

# Instruction Sheet for Temporary Adaptations in Public Witnessing During the COVID-19 Pandemic

June 22, 2020

This instruction sheet provides basic information during the time when certain restrictions still apply to public witnessing. The applicable legal requirements regarding contact limits and hygiene measures must be observed. Also pay attention to the external effect of your behavior in the ministry and consider the feelings of passers-by and residents. In the event of local outbreaks of the virus, it would certainly be appropriate to stop public witnessing until the situation has relaxed.

If necessary, instructions from the branch office to carry out the ministry are adapted to the respective situation. Therefore, the latest up-to-date information from the branch office is applicable, which is published by letters or announcements.

## Participants:

- Publishers belonging to a risk group should not currently carry out public witnessing.



## Meetings for Field Service:

- Meetings for field service are to be carried out electronically, for instance by using Zoom.
- Preferably publishers from a common household would work together.



## Hygiene Measures:

- Hand disinfectants (at least "limited virucidal") must be carried on the cart.
- Carts should be disinfected with suitable agents before and after each shift.



## General:

- When using local transport, distancing regulations must be observed, and face masks must be worn.
- There should be a maximum of two publishers with one or a maximum of two carts per location. This also applies to the special metropolitan public witnessing areas defined by the branch office (SMPW/ÖZB).



## Preaching Methods:

### Keep distance:

- Since currently social distancing is expected, the body language of publishers should be "restrained". "Restrained" means not keeping literature in your hand or reaching out to passers-by. Passers-by must not feel harassed.
- Out of consideration for the external perception it is necessary to pay attention to sufficient distance to the companion.
- Where this is required or generally expected, face masks must be worn with consideration for passers-by.
- Even when wearing a mask, publishers will look for a friendly expression. A smile is noticed by others despite the mask.
- Special consideration (keep distance) is required for passers-by who clearly belong to a risk group.

### Locations:

- Very busy, narrow places should be avoided. Less frequented, clearly arranged places should be preferred. Passers-by must be given sufficient space to allow publishers and other people to pass at a sufficient distance.
- If possible, publishers should stand behind the cart instead of beside them in order to keep more distance from the pedestrian or to be able to avoid it.

### Conversations:

- Conversations should be kept as short as possible, while maintaining the necessary distance.
- Contact information can be offered to continue the conversation by telephone/electronically or to send literature or videos electronically.

### Literature placement:

- The distance to passers-by must also be taken when handing over literature.
- The cart can be used as a "transfer station" for literature. If someone shows interest, the passer-by himself should take literature from the cart. Therefore, the available literature in the cart is limited to the current magazines in the main language.