

# NOTIFICATION OF DISFELLOWSHIPING OR DISASSOCIATION

(Please type or print neatly in ink)

## PERSON'S DETAILS

- Male  
 Female

|              |  |                 |
|--------------|--|-----------------|
| _____        | _____  | _____           |
| (First name) | (Middle name)  | (Surname)       |
| _____        | _____  | Office use only |
| (Birth date) | (Date of announcement of<br>disfellowshipping or disassociation) |                 |

Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (City) (State)

Appointment:  Elder  Ministerial servant  Special pioneer  Regular pioneer (Include S-202 form with this form)  
 Listed as a person to receive literature / magazine shipments for congregation (Send S-36 or M-206 form)

## DISFELLOWSHIPING (Specify offence/s by ticking appropriate box/boxes)

- |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apostasy                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Drunkenness         | <input type="checkbox"/> Fits of anger, violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Greed (gambling/extortion) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gross uncleanness                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Loose conduct       | <input type="checkbox"/> Lying                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Manslaughter               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Misuse of Tobacco or addictive drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> Obscene speech      | <input type="checkbox"/> Porneia                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to provide for family        | <input type="checkbox"/> Slander or reviling | <input type="checkbox"/> Stealing or fraud       |   |

### PROOF OF WRONGDOING

- The person confessed  Two or more witnesses  
 Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

### APPEAL

- Decision was not appealed  Decision was appealed

## DISASSOCIATION (Tick appropriate box/boxes)

- Non-neutral activity  Joined another religion  Oral resignation before two witnesses  
 Signed letter of resignation  Unrepentant failure to abstain from blood

## PREVIOUSLY DISFELLOWSHIPED OR DISASSOCIATED

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| _____                     | _____                                       |
| (Full name at that time)  | (Name of congregation that took the action) |
| _____                     | _____                                       |
| (Date of previous action) | (Date of previous reinstatement)            |

## THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Type or print name of \_\_\_\_\_  
committee members (Chairman)

Signatures \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTIFICATION OF REINSTATEMENT OR DEATH

(If the individual is reinstated or dies, the secretary should sign and date the *stamped copy* of this form and return it to the branch office in a special blue envelope)

- Reinstated \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deceased (Date) (Signature of Secretary)

|                 |
|-----------------|
| Office use only |
|-----------------|

## DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY

The primary purpose for recording and retaining this information is to enable Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia (“the Society”), which is responsible for the religion of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Australia, to supervise the religious activities of Jehovah’s Witnesses throughout the country, individually and collectively. This includes:

- (1) Being aware of anyone who is no longer a member of the Christian Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses;
- (2) Knowing what spiritual help and assistance has been given to the individual concerned;
- (3) Providing whatever direction is needed to ensure that the Scriptural standards, as set out in God’s Holy Word, the Bible, are maintained in the Congregations of Jehovah’s Witnesses; and
- (4) Ensuring that the individual concerned is given whatever spiritual help and assistance is needed if he or she wishes to again become a member of the Christian Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses in the future.

## OFFICE USE

Additional comments:

All other records held by the Society pertaining to this matter, both electronic and hard copy, were destroyed as required by the Document Retention Policy of the Society.

## CONGREGATION USE

(The chairman of the judicial committee will complete this section when the date-stamped copy of this form is returned by the Society)

This is the only record retained by the \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses regarding this matter. All other records were destroyed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE S-77 NOTIFICATION OF DISFELLOWSHIPING OR DISASSOCIATION

### Reporting

- Did you review the notes written on page 143 of the Kingdom Ministry School textbook?
- Did you list one or more of the following judicial offences and Scriptural reference by copying them exactly as they appear in the list below?

#### Disfellowshipping:

Adultery (Mat. 19:9)  
Apostasy (Deut. 13:13, 15; Josh. 22:22; Acts 21:21; 2 Cor. 6:14, 15, 17, 18; 2 John 7, 9, 10, Rev. 18:4)  
Drunkenness (1 Cor. 5:11; 6:9, 10)  
Fits of anger, violence (Prov. 22:24, 25; Mal. 2:16; Gal. 5:20)  
Greed (gambling/extortion) (1 Cor. 5:10, 11; 6:10; 1 Tim. 3:8)  
Gross uncleanness (Eph. 4:19; Gal. 5:19)  
Loose conduct (Gal. 5:19; 2 Pet. 2:7)  
Malicious lying (Prov. 6:16, 19; Col. 3:9; Rev. 22:15)  
Manslaughter (Deut. 22:8)  
Misuse of tobacco or addictive drugs (2 Cor. 7:1; Mark 15:23; Rev. 21:8; 22:15)  
Obscene speech (Eph. 5:3-5; Col. 3:8)  
*Porneia* (Lev. 20:10, 13, 15, 16; Rom. 1:24, 26, 27, 32; 1 Cor. 6:9, 10; Deut. 23: 7, 18)  
Adamant refusal to provide for family when having the means to provide (1 Tim. 5:8)  
Slander or reviling (Lev. 19:16; 1 Cor. 6:10)  
Stealing or fraud (Lev. 6:2, 4; 1 Cor. 6:9, 10; Eph. 4:28)

#### Disassociation:

Non-neutral activity (Isa. 2:4; John 6:15; 17:16)  
Joined another religion (1 John 2:19)  
Unrepentant failure to abstain from blood (Gen 9:4; Acts 15:20, 28, 29)

- Did you fill out an original *Notification of Disfellowshipping or Disassociation (S-77)* form and make one copy, retaining the copy for the congregation's confidential file?

### Summation

- Did you provide a detailed *summation* of the case, explaining what took place? Did you include the reasons why you judged the person to be nrepentant?
- In the case of disassociation** Did you explain what led to the person's decision, how he responded to efforts to assist him, and what convinced you that his position was adamant?
- If the matter involved hild abuse:** Did you provide complete details, including names and dates of birth of those inv lved? Did you explain the nature and extent of the abuse and how it was substantiated?
- Did you send the *original S-77* form along with the summation in a special blue envelope to the branch office?

### Filing

- When you received the stamped S-77 form, did you place it in a sealed envelope in the congregation's confidential file and *destroy* the congregation's copy?
- Did the judicial committee chairman *destroy all other correspondence, except* any letter of disassociation or resignation, as directed on page 2 of the S-77 form?
- Did the chairman sign and date page 2 of the S-77 form?

## REINSTATEMENTS AND DEATHS

- When a disfellowshipped or disassociated individual is reinstated or dies, did the secretary sign, check the appropriate box, and date the bottom of the *stamped S-77* form?
- Did the secretary make a photocopy of both sides of the S-77 form for the congregation and mail the *original* to the branch office in a special blue envelope?
- Has the congregation's copy of the S-77 form been retained in the congregation's confidential file?

## APPEALS

- When an individual appeals his disfellowshipping, the chairman of the judicial committee should promptly contact the circuit overseer, who will then designate elders to serve on the appeal committee.
- The judicial committee should complete the S-77 forms (except for the date of announcement of disfellowshipping) and give them, along with whatever written records it has from the judicial hearing(s), to the chairman of the appeal committee prior to the appeal hearing.— See *ks91* p. 125.
- The appeal committee’s report is to be in the form of a letter addressed to the branch office, using the appeal committee chairman’s mailing address for the return address.
- It is to be signed by all the members of the appeal committee, with each one’s name and the name of his congregation typed below his signature.
- The letter should provide a detailed *summation* of the appeal hearing and include comments that directly address the following questions: (1) Was there a Scriptural basis for the disfellowshipping? (2) Was there acceptable evidence to establish the wrongdoing? Explain. (3) Was the wrongdoer unrepentant *at the time of the hearing by the original judicial committee*? What convinces the appeal committee of this?
- **If the appeal committee upholds the original committee's decision to disfellowship the individual**, the appeal committee should make certain that the S-77 form is filled out completely, *including the date of announcement of disfellowshipping* and then mail *the original* form along with the appeal committee’s letter to the branch office in the same special blue envelope.
- **If the original basis for disfellowshipping was invalid but other valid grounds for disfellowshipping exist**, new S-77 forms should be made out by the original committee, giving the proper information. The *original* form along with the initial S-77 form and the appeal committee's letter should be sent to the branch office.
- **If both committees agree that the person should *not* be disfellowshipped**, the individual *should not be told* this. Rather, the appeal committee should send the branch office the *original* S-77 form along with separate letters from both the original committee and the appeal committee that supply sufficient details to give a clear picture of the reason(s) for their conclusions. Thereafter, the branch office will provide its comments.
- **If the appeal committee and the original committee are in disagreement**, the appeal committee should send the *original* S-77 form to the branch office with a letter giving the reasons for its conclusion and should include a letter from the original committee that expresses that committee's reasons for disagreement.
- **When the matter has been finalized:** All written records from both the original and appeal committees should be destroyed. Only the stamped S-77 form should be retained in the congregation's confidential file. See also the instructions above under the heading “Filing”.