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CA 24 DEC 2013

Kalamunda Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

REDACTED

15th December 2013

Service Desk
Australia Branch
PO Box 280
Ingleburn NSW 1890

Re: BCH — Request for Reinstatement

Dear Brothers,

We have recently had a further application for reinstatement from BCH. On this occasion a different committee has reviewed the case, to allow for a fresh look at the situation.

We are aware that he has applied for reinstatement a number of times previously and on at least the last three occasions, the local committee involved recommended his reinstatement.

This current committee has observed his conduct over several years, considered all the evidence we currently have and listened to BCH's personal testimony and we also conclude that he is truly repentant. We have considered very carefully your directions in the letters of September 19, 2011 and repeated in the letter of February 12, 2013 that "At least three of BCH's daughters have provided clear and credible testimony of sexual abuse by their father. This includes the daughter who serves as a REDACTED. Her testimony is balanced and reliable, as opposed to BCH's long established pattern of lying to elders and judicial committees."

We do not of course have access to the "credible testimony" you refer to, including that of his daughter BCK REDACTED but the testimony of his other daughters, relates to events over 30 years ago and in the case of BCK, was when she was only 2-3 years old (over 40 years ago) and before BCH was in the truth. Apart from the incident with BCG, RE BCH continues to deny any indiscretion with any of his other daughters but, even if these other events did happen, they are over 30 years ago. How long can these accusations be held against him, when he shows every evidence that he has repented a long time ago?

As we look at this man now, we can see nothing against him – everything he does indicates he is conducting himself in an irreproachable manner and commensurate with someone who has truly repented over previous sins.

Your last three responses to his requests for reinstatement (9th Nov 2010, 19th Sept 2011 and 12th Feb 2013) have all said that "Until he fully acknowledges to Jehovah and the judicial committee, his sins of child abuse and lying in connection with these offences, it would be difficult for a committee or the victims to consider that he was repentant". BCH says that he has fully acknowledged these sins to Jehovah; he certainly has admitted molesting BCG to this committee and to the previous committees from this congregation also and clearly regrets everything, including any lying that happened. Yes he still consistently denies molesting any of his other daughters but we tend to believe him, as there would seem to be no point continuing to deny it, when he has admitted to the incident with BCG. His repeated requests for reinstatement indicate his obvious desire to be

reinstated and he is aware that admitting to these other charges may enhance his chance of being reinstated, yet he continues to deny them. If he was to admit to these incidents now and did NOT actually do them as he claims, he would then be lying and effectively we would have forced him to do that.

We have observed his conduct over the last 3-4 years and everything he does and says indicates he is truly repentant of any sins he has committed, whether they be child molestation, lying or anything else.

We list the following as 'works that befit repentance' evident in BCH:

1. He regularly attends congregation meetings, doing so even if his wife happens to be sick.
2. He pre-studies diligently for the meetings and follows the program intently.
3. He takes his responsibilities as head of the house seriously.
4. His engagement with members of the congregation as a disfellowshipped person cannot be faulted.
5. He witnesses informally at every opportunity and has been responsible for others becoming interested in the truth.
6. He prays frequently, continually seeks forgiveness and feels that Jehovah listens to him.
7. There has been no interaction with children either inside or outside the congregation.
8. His wife has seen absolutely no evidence of him viewing pornography or seen any indiscretion on his part over the 20 or so years they have been married, whether physically, in printed matter or on the internet.
9. He does not have a complaining, justifying attitude, despite the time it is taking to prove that he is repentant and the repeated refusals of his reinstatement requests. He has obviously accepted the reproof he has received.
10. The congregation notices his exemplary conduct as a disfellowshipped person and are clearly puzzled that it is taking so long for him to be reinstated. Some have been overheard applying 2 Cor 2:5-8 to his situation and this concerns us also.

All the evidence says that anything that happened all those years ago is behind him and we cannot see anything else that he can do to prove that he is truly repentant over whatever actually happened. He admits to the incident with BCG and to any past occasions of lying and is sincerely repentant over these things. He could admit to molesting his other daughters too, just to try to get reinstated but he did that once before apparently and that resulted in the lying charges. Would we want to force him to do that again, if he was not guilty of these accusations against him?

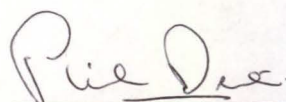
Like the previous committee, on three occasions, this committee also have no doubt that he is truly repentant of child molestation and lying, so we request that you accept his genuine repentance and approve his plea for reinstatement.

Warm Christian love,

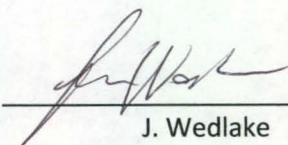
Your Brothers



F.A. Chesney



P. Dent



J. Wedlake