

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, MASSACHUSETTS CIRCUIT #9

511 Northampton Street, Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) [REDACTED]

May 22, 2005

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
2821 Route 22
Patterson, NY 12563-2237

Dear Brothers,

Please give consideration to this as it is attached to the S-303 of the Palmer, MA congregation. This involves some of my findings involving Brother [REDACTED] while serving with the congregation this week.

Brother [REDACTED] is recently reinstated from an admission of improper conduct toward his daughter, [REDACTED]. After the fact was accused of molestation by his other daughter, Sister [REDACTED] of the West Springfield, MA congregation. Recently, a Sister [REDACTED] of the Fort Kent, ME congregation has brought an additional accusation forward. Both of these latter accusations have been investigated and to date it has been determined that judicial action is unwarranted. While admitting to misconduct with his one daughter, [REDACTED] he vehemently denies these other allegations.

In September 2004 he charged Sister [REDACTED] of the Westfield, MA congregation with slander. This has not been addressed as of yet by the Westfield elder body. Brother [REDACTED] claims on four separate occasions she has spread malicious lies about him. Sister [REDACTED]'s husband is an elder in the congregation and she currently serves as a regular pioneer. She is a longtime friend of [REDACTED] the daughter of Brother [REDACTED] The Warehouse Point, CT congregation that dealt judicially with Brother [REDACTED] had expressed "some concerns regarding [REDACTED] seeming obsession in filing charges against [REDACTED] from the start of the long ongoing investigation into this matter". She has never spoken directly with Brother [REDACTED] and gives evidence of feeling "the one first in his legal case is righteous" as it pertains to the situation with him and his daughter [REDACTED] (Pr 18:17).

Of interest also is that she is the daughter of [REDACTED] of the Fort Kent, ME congregation. You have received correspondence from him one of the allegations levied against Brother [REDACTED] (See his letter of 12/13/04). He has become involved in the investigation of Brother [REDACTED] and his alleged sexual abuse. Brother [REDACTED] served on the same elder body with him a number of years ago and related that the two of them did not get along due to a personality conflict. He feels that he is being fed information from [REDACTED] while continuing to harbor ill will toward him from earlier times.

Lost in the mix of all this is Brother [REDACTED] ex-wife, [REDACTED] of the West Springfield, MA congregation. You may recall that there were "flyers" circulated in the trailer park that Brother [REDACTED] lives and in the surrounding area (Please see enclosed copy). She maintains a close relationship with her daughter, [REDACTED] and has never been questioned about any involvement in this or other matters involving her ex-husband. She also instigated a restraining order against her ex-husband, although she had not been in contact with him for twenty years. That restraining order included non-contact with their daughter, [REDACTED] whom Brother [REDACTED] had not seen in two years. It was this restraining order that led to his arrest while at the Natick Assembly Hall during a February 29, 2004 circuit assembly program of

which Brother [redacted] sent you information (Please see enclosed copy). Sadly missing from all of this is that these individuals have neglected to give consideration to how this reflects on Jehovah in their family dealings. The [redacted]'s indicate that all these issues began to surface upon the reinstatement of Sister [redacted] in 1997.

It seems that ones could be 'rejoicing over unrighteousness' by their displeasure over his reinstatement, remarriage, and spiritual prosperity (1Cor 13:6; cf 307). Hearing only one side of the issue is no doubt very convincing as our listening to Brother [redacted] appears. Proverbs 18:17 is true when it states "the one first in his legal case is righteous". Many could be benefited if the latter is fulfilled in that a 'searching one through' could be accomplished. With so many involved, there has never been a clearing of the way for peace to be brought about. By not addressing this in a proper fashion ones have taken sides on this family issue leading to there being guilt in "sending forth contentions among brothers" (Pr 6:19)

As you can see this is a very complex situation involving numerous individuals in a variety of congregations. It has taken its toll upon the [redacted] yet he and his new wife keep themselves very active in the ministry. Encouragement was given on the shepherding visit for them to continue to display the commendable attitude David exhibited while being accused by Shimei (2Sam 16:12). At this time I feel the Westfield, MA congregation needs to address Brother [redacted]'s charge of slander against Sister [redacted]. The West Springfield, MA congregation should inquire of Sister [redacted] about any knowledge or involvement she has pertaining to the "flyer" distribution. Whether all parties could be gathered together to come to terms or not, I am not sure. Unfortunately this has consumed the valuable time of many and needs to be brought to a conclusion for the sake of peace. I have tried to consolidate the information for your benefit, yet welcome any assistance or insight you may have to offer for a solution.

May you have peace and be assured of our prayers in your behalf.

Your fellow servant,

[redacted]
MA #9