

# TESTIGOS CRISTIANOS DE JEHOVÁ

---

Apartado postal 132 - 28850 TORREJÓN DE ARDOZ (Madrid)

DOMICILIO SOCIAL: Ctra. Torrejón a Ajalvir (M-108), km. 5 - 28864 AJALVIR (Madrid) • Teléfono: (+34) 918 879 700 • Fax: (+34) 918 879 702

TC September 15, 2010

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Funds on deposit with the branch

Dear Brothers:

Second Corinthians 8:14, 15 says: “That by means of an equalizing your surplus just now might offset their deficiency, in order that their surplus might also come to offset your deficiency, that an equalizing might take place. Just as it is written: ‘The person with much did not have too much, and the person with little did not have too little.’” One way that this principle can be put into practice organizationally is through the funds-on-deposit arrangement. For a number of years, an arrangement has been available to congregations to place funds on deposit with the branch office. However, a recent analysis shows that only 42% percent of congregations in Spain are taking advantage of this provision.

There are significant advantages to participating in this arrangement. By consolidating funds, the branch office is able to earn additional interest at rates above what a congregation normally earns by acting on its own. The funds earned by the branch office would then be available for use in supporting Kingdom interests locally or worldwide. All of this is accomplished by making full use of funds that have already been contributed but may now be idle.

To simplify this arrangement and make it easier for the congregations that participate, we have eliminated the need for a resolution to be passed each time funds are deposited with or withdrawn from the branch office. One resolution must be passed to begin participating in the arrangement, but subsequent deposits and withdrawals may be made at the discretion of the body of elders. (This direction updates information found in *Instructions for Congregation Accounting* (S-27), which has been adjusted to include these new guidelines). Of course, a resolution approved by the congregation is still needed for congregation funds on deposit with the branch to be *donated* to the branch office.

Paragraphs 22 and 23 of *Instructions for Congregation Accounting* (S-27) explains the procedure to be followed when depositing or withdrawing funds on deposit with the branch. To ask for a withdrawal, a written request sent by e-mail will suffice. The e-mail should be sent either by the coordinator of the body of elders and/or the secretary. The branch will then transfer the requested amount to the congregation’s bank account within one week, at the most.

We have also extended this arrangement to include Kingdom Hall operating committee accounts. If your operating committee account contains funds in excess of what is required to care for a few months’ worth of expenses, the combined bodies of elders should consider leaving these funds on deposit with the branch office. If they agree to do so, each congregation must pass one resolution allowing the operating committee to begin participating in this arrangement. Thereafter, it may be left to the discretion of the operating committee whether to deposit or withdraw additional funds from this account. In such a case, the funds should first be transferred to the individual accounts of each congregation within the group, in reasonable proportions that have previously been established. Then, each congregation will deposit the funds received into the operating committee’s account, following the procedure indicated in the previous paragraph.

Please find overleaf a list of “Questions and Answers about Funds on Deposit”, which we invite you to review carefully.

May Jehovah’s blessing be upon this effort to show increased diligence in caring for this aspect of the Master’s belongings. (Matt. 25:23) Please accept an expression of our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,

*Testigos Cristianos de Jehová*

## Questions and Answers about Funds on Deposit

### **Question 1: What amount of funds should we retain locally?**

**Answer:** It is recommended that congregations retain only sufficient funds to cover at most two or three months of average expenses. The rest can be considered excess and forwarded to the branch office for the funds-on-deposit arrangement.

### **Question 2: What if more than one congregation meets in our Kingdom Hall, an operating committee account has been established to care for the expenses of the Kingdom Hall, and it now appears that excess funds have accumulated in that account? Can we place those funds on deposit with the branch office?**

**Answer:** Yes. Both congregations and the operating committees are encouraged to set up their own funds-on-deposit account with the branch office, using the following procedure: the operating committee should first transfer the funds to the individual accounts of each congregation within the group, in reasonable proportions that have previously been established. Then, each congregation will deposit the funds received into the operating committee's account, following the procedure indicated in paragraph 22 of the *Instructions for Congregation Accounting* (S-27).

### **Question 3: How do congregations and/or operating committees leave funds on deposit with the branch office?**

**Answer:** A congregation must pass a resolution to begin using this arrangement. If the collective bodies of elders are in agreement with leaving operating committee funds on deposit with the branch office, each congregation must pass a resolution for this as well. Such resolutions might state: "We resolve to make wise use of funds dedicated to Kingdom interests by regularly depositing with the branch office any excess congregation (or operating committee) funds. It is understood that whenever a need arises for these funds, they will be returned at the request of the elders." Future additions and withdrawals of funds do not require a resolution but may be made at the discretion of the body of elders (or the operating committee).

### **Question 4: How do we request a return of funds on deposit with the branch office?**

**Answer:** A written request should be sent to the branch office, signed by either the coordinator of the body of elders or the secretary, indicating the congregation name and number along with amount of funds that is being requested. This request may be submitted via e-mail to: [contabilidad@tcj.es](mailto:contabilidad@tcj.es).

### **Question 6: How do congregations donate funds on deposit with the branch office?**

**Answer:** If the congregation has approved by resolution the donation of funds on deposit with the branch office, the following steps should be taken using the congregation's *Accounts Facility* on the Internet: using the option *Resoluciones y otros fondos para la sucursal*>*Resoluciones para este mes*>*Depósito en Betel* the amount being donated should be entered, placing a minus(-) sign before the amount. Then, using the option *Resoluciones y otros fondos para la sucursal*>*Resoluciones para este mes*>*[to choose the Fund that is wanted to donate]* the same amount should be entered, placing a plus(+) sign before the amount.