 1 page.
- "Depository Libraries for U.S. Government Publications in the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area and How They Can Help Congressional Offices and Their Constituents"
  Metrodocs Brochure 2. 2 pages.
- "International Information: The Translations of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service and the Joint Publications Research Service"
  Metrodocs Guide 1. 3 pages.
- "International Information: Publications from U.S. Government Agencies"
  Metrodocs Guide 2. 4 pages.


Metrodocs Monograph 1. 25 pages.

Metrodocs has been successful enough that some Depository Library Inspectors from U.S. Superintendent of Documents have recommended that depository libraries in other metropolitan areas begin similar organizations.

If you are interested in acquiring any of the publications listed above, or have any questions about Metrodocs, call Steve Beleu at 1-800-522-8116 or 405-521-2502, ext. 252.

COALITION ON GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

The Coalition on Government Information is an affiliate of ALA whose goal is to ensure equal and readily available access to government information. It was formed on July 29, 1986, in Washington, D.C., by representatives from twenty organizations, including library,
consumer, science, law, statistics, housing, journalism and public advocacy organizations. The American Library Association was the lead organization that convened the meeting. The Coalition attempts to increase communication among member organizations, stimulate wider and more diverse responses on government information issues, increase citizen participation in governmental information policies and procedures, and mobilize members of Congress to work for enlightened government information policies. Among the issues the Coalition is currently dealing with is proposed U.S. Office of Management and Budget paperwork regulation revisions that critics charge will increase government secrecy, FBI pressure on librarians to identify library users and what they use to FBI agents, and proposed legislation on withholding the publication of government-sponsored information on superconductivity. You may contact the Coalition by writing to:

Coalition on Government Information
c/o American Library Association
Washington Office
110 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
Phone: 202/547-444

**DOCLIBS**

Government Documents of Interest to Librarians
By Steve Beleu,
U.S. Documents, ODL

This column identifies government publications that are of special importance to librarians, i.e., those that discuss library problems, reference works, etc. These publications may be available in any of the U.S. or Oklahoma depository libraries throughout the state or may be borrowed on interlibrary loan. U.S. documents that are for sale may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. For State of Oklahoma publications you must contact the issuing agency. Key: "Sudocs" is U.S. Superintendent of Documents; "OPC" is the Oklahoma Publications Clearinghouse. Annotations for State of Oklahoma publications are written by Vicki Sullivan, OPC.


- The Federal Theatre Project not only employed many out of work theatrical professionals during the Great Depression, but provided a mirror of life in the 1930s. This guide to the records of an important WPA project includes information on over 500,000 items, including administrative files, play production records, scripts for many plays and radio plays that can not be found elsewhere, poster, photograph, and music files, and newspaper clipping files.


Libraries can get on a mailing list for this by writing: Technical Publications Unit, Office of Offshore Information and Publications, Minerals Management Service, MS 642, 1951 Kidwell Drive, Room 536, Vienna, Virginia 22180.

- This list of scientific and technical publications of the Offshore Minerals Management Program includes publications on technical aspects of offshore oil drilling, the impact of the offshore program on recreation and tourism, studies of the environmental impact of the program, etc.


- Sudocs classification number: D 114.19:C 76

Stock number 008-029-00153-5

- Price $24.00.


Sudocs classification number: LC 1.2:Sci 2/4

Stock number 030-000-00183-4

Price $30.00.

Aside from a few forbiddingly complex works, many of the great works of science can be understood by the nonscientist. This examines books in the Library of Congress that have had a major influence on the development of Western thought. There is one essay apiece on astronomy, botany, chemistry, geology, mathematics, medicine, physics, and zoology. Each essay is both bibliographical and historical. This volume is profusely illustrated, and is certain to become a major reference work in the history of science and Western thought.

**NLW '89 TO FOCUS ON LIBRARIAN**

The theme for National Library Week 1989 will focus on the librarian, according to Linda K. Wallace, director of the ALA Public Information Office.

The concept was approved by the National Library Week Committee at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January 1987 to support goals and objectives in ALA's Strategic Long-Range Plan calling for the association to educate the public about the role of the librarian and promote visibility of the profession.

There will be a preview of materials at the National Library Week Workshop at the ALA 1986 Annual Conference in New Orleans. Plans call for a national "Superlibrarian" Contest with nominations from the public.

Posters, bookmarks and other support materials are offered for sale to local libraries through the ALA Graphics Catalog.
Stories + Pictures + Children = Storytime Magic

The Flannel Board Storytelling Book

by Judy Sierra

Everything You Need to Make Storytime Special

Inexpensive, fun, and creative, flannel board storytelling is a way to share stories visually with children while retaining the intimacy and spontaneity of traditional storytelling.

Designed for librarians, teachers, and others who work with elementary and preschool children, The Flannel Board Storytelling Book offers 36 stories, songs, and poems from around the world, chosen and adapted by Judy Sierra especially for use with flannel boards.

36 Ready-to-Use Programs for Children 3 to 8-Years-Old

Accompanied by over 250 traceable patterns for the felt figures used to illustrate the stories on flannel boards, the 36 ready-to-use programs in The Flannel Board Storytelling Book are divided into two groups, those ideal for use with 3 to 5-year-olds and others for 5 to 8-year-olds.

Poems, Stories, and Songs from Around the World

Simply told, with strong plots and engaging characters, the selections in The Flannel Board Storytelling Book derive from the old traditions of many cultures and include poems by Edward Lear and Christina Rosetti, tales from Norway, Russia, Africa, Mexico, Sweden, Indonesia, India, England, Germany, Japan, and the United States, as well as favorite folk songs, nursery rhymes, and fables.

To Order Call Toll-Free: 1-800-367-6770

In New York State Call 1-800-462-6060; in Canada Call Collect 212-588-8400.

THE H.W. WILSON COMPANY

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(212) 588-8400