

REDACTED

WA , 6210
6th January, 2015

Service Desk
Watchtower Society,
Box 280 Ingleburn,
NSW, 1890

Re: - Deletion of Bro William Neil

Dear Brothers,

This is a brief summary of events leading to the deletion of Bro. Neil from serving as an elder in the Narrogin, WA, Congregation around 1993 whilst I was serving there.

Bro. Bill had served from about 1975 and had a family of a wife and six children, four girls and two boys. Sister BCB (nee REDACTED) grew up on a farm some 45 minutes REDACTED. Her mother, BCD, was a faithful witness while her father was an unbeliever.

BCB stayed with Bro Neil's family on numerous occasions as she was growing up as some of his daughters were a similar age. This became more frequent when she began working in town as it meant she was saved the long drive home after work. While staying with them, she was always treated as part of the family, sitting in on the family study and meeting preparation and attending meetings. It no doubt helped her to make the truth her own and dedicate her life to Jehovah.

When BCB raised the allegations against Brother Bill concerning being touched inappropriately I viewed it very seriously. I listened to both to try to ascertain the facts and our Circuit Overseer at the time, Brother Doug Jackson, also did the same during his visit. Sadly, it became a matter of her word against his as there were no witnesses to the alleged events. BCB was an attractive young sister and often got around the house in her nightwear as was the custom of the other children. When it was time for them to go to bed, Bill would kiss her good night as he did with his daughters.

The situation raised doubts in my mind about Brother Bill's freeness of speech and this was compounded by the way he dealt with a couple of other situations in the congregation at the time. His comments and actions towards these others who were having problems of a different kind showed a lack of loving concern and willingness to help.

When I discussed these matters with the Circuit Overseer, he agreed with my recommendation that Brother Bill no longer qualified as an elder.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance,

Your Brother,

Max Horley