

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



675 Red Mills Road Walkill NY 12589-3292 Phone: (845) 306-1100

January 17, 2018

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS IN THE UNITED STATES BRANCH TERRITORY

Re: Reduced Hour Requirement for Regular Pioneers Serving As Part-Time Commuters
or Remote Volunteers

Dear Brothers:

In recent years, a growing number of brothers and sisters have made themselves available to serve as part-time commuters or remote volunteers, assisting with the work at one of the Bethel complexes or Remote Translation Offices in the U.S. branch territory. Many of these self-sacrificing brothers and sisters are simultaneously serving as regular pioneers. In view of this, we would like to provide information on a provision that is in place for regular pioneers who serve as part-time commuters or remote volunteers.

Regular pioneers who are part-time commuters or remote volunteers have a reduced hour requirement of 780 per year. The 780 hours would be the total of all hours worked at Bethel and those spent in the field ministry. Since hour credits are allowed only up to 70 hours per month, regular pioneers who are part-time commuters or remote volunteers would not usually be able to fulfill the 840 hour requirement and still have time to care for personal matters, vacation, convention, and a meaningful share in the ministry. Therefore this special consideration is extended to them.

Those serving as part-time commuters or remote volunteers are to be commended for balancing many responsibilities including family, secular work, congregation, and other theocratic assignments. Please review the March 17, 2013, and May 15, 2017, letters to all bodies of elders, which contain valuable information regarding showing special consideration to those involved in theocratic assignments. The guiding principles contained therein will no doubt prove helpful in shepherding and providing practical assistance to these dear brothers and sisters who are also serving as regular pioneers in your congregation.

Please be assured of our Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

c: Circuit overseers