

CONGREGATION of Jehovah's Witnesses

Kingdom Hall

Mailing address:

Presiding Minister

July 16, 2008

Body of Elders
Congregation of
Jehovah's Witnesses

Dear Brothers:

As you know, recently [redacted] was reinstated into the Christian Congregation when the Society responded favorably to our joint congregation's appeal for reinstatement – S-77 dated May 27, 2008. However, although they acknowledged and approved of his reinstatement, the Service Desk asked that two brothers be assigned to investigate and clarify certain facts pertaining to [redacted]'s judicial history that involved child molestation.

They referenced the confidential letter to all bodies of elders dated March 14, 1997, paragraph 1. page 3. That paragraph asks eleven questions. They requested that we research and do our best to answer each of those questions in a confidential letter to them and return it in a blue envelope as soon as possible. One of those questions dealt with notifying any congregation to which the offender has moved and advise that congregation of his past conduct of child molestation. That was the purpose of our confidential phone call to Br. [redacted] on July 16 and this follow up letter.

To begin with, brothers, this man's case of immorality is extensive, complicated and has a long history, going back to at least 1984. In the years that followed congregations have been split, many of the elders dealing with this man either were deleted as elders, died, moved out of the area and/or were reassigned to other congregations in the city. So when new issues of immorality came forward and new committees were assigned to deal with those cases, they didn't feel obliged to dig in to old files that were since closed and sealed. It appears that they wished to judge each case on its own merits. However, it appears that that is not to be the way to handle a man with a history of child molestation.

With [redacted], the brothers that dealt with his most recent case of immorality involving [redacted] were unaware of any history of child molestation and didn't feel obliged to access and read all of his old files (five very extensive and complicated files) in judging this most recent case. They only accessed the most recent cases they felt would assist them in their judgment. Had they read them all they, no doubt, would have been alerted to [redacted]'s 1988 involvement with what has since been defined as child molestation [indecent exposure and touching]; which has no 'statute of limitation' according to current law and according to what the Christian Congregation wishes all bodies of elders to comply with.

It is with this aforementioned information that we are writing you this letter. We trust that you brothers will now be adequately informed to properly deal with this matter in accordance with the directions of the Christian Congregation. If we can be of any further assistance we stand ready to help.

Your brothers,