

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

A Statement of Responsibility relating to the title proper is considered a core element in RDA, meaning that if such statements occur in association with the title they must be recorded. Those statements of responsibility associated with an edition statement and/or a series statement *may* be included in the record, that is, whether to record them is left to cataloger's judgment because these statements of responsibility are not considered core, "*Other statements of responsibility are optional.*" (see the Core Element statement at **2.4**)

While the concept of Statement of Responsibility remains basically unchanged from AACR2, there are three differences in this area that are significant. They are:

- Transcription rules are more straightforward, and thus
- The "rule of three" practice is gone, and
- We no longer use "...[et al.]" as a means to indicate other "authors" (creators and/or contributors) beyond the first named that we did not transcribe, according to the Core Element statement at **2.4**.

Information about *recording* statements of responsibility is found in **2.4.1.4** of RDA, with specific instructions about several circumstances provided in **2.4.1 – 2.4.3**.

A statement of responsibility is defined at **2.4.1 Scope** as: "...a statement relating to the identification and/or function of any persons, families, or corporate bodies responsible for the creation of, or contributing to the realization of, the intellectual or artistic content of a resource. A statement of responsibility may include words or phrases that are neither names nor linking words." Depending on what element of the record a statement of responsibility appears in (title, edition, or series) one is directed to specific RDA instructions for identifying and recording the information found.

Transcription

How a statement of responsibility is recorded falls under instruction **2.4.1.4, Recording Statements of Responsibility** where it says "*Transcribe* a statement of responsibility in the form in which it appears on the source of information. Apply the general guidelines on transcription given under 1.7."

Instruction **1.7.1**, which states "When the instructions in chapters 2–4 specify *transcription* of an element as it appears on the source of information, apply the general guidelines on capitalization, punctuation, symbols, abbreviations, etc., given under 1.7.2–1.7.9. [in both cases above the italicized words are my stressing them] This has an impact in two ways; the old "rule of three" no longer applies because now we can transcribe as many persons, families, or corporate bodies having a role in the creation of the map as indicated in the source(s) of information, and second, we no longer have to decide whether to record such things as a person's title or affiliation with an institution – if it's there it is recorded. Keep in mind that the Core Element statement under **2.4** also says that if there is more than one statement we are only required to record the first: "*Statement of responsibility relating to title proper is a core element (if more than one, only the first recorded is required).*"

Only one statement of responsibility with one person, body, or family responsible

If only one person, body, or family is named as being responsible for the resource then record the statement as found, see **2.4.1.4**, and also record a noun or noun phrase (i.e., "by", "produced" or any of

those noted in the list from *Cartographic Materials* 1F1, APPLICATION on page 1-25). If a noun or noun phrase appears with the name, see **2.4.1.8**.

Only one statement of responsibility with multiple persons, bodies, or families responsible

See **2.4.1.5** *Statement Naming More Than One Person, Etc.* We include all named persons, bodies, or families that are part of the statement of responsibility, but also see the *Optional Omission* stated below that allows us to substitute a phrase for the fourth or more named entities instead of listing all of them. This is what replaces the familiar "... [et al.]" we used with AACR2.

The biggest change from AACR2 practice in this area is the elimination of what has become generically known as the "rule of three" over the years. Instead, according to **2.4.1.5** *Optional Omission*, "If a single statement of responsibility names more than three persons, families, or corporate bodies performing the same function, or with the same degree of responsibility, omit all but the first of each group of such persons, families, or bodies" and substitute the phrase "[and X others]" as noted in **2.2.4** to indicate that others were involved.

More than one statement of responsibility

Instruction **2.4.2** covers the circumstance of multiple statements of responsibility associated with the title proper. It states that "If more than one statement of responsibility relating to title proper appears on the source of information, only the first recorded is required." What do we do if we chose to record more than one statement of responsibility? The very last part of this instruction tells us "If not all statements of responsibility appearing on the source or sources of information are being recorded, give preference to those identifying creators of the intellectual or artistic content. In case of doubt, record the first statement" and the key words here are "creators" (see chapter **19**) and "record the first statement".

EXAMPLES

Single statement of responsibility with one creator:

110 2 Centre County Planning Commission.
245 10 Agriculture, Centre County, Pennsylvania / |c Centre County Planning Commission, 1976.

Summary: The Planning Commission's name is prominently shown directly below the title. See **2.4.1.4** for recording a single statement of responsibility, and **19.2.1.1.1** for corporate bodies as creators.

Single statement of responsibility with multiple creators:

100 1 Hermann, Michael J.
245 10 Scotia, Pennsylvania, State Game Lands #176 trail map : |b hunting, birding, hiking, biking, history, exploring / |c designed by Michael James Hermann and Timothy Haynes.

Summary: The second creator may be traced in a 7XX field, though it is not required and thus it becomes cataloger's judgment. See **2.4.1.5** for recording multiple entities in one statement and **19.2** Core statement about the first named creator being required and others being optional.

Multiple statements of responsibility:

100 1 Beers, D. G. |q (Daniel G.), |e cartographer.

245 10 Map of Cambria Co., Pennsylvania : |b from actual surveys and official records / |c by D.G. Beers, assisted by J.H. Goodhue and F.B. Roe ; engraved by Worley & Bracher.

Summary: D.G. Beers, J.H. Goodhue and F.B. Roe are the creators; Worley & Bracher is the contributor. First named creator appears as the authorized access point in the 1XX field since this is a Core element, the other two creators and the contributor may also be given in multiple 7XX fields but it is not required, see **2.4.2** Core statement. (they were given in this case). For recording multiple statements of responsibility see **2.4.1.6**.

No statement of responsibility indicated:

245 00 Inter-Valley Region : |b regional community facilities : [Centre County, Pennsylvania].

Summary: No person, body, or family was identified as being responsible on the map nor found in other sources of information.