

LAW OFFICES
HAYDEN C. COVINGTON
124 COLUMBIA HEIGHTS
BROOKLYN 1, N. Y.

MAIN 5-1240

September 18, 1957

Richard Rawe
Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Wash.

Dear brother:

I have your letter of September 16, 1957. I do not know what classification the local board gave you in August 1955 after you had your personal appearance. I do know that you apparently appealed from such classification. If it was I-0, then, according to the amended regulations you would not have a hearing before a hearing officer if the appeal board determined to give you I-0.

The reason for the local board to reopen your classification is apparently that shown in the State Director's letter, namely, "in view of the length of time that has elapsed since this case was referred to the United States Attorney."

Concerning the determination of the local board at the hearing on August 8, 1955, that the "Congregational Servant and perhaps the Assistant Congregational Servant are the Ministers of that particular Jehovah Witness Congregation, and that the other officers of the congregation are not qualified for ministerial de-ferments" should be answered in writing when you appear, and you can also argue orally. It is an arbitrary and capricious and illegal denial of your rights under the law, because the board employed artificial standards in determining what constitutes a minister of religion within the meaning of the Act and the Regulations and they did not follow the definition of the term used in the Act and Regulations in determining your claim as a minister of religion. See

the cases of Dickinson v. United States, Hull v. Stalter, Niznik v. United States (both opinions), Arpaia v. Alexander, Flakowicz v. Alexander, United States v. Kose, United States v. Burnett and United States v. Brandt. I send a copy of each of these opinions by separate mail. Also I send to you a copy of the Ransom opinion, and Jewell.

There may be other information that you can glean from the Counsel memorandum to aid you in presenting your case to the local board. Anything you tell them orally you should also hand to them in writing to be placed in your file for their consideration in reaching your proper classification. The enclosed BUSH letter may also be of some aid to you in preparing the information you will file at the time of the personal appearance. Please return this letter to me as soon as you get your material ready, and you do not need to wait until the hearing in order to do so; do it right away and have it in readiness.

Your brother,



C-J

PS: When you prepare the material for filing, please make an extra copy (or two if possible) for me.