Kalamunda Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses

Service Desk
Australia Branch
PO Box 280
Ingleburn. NSW 1890

Re: SD:SSG, December 27, 2013, Request for Reinstatement

Dear Brothers,

Thank you for your response to our recommendation of reinstatement of [REDACTED].

Please do not think we are questioning the decision not to reinstate [REDACTED] by the original committee, and the Branch, obviously have "credible evidence" that contradicts his side of the story, so your response was expected. However, as a committee we feel a distinct disadvantage in trying to handle this case, simply because we do not have access to the "credible evidence" to which you refer. Without knowing exactly what he is supposed to have done, we cannot tell if he is genuinely repentant of committing these offences. Obviously we are hearing only his side of the story, hence this letter: Is it possible for us to have access to the evidence you have, or even just a summary of it? This would enable us to challenge his claim that there cannot be any genuine evidence, as he did not commit any offence against his other daughters.

While this case is only a plea for reinstatement, if it had been an original judicial committee hearing, then, (as discussed in KS 7/2), the testimony of the witnesses would “be given in the presence of the accused” or if necessary, would be "submitted in writing and read to the accused". Presumably this was done at the original judicial hearing, although he claims it wasn’t and because we do not have any details of the evidence, we are not able to ‘re-read the evidence’ to him. If it is not possible for us to be given a copy (or summary) of the evidence to read to him, would it possible for his plea for reinstatement to be heard by the original committee, or ones who do have this evidence? This possibility has not been discussed with him, but in the past he has said he would be prepared to travel if necessary, it is the only way to establish that he is repentant.

So, in summary, is it possible for us to have more details of the evidence against him or, if not, for those who do have the evidence to hear his plea for reinstatement?

We apologise for having to trouble you with this case again. However, it does distress us, (and the whole congregation in fact), to see someone, who for so many years has conducted himself faultlessly and appears to be totally repentant, yet is not accepted back into the congregation. We, as a committee, would also like to be convinced in our own mind that this is justified and hence our requests above.

We send our warm Christian love and thanks for your continuing support in these difficult situations.

Your brothers,

Allan Chesney
Phil Dent
James Wedlake