

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

COH:COC October 8, 2013

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: 2014 district conventions

Dear Brothers:

We are writing to explain a new rooming arrangement for district conventions in 2014. Attached you will find a letter dated October 10, 2013, that is to be read to the congregation. **All this information, including convention dates and location, should be kept confidential until it is presented after your next *Watchtower* Study.**

This letter should be read to the congregation by the *Watchtower* Study conductor after the *Watchtower* Study, and also by the secretary during the Service Meeting on the week of **October 14**. You may adjust the timing of the other Service Meeting parts as needed. First read the congregation assignment letter, which contains the dates and location of your convention. Immediately after that, please read the attached letter regarding the new rooming arrangement. Following this, the information on the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* should be announced. (This *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* will appear in the congregation's inbox on the jw.org website.) However, if you have not received the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* by then, then announce this information when received. After the meeting, the letter dated October 10, 2013 and the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* should both be placed on the noticeboard. Please inform those not present of the new rooming arrangement.

If you will not have a meeting due to a circuit event, each group overseer should be given a copy of the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* (if applicable) and inform his group of their convention dates and location. The secretary should make the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* information available by email to those who request it.

It is important that the **elders** review the material in this and the attached letter so as to become thoroughly familiar with it. Much work has gone into negotiating competitive rates with hotels and bureaus. Since this is a new arrangement, there will be a need to adjust the thinking of some. By understanding the principles, the elders can then encourage publishers to support the arrangement. In the past, when hotels were aware that the same venue would be used for consecutive years, they would raise their rates for the dates of our convention. If the brothers fully support this new arrangement, it will provide stronger negotiating influence and thus ensure cheaper hotel rates for future years.

At times, some brothers have booked multiple dates at various hotels so as to make sure they have accommodation for the district convention. We understand the desire to plan ahead. However, some hotels have at times phoned our offices as they get bookings when no dates have been released. We want to be cautious about our reputation with hotels.

Please help the publishers to see the benefits to the brotherhood. The smoothness with which the new rooming arrangement functions will largely depend on the cooperation of everyone involved—the convention Rooming Department, the hotels, the secretaries and those being

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accommodated. We are sure the loving support of the brothers will prove to be a blessing to this new arrangement.

We send our warm Christian love and greetings.—Col. 3:23; Heb. 13:7.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

Attachment