

Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Washington
October 17, 1957

Local Board No. 22
Chelan County Court House
Wenatchee, Washington

Dear Sirs:

The following information is to be considered at the next meeting of the Local Board (in Oct. or Nov.) when it considers my case.

The Act and Regulations make the following test for a Minister:
(1) He must be a 'duly ordained minister of religion' (Section 16 (g) 1). (2) He must be a 'regular minister of religion' (Section 16 (g) 2,3). No other requirements are made either by the Act, Regulations or Courts.

Now comes the question, do I meet these requirements? The facts as presented show I do. There is included in my file a "CERTIFICATE FOR PIONEER" which testifies that I am "a duly ordained minister of Jehovah's witnesses". Other documents in my file show I have other appointments from the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society also. To further show that I "administer the rites and ceremonies thereof in public worship", I enclose a copy of a "CLERGYMAN'S RECORD" that testifies to a funeral that I presided over.

Now, as to Section 16 (g) 2,3 do I meet these requirements? Again the record answers yes. I am still devoting up to 300 hours a month to ministerial activity as stated in "SUMMARY OF ORAL INFORMATION PRESENTED TO LOCAL BOARD" (Aug. 8, 1955). Please read now the enclosed "TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:" issued from the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, Incorporated, by T. J. Sullivan, Superintendent of Ministers and Evangelists. This shows that I have been a "full-time minister, Pioneer, of Jehovah's Witnesses since May 1, 1952", which is for more than 5 years. Note also that it testifies to the fact that I have a congregation of which I am the Minister.

The definition of a 'regular minister' as set out in the Dickinson Case is this: "Preaching and teaching the principles of one's sect, if performed part-time or half-time, occasionally or irregularly, are insufficient to bring a registrant under 6 (g). These activities must be regularly performed... He was ordained in accordance with the ritual of his sect and, according to the evidence here, he meets the vital test of regularly, as a vocation, teaching and preaching the principles of his sect and conducting public worship in the tradition of his religion." (Page 5) Page three shows Dickinson spent 150 hours each month at his religious activity, I spend nearly twice that amount, therefore, I must come under the definition of a 'regular minister' as defined by the Law. Please examine the enclosed Dickinson decision.

Concerning the opinion of the Board on August 8, 1955, "that the Congregational Servant and perhaps the Assistant Congregational Servant are the Ministers of that particular Jehovah's Witness Congregation, and that the other officers of the congregation are not qualified for ministerial deferments." I believe this is an artificial standard in determining what constitutes a minister. No where do the Act, Regulations or Courts make this requirement. In fact, the courts have said just the opposite. "A holding that only leaders of organized congregations are exempt as ministers would deny exemption to many regularly ordained ministers who spend their lives teaching and performing various other functions for their churches." See page four of the U.S.A. vs. Ransom decision which is enclosed.

NOT
COVERED
SUFFICIENTLY

Gentlemen, the points I have made here are not my own opinions rather they are the opinions of the Courts of this land which have spent considerable time on the matter. I include for your consideration four other Court decisions which have a direct bearing on my case. They are: U.S.A. vs. Burnett, Jewell v. U.S.A., U.S.A. v. Hurt, Pate versus U.S.A. Also I include an article from the Awake! magazine entitled, "What Marks A Christian Minister?" that includes "General Hershey's Observations". Please give these through consideration as they are very important.

It is my desire to fulfill my dedication vows to my God Jehovah, to this end I wish to take advantage of the provisions made by the Congress of the United States for the exemption of ministers of religion. Therefore I respectfully ask you gentlemen to act in harmony with the Act, Regulations and Court decisions and place me in Class IV-D.

Respectfully,

Richard M. Rawe
Ordained Minister

Enclosures--9

No. 717539

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢ . 20

SENT TO <i>Reliance Service System</i>		POSTMARK GRAND COUL OCT 17 1957 WASH
STREET AND NO. <i>Local Road No. 22</i>		
CITY AND STATE <i>Court House Weyatchee, Wash</i>		
If you want a return receipt, check which		If you want restricted delivery, check here
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee

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