Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia

APPLICATION OF ANTI-EXTREMISM LAW. CRIMINAL PROSECUTION — NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS

MAY 2012

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
OF JEHOWAH’S WITNESSES IN RUSSIA

SREDNYAYA, 6, SOLNECHNOYE, ST. PETERSBURG, 197739, RUSSIA
EMAIL: INBOX1GL@JW.ORG.RU
PHONE: (812) 702-26-91
WEB-SITE: HTTP://WWW.JW-RUSSIA.ORG
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Overview of the situation facing Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia

The current situation of Jehovah’s Witnesses was noted by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) Resolution (2012/2505(RSP)) on Russia adopted on 16 February 2012:

“Expresses its deep concern about the misuse of anti-extremism legislation involving the illegal implementation of criminal laws against . . . religious minorities such as Jehovah[‘]s Witnesses . . . and the improper banning of their materials on grounds of extremism[,]”—Section K14.

In this connection, it is worthy to note the following important events that have taken place since December 2011. These are only a few striking examples of the general unfavorable situation facing Jehovah’s Witnesses.

Jehovah’s Witnesses are subjected to criminal prosecution under Article 282 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation

**Akhtubinsk (Astrakhan Region).** On 17 February 2012 hearings began in the criminal case against Yelena Grigoryeva, who is accused of disseminating among residents of Akhtubinsk (Astrakhan Region) viewpoints and convictions aimed at abasing the dignity of groups of citizens on the basis of religion; disseminating propaganda of the exclusivity and superiority of her religion over other religions; and offering and distributing printed materials of an extremist nature to said residents. During the consideration of the case it was discovered that practically all of the material evidence in the case was obtained illegally. The Akhtubinsk City Court appointed a repeat linguistic and religious expert study. Consideration of the case has been suspended until the expert study is submitted to court.

**Chita (Zabaykalskiy Territory).** On 22 December 2011 the Chita District Court commenced consideration of the criminal case against Andrey and Lyutsiya Raitin. On 8 February 2011 searches were conducted of 13 homes of local Jehovah’s Witnesses. During the court sessions between January and May 2012 it was discovered that procedural documents in the case were drawn-up with serious violations of the Criminal Procedural Code and that documents went missing, unauthorized modifications were made, there was evidence of forgery, and so forth. The court was clearly biased against the defense, refusing practically all of their motions and violating the principle of equality of the parties during the judicial proceedings.

**Yoshkar-Ola (Republic of Mari El).** On 25 January 2012 the Yoshkar-Ola City Court commenced consideration of the criminal case against Maksim Kalinin, one of Jehovah’s Witnesses. In the beginning of 2010 officers from the FSB and the Department for Counteracting Extremism conducted a search in Maksim Kalinin’s home. In addition, they installed concealed audio and video surveillance equipment in a hall where religious services are held. The equipment was in place for 180 days. Police officers monitored Maksim Kalinin’s correspondence, including his e-mail. They listened to and recorded the telephone conversations of Maksim Kalinin and of eight other fellow believers. As a result, additional searches were conducted and religious services were disrupted. Witnesses from the prosecution and several from the defense were questioned in court. The hearings are scheduled to continue on 8 June, and later between 19 June and 1 July 2012.

**Orenburg (Orenburg Region).** On 4 May 2012 investigators together with officers of the FSB Directorate and the Regional Police Directorate conducted more than 15 searches. On 28 April 2012 investigation agencies of the Russian Federation Investigative Committee for the Orenburg Region initiated a criminal case under Article 282(1) of the Criminal Code (incitement of hatred or enmity, as well as abasement of human dignity) in connection with extremist activity of the religious organization of Jehovah's Witnesses in the city of Orenburg and the Orenburg Region. At present, investigative actions intended to establish the circumstances of the crime committed and to establish which persons supposedly participated in this crime are ongoing. The criminal investigation continues.
Civil Cases Regarding the Printed Publications of Jehovah’s Witnesses

Makarov (Sakhalin Region). On 27 March 2012 the Sakhalin Regional Court reversed the decision rendered by judges of the Makarov District Court regarding the submission of Prosecutor Sergey Aleksandrov to declare extremist nine publications of Jehovah’s Witnesses, including the booklet *Comfort for the Depressed* (Attachment 1). The case was remanded for a retrial by the same court.

Pristen (Kursk Region). On 29 March 2012 the Pristen District Court terminated the case against the brochure *What Happens to Us When We Die?*, published by Jehovah’s Witnesses, on the grounds that in 2009 the Rostov Regional Court declared that the brochure does not contain signs of extremism. However, the Kursk prosecutor continues to seek a ban on another four publications, relying on the conclusions of a local religious expert who considers that quotations from a book by the famous Spanish philosopher Miguel de Unamuno are extremist, despite the fact that Miguel de Unamuno’s works are published and freely distributed in Russia.

Tver (Tver Region). On 12 December 2011 D. V. Stolyarov, prosecutor of the Zavolzhskiy District of the city of Tver, filed an application with the Tsentralniy District Court of the city of Tver to declare extremist the books *Learn From the Great Teacher* and *Reasoning From the Scriptures*, published by Jehovah’s Witnesses. On 1 February 2012 the court terminated the proceedings to declare the book *Reasoning From the Scriptures* extremist. It referred to a final decision of the Novouralsk City Court of the Sverdlovsk Region rendered in a dispute on the same subject and the same grounds. However, on 12 April 2012, by the ruling of the Tver Regional Court, said decision was reversed—the case has been remanded for a retrial by the Tsentralniy District Court of the city of Tver.

Uspenskoye (Krasnodar Territory). On 14 February 2012 the Uspenskiy District Court of the Krasnodar Territory rendered a ruling to appoint a psycho-linguistic expert study of yet another religious book published by Jehovah’s Witnesses—“*Bearing Thorough Witness*” About God’s Kingdom, a detailed account of the New Testament Acts of the Apostles.

Russian Government Disregards European Court of Human Rights Judgment

Russia has disregarded the 10 June 2010 unanimous ECHR judgment in favor of the Moscow Community of Jehovah’s Witnesses, which exonerated them from the false accusations brought by the Moscow prosecutor. The Moscow Community has not been able to re-register after numerous attempts to do so. In view of this the Administrative Center of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia sent a letter of 30 May 2012 to the Minister of Justice, Mr. A. Konovalov. In its letter the Administrative Center requested that Mr. Konovalov clarify the procedure that Jehovah’s Witnesses should follow to have the Moscow Community reregistered.

Others violations

From December 2011 through May 2012, 161 incidents of harassment of Jehovah’s Witnesses have been reported. Government authorities, including local police officers, have carried out 27 searches of the Witnesses’ homes and facilities used for holding worship services; and over 49 instances of interference with the Witnesses’ well-known activity of sharing Bible information with others (96 individuals were detained). The interferences led to detentions of 96 individuals. The law-enforcement agencies disrupted or interfered with 2 religious meetings (a weekly worship service and larger religious assembly). Oppressive conduct from the hands of Russian citizens has included 21 assaults (37 believers were hurt) and 13 counts of vandalism.
STATUS OF CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST JEHOWAH’S WITNESSES IN RUSSIA

In his 2011 report, Russian Federation Human Rights Ombudsman Vladimir Lukin expressed particular concern over attempts to convict believers under Article 282(1) of the RF Criminal Code. Despite the fact that one of Jehovah’s Witnesses from Gorno-Altaysk was acquitted after two rounds of judicial proceedings (the verdicts were appealed twice), the same charges are being lodged against other Witnesses. Mr. Lukin considers that “criminal prosecution for the dissemination of religious convictions— including by means of distributing religious literature—will not withstand criticism.”

On March 28, 2012, the SOVA Center submitted to “Interfax” its annual report on the unlawful application of the anti-extremism law. The report noted:

“Jehovah’s Witnesses remain one of the primary targets of the movement to “counteract extremism.” The diverse persecution against this religion continues to grow each year. Jehovah’s Witnesses continue being charged with extremism exclusively because they assert the superiority of their faith. . . . We observe that Jehovah’s Witnesses are under constant “anti-extremism” pressure. . . . During the past year, 16 publications of Jehovah’s Witnesses have been unlawfully entered into the list [of extremist materials].”

The following is the summary of the 11 criminal cases opened against Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia. Three of them are litigated in courts of Akhtubinsk, Yoshkar-Ola and Chita. The criminal case against Aleksandr Kalistratov from Gorno-Altaysk was closed.

SUMMARY OF CRIMINAL CASES
Under Article 282 of RF Criminal Code

| 7 June 2009-22 December 2011 | Gorno-Altaysk, Altay Republic | Criminal case against Aleksandr Kalistratov |

On 11 August 2010 Aleksandr Kalistratov, chairman of the Local Religious Organization (LRO) of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Gorno-Altaysk”, was charged under Article 282(1) of the Criminal Code (CrC) of the Russian Federation (RF) (incitement of hatred or enmity as well as degrading the dignity of a person). The essence of the charge was that he distributed publications which after the fact, on 11 September 2009, were declared extremist materials by the Rostov Regional Court.

The judicial proceedings in this case began on 7 October 2010. Not one of the 71 witnesses that were questioned in the Gorno-Altaysk City Court confirmed the allegation that Aleksandr Kalistratov incited hatred, enmity, or degraded the dignity of a person. Moreover, on 15 November 2010 the prosecution invited Sergey Bashkatov, an Orthodox priest, as a witness. He did not personally know the accused and did not have information about his activity; however, he tried to give a negative evaluation of the beliefs of Jehovah’s Witnesses. A reply from the Investigation Directorate of the Investigation Committee of the RF Prosecutor’s Office for the Tver Region was read during the hearing on 19 January 2011, which was received in response to the request of the investigator to assist in collecting evidence against Aleksandr Kalistratov. This document stated the following: “We believe that there are grounds to request assistance in this matter from the FSB of the Altay Republic and the highest religious Orthodox authority in

Aleksandr Kalistratov
Born: 16 July 1976
Jehovah’s Witness since: 1994
Summary: “Guidance counselor” by profession; for almost two years worked at his profession in middle school but was fired because of his religion; has to work as a janitor and building maintenance worker, which allows him to support himself and his mother materially.
On 14 April 2011 Judge Marina Sokolovskaya handed down a not-guilty verdict which was appealed by the prosecution to the Supreme Court of the Altay Republic.

The case was remanded for a new trial with Presiding Judge Marina Kulikova. Besides the witnesses, who the court questioned again, the prosecutor invited yet another Orthodox priest, Yuriy Balakin. He, the same as Sergey Bashkatov, did not know the accused and could not explain to the court anything regarding the actions of Aleksandr Kalistratov. After examining the 28 volumes of the case, Judge M. Kulikova rendered a guilty verdict on 3 November 2011. Aleksandr Kalistratov was sentenced to 100 hours of compulsory service.

The deciding factor in rendering this decision was the pseudo-expert studies: conclusion by Gorno-Altaysk State University specialist, Yu. Khvastunova; conclusion by Kemerovo State University specialists, L. Arayeva, M. Yanitskiy, and M. Osadchiy; as well as the conclusion of the Southern Regional Center for Judicial Expert Studies regarding the case of the LRO of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Taganrog” (see description of the case below). This fact was noted by the Ombudsman for Human Rights in Russia, Vladimir Lukin, in his 2011 report, where he gave the following evaluation of one of these expert studies: “The expert study of the literature was carried out at the Kemerovo State University where it seems that there are neither professional religious experts, nor even historians. As a result, by relying on the opinion of the experts (in some other fields of science?) the ‘credulous’ court declared extremist information found in this religious literature about the crusades, the inquisition, and the cooperation of the Catholic Church during World War II with Nazi Germany . . . The state prosecutor, and following him the court, found that all this ‘seditious’ information is dangerous for society and state, and sufficient for bringing K[alistratov] to criminal accountability.”

The defense appealed this decision, and on 22 December 2011 the Supreme Court of the Altay Republic reversed it, fully acquitting Aleksandr Kalistratov.

In the above-mentioned report, Vladimir Lukin summed up the senselessness of all the efforts and resources spent by state agencies on this case: “. . . criminal prosecution for disseminating religious convictions including by means of religious literature does not stand up to criticism.”

| 5 August 2011-present | Taganrog, Rostov Region | Criminal case against unidentified individuals |

On 5 August 2011 the Investigative Division of the Main Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Southern Federal District initiated a criminal case regarding unidentified individuals on the basis of elements of a crime stipulated in Article 282.2(1) of the RF CrC (organizing the activity of an extremist organization).

According to the investigation, unidentified individuals in the city of Taganrog of the Rostov Region carried out organizational actions, aimed at renewing and continuing the activity of the LRO of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Taganrog,” which was declared extremist by the Rostov District Court on 11 September 2009 and liquidated (on 8 December 2009 the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation upheld this decision). On 25 and 26 August 2011 as part of this criminal case and based on the corresponding decisions of the court, searches were conducted in the homes of 20 believers, the majority of whom did not have any connection with the activity of the liquidated LRO, but only professed the religion of Jehovah’s Witnesses.

During the searches, almost all of the religious literature of Jehovah’s Witnesses, video and audio discs, laptops, computer system units, and personal notes were seized from the believers. On a number of occasions the searches started at 6:00 a.m.

At the present time, officers of law-enforcement agencies are examining the materials that were seized during the searches.
On 6 September 2011 the Investigator of Especially Important Cases of the Department for Examining Especially Important Cases of the Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the RF for the Chuvash Republic, V. N. Nikitin, initiated a criminal case on the elements of the crime stipulated in Article 282(1) of the RF CrC (incitement of hatred or enmity, as well as degrading the dignity of a person) against Aleksey Nikolayev, who resides in the city of Cheboksary.

He is accused of the fact that from November 2009 until the present, having hatred and enmity toward the representatives of another religion, he intentionally distributed printed publications included in the Federal List of Extremist Materials, with the aim of inciting hatred and enmity, as well as degrading dignity of a person or group of persons on the basis of attitude toward religion.

On 7 and 8 September 2011, nine searches of residences of Jehovah's Witnesses were conducted in the cities of Cheboksary, Kanash, and Novocheboksarsk as part of the criminal case.

The searches were also conducted in four buildings that are rented by the believers to hold their religious services. At the same time, in all four instances, religious services were disrupted, personal information of those present was taken and they were questioned and personally searched as well. In the city of Konash, approximately 20 persons (including minors) who were present at the religious service were brought to the local police station, where they were subjected to questioning, and compulsory photographing and fingerprinting.

In addition, three of the believers, Aleksey Nikolayev, Farid Mannafov, and Oleg Marchenko, were detained and held for 48 hours in a temporary detention facility at the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Chuvash Republic (from 7 to 9 September 2011).

All together, over the period of two months, 19 searches were conducted starting on 7 September 2011. Currently, four persons are charged in the criminal case: Aleksey Nikolayev, Farid Mannafov, and Oleg and Liliya Marchenko (all except Aleksey reside in the city of Kanash). Three more believers are considered suspects: Rodion Vasilyev (Cheboksary), Nikolay Gavrilov (Cheboksary), and Yekaterina Mytnitskaya (Kanash).

In October of 2011 Investigator Nikitin forwarded informational materials of Jehovah’s Witness that were seized during the investigation to the Chuvash Forensic Expert Study Laboratory of the RF Ministry of Justice for examination. At the same time, 17 more composite psycho-linguistic expert studies were commissioned in the case. All together, approximately 1,300 copies of printed publications were submitted for examination, including video and audio discs produced by Jehovah’s Witnesses.

The searches continued through November of 2011 in the city of Cheboksary, through February of 2012 in the city of Alatyr, and through March of 2012 in the city of Novocheboksarsk. In total, over the period of eight months from the time the criminal case was initiated, 24 searches were conducted as of 8 May 2012, including four searches in Kingdom Halls.

Complaints have been filed with the Supreme Court of the Chuvash Republic against 16 searches of the residences of Jehovah’s Witnesses that were conducted from October of 2011 until April of 2012 on the basis of being unlawful and groundless; almost all were examined and denied by the same Judicial Chamber.
On 16 March 2012 a search was conducted of the apartments of Ira Korneva, Yulia Demidova, and Nina Lobatorina, who reside in the city of Novocheboksarsk. The next day all three were questioned one by one by Police Operative I. Ye. Avtayev from the Directorate of the FSB of Russia for the Chuvash Republic in the city of Novocheboksarsk. He exerted pressure on the believers, harshly forbidding them to contact their attorney and threatened to arrest them. A complaint has been filed with the Prosecutor’s Office for the Republic against said actions of the Police Operative from the Directorate of the FSB. However, in the beginning of May of 2012 a response was received from the Prosecutor’s Office stating that there were no violations in the actions of I. Ye. Avtayev.

Back in early 2010, officers from the FSB and the Department for Counteracting Extremism conducted surveillance of the community of Jehovah’s Witnesses in this region. The Supreme Court of the Mari El Republic issued to law-enforcement agencies two warrants in order to conduct a search in the home of Maksim Kalinin, one of Jehovah’s Witnesses, and to install in the hall where religious services are held a hidden audio and video surveillance for 180 days. In addition, officers of law-enforcement agencies monitored the correspondence of Maksim Kalinin, including his email, and listened to and recorded not only telephone conversations of Maksim, but of eight other believers.

On 6 August 2010 Investigator for Especially Important Cases of the Yoshkar-Ola Investigation Department for the Mari El Republic initiated a criminal case under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC on the basis of the information collected by the police and the FSB. On 9 August 2010 the Yoshkar-Ola City Court sanctioned searches of the premises used for religious services and of six homes of members of the local community of Jehovah’s Witnesses.

On 10 August 2010 police and special task forces OMON interrupted the religious service, which was attended by approximately 90 persons. Police officers searched all those in attendance, as well as confiscated religious literature and personal belongings. During that same evening police searched at least four homes of Jehovah’s Witnesses and confiscated religious literature, computers, letters, and documents of the local community of Jehovah’s Witnesses. The searches lasted until 4:00 a.m. (Afterward the believers filed complaints against these actions, and on 27 September 2010 Yoshkar-Ola City Court found that the searches and personal searches of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Yoshkar-Ola were unlawful.)

The following day, 11 August 2010, Maksim Kalinin was detained and escorted to the police station. He was informed that a criminal case was initiated against him. On 17 January 2011 Maksim Kalinin was charged with violating Article 282(1) of the RF CrC. On 31 January 2011 he was presented with the charge the second time and a preventative measure in the form of personal recognizance was chosen.

On 25 January 2012 the Yoshkar-Ola City Court began to examine this case. The court dismissed the motion of the defendant’s attorneys to return the case to the prosecutor’s office but admitted to the case file a series of excerpts from various textbooks and Orthodox literature. During the hearing that took place on the 8th of February, Prosecutor Ye. Voronchikhina was trying to ascertain the specifics of the legal activity of Jehovah’s Witnesses by questioning seven of Maksim Kalinin’s fellow believers. All those questioned explained that they have never noticed even a hint of incitement to hatred in his personality or behavior. The hearings on 28 and 29 of February were attended by the representative of a non-governmental organization Amnesty International, along with a member of the local human rights organization Man and Law.
During the court hearings in March and April other witnesses were questioned as well, including Aleksandr Kalistratov (see above the section on the criminal case initiated against him). A. Kalistratov explained various aspects of the activity of Jehovah’s Witnesses and specifics in his criminal case that are similar to those in Maksim Kalinin’s case. The following hearings took place on 15-17 May 2012. The court hearings are to resume on 8 June 2012 and continue on 19 June-1 July 2012.

| 6 February 2011-present | Akhtubinsk, Astrakhan Region | Criminal case against Yelena Grigoryeva |

On 6 February 2011 a criminal case was initiated against Yelena Grigoryeva under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC. After two days, on 8 February, the investigator and officers of CCE and FSB, acting on the basis of the decision of the Akhtubinsk City Court, conducted searches in not only her home, but also in the private residences of five other Jehovah’s Witnesses in the city of Akhtubinsk. Six cassation appeals have been filed with the Astrakhansk Regional Court, which were denied. After the visit of certain officials to Yelena Grigoryeva’s place of work, she was forced to resign from her job on 11 February 2011 (social service institution).

On 17 February 2011 Yelena Grigoryeva was charged under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC for “publicly disseminating among individuals living on the territory of the Akhtubinskiy District of the Astrakhan Region, in public areas and places of residence, views and convictions aimed at degrading the dignity of a group of citizens, on the basis of their attitude toward religion, promoting exclusivity and superiority of the religion being preached by representatives of the religious organization of Jehovah’s Witnesses, over other religions, and offering and passing out for review printed publications containing publications of an extremist nature included on the Federal List of Extremist Materials.” A comprehensive psycho-linguistic expert study on the case was appointed and was conducted by experts of the Southern Expert Center in the city of Volgograd, in particular by L. Belyanskaya. Also a religious expert study was appointed to be conducted by A. Istileyeva, expert of the Scientific-Research Center of Judicial Expert Studies of the Astrakhan Region.

On 2 February 2012 Yelena Grigoryeva was handed the bill of indictment signed by the acting prosecutor of the city of Akhtubinsk, Aleksey Tupikov. The case was filed in court and on 17 February hearings began in the Akhtubinskiy District Court.

During the examination of the case, it became clear that practically all material evidence for the case was collected in violation of the law. The witnesses questioned in the case asserted that Yelena Grigoryeva does not have anything to do with inciting inter-religious hatred.

Moreover, the above-mentioned religious expert study by A. Istileyeva does not stand up to criticism. Doctor of philological sciences, Anatoliy Baranov, director for the department of Experimental Lexicography of the V. V. Vinogradov Russian Language Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences testified in court on 11 April 2012 that the conclusion—on the basis of which the believer is being prosecuted for inciting enmity—was made without the use of scientific methods and represented only a subjective opinion about the religion of Jehovah’s Witnesses. In contrast, the scientific research suggests that any kind of incitement to enmity is absent in the religious publications of Jehovah’s Witnesses. On 24 April 2012 the defense counsel presented to the court an authorship analysis proving that the arguments and conclusions of historian A. Istileyeva, who found signs of extremism in the publications of Jehovah’s Witnesses, do not hold up.
Witnesses, are not independent and are almost entirely taken from other sources. This conclusion was prepared by expert A. Smirnov, employee of the Laboratory of Applied Linguistics in Moscow.

During the court hearings that took place from 24 to 27 April 2012, expert L. Belyanskaya and several defense witnesses were questioned. As a result, the Akhtubinskiy District Court appointed a second linguistic and religious expert study, which is to be performed by specialists from the Saratov Laboratory of Judicial Expert Studies of the Russian Ministry of Justice. The examination of the case was postponed until the expert study is submitted to court.

| 21 April 2010-23 April 2012 | Chelyabinsk, Chelyabinsk Region | Criminal case against the organized group, members of the LRO of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Chelyabinsk” |

On 21 April 2010 A. Frolov, Investigator of Especially Important Cases of the Investigative Department for the city of Chelyabinsk of the Investigation Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Prosecutor General’s Office for the Chelyabinsk Region rendered a ruling to initiate a criminal case under Article 282(2) of the RF CrC (incitement of hatred by an organized group) and began investigation.

The Traktorozavodskiy District Court later issued orders to search private residences. On 12 May 2010 law-enforcement agencies conducted 12 searches of homes and work places of Jehovah’s Witnesses, as well as facilities for holding religious services. Then, in 2010, an expert study of religious literature was appointed.

At the same time, the investigator denied the motion to provide the citizens, whose houses were searched, and their attorney the opportunity to review the ruling to appoint an expert study on the religious literature that was seized from them. Complaints were filed against this refusal in court. However, the court of first instance and the court of cassation denied the complaints.

On 23 April 2012 a ruling to terminate the criminal case was rendered. From this ruling the believers learned that investigative agencies had initiated two criminal cases; the first one, on the basis of distributing literature that was declared extremist; and the second, for public study of the book *Come Be My Follower* at a religious meeting. Apparently, both cases were consolidated into one action.

The believers also learned from the ruling that during 2009 and 2010 covert operational activities (video-recording of religious meetings) were conducted regarding them, which were subsequently sent for an expert study. The believers were not informed of the results of this expert study. It is evident from the text of the ruling that the psychologist and the religious expert who studied the recording, came to the conclusion that the believers’ comments during the discussion of the book at the religious service contain signs of incitement to religious discord (undermining respect, animosity towards other religions). The ruling also lists the names of 150 publications, which were sent for the above-mentioned expert study. According to the ruling, this examination allegedly exposed said literature as having indirect incitement to acts of hostility.

In conducting the many interrogations of local Jehovah’s Witnesses, the investigator, nevertheless, rendered the decision to terminate the criminal case due to the absence of the elements of a crime in the actions of the believers. In the first criminal case he referred to evidence submitted (Decree No. 11 of the RF Supreme Court Plenum dated 28 June 2011, the conclusion of the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law, and case law of the European Court of Human Rights) and stated the conclusion that the believers’ comments at the religious meeting do not constitute elements of a crime. In the second criminal case the investigator stated the conclusion that the distribution by Jehovah’s Witnesses of their literature during 2009 and 2010 does not constitute the elements of a crime since the Federal List of Extremist Materials was not officially published at the time of the distribution.

At the same time, the investigator outlined in the ruling that, although there are no grounds for criminal prosecution of individual believers, there are grounds for liquidating their LRO and sent all the publications
he had to the prosecutor’s office. The prosecutor’s office can file a claim with the court to liquidate this LRO.

| 21 July 2010-2012 | Tula, Tula Region | Criminal case against Petr Babilyulka |

On 30 June 2010 73-year old Petr Babilyulka, gave some copies of the book What Does the Bible Really Teach? to acquaintances who claimed that they wanted to study the Bible. On 21 July 2010 the Investigator of Especially Important Cases of the First Inter-District Investigation Department for the city of Tula initiated a criminal case against P. Babilyulka under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC. On 14 October 2010 the investigator appointed a comprehensive psycho-linguistic religious judicial expert study to be conducted by Expert L. Lavrova, the director of the Slovo Language and Cultural Center.

On 22 December 2010 the expert conclusion was sent to the investigator. On 18 January 2011 the investigator appointed a second comprehensive psycho-linguistic religious judicial expert study to be conducted by experts of the Russian Federal Center for Judicial Expert Studies under the RF Ministry of Justice. However, an expert study was not done by this institution.

Subsequently, the investigator rendered the ruling dated 3 June 2011 to appoint a second comprehensive psycho-linguistic religious judicial expert study to be conducted at the State Educational Institution of Higher Professional Learning Tula State University. On 14 June 2011 an expert conclusion was prepared. According to this, the publications presented for examination, including the book What Does the Bible Really Teach?, do not contain statements that are hateful, aggressive, or of a degrading nature. Neither do they contain incitement to violent actions. On 10 August 2011 the investigator rendered a ruling to terminate the criminal case against P. Babilyulka. However, a higher investigative agency canceled this ruling and the case was sent for further examination. According to information from the Administrative Center of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia, after further examination, the case was again dismissed.

| 7 February 2011—ongoing | Chita, Zabaykalskiy Territory | Criminal case against Andrey and Lyutsiya Raitin |

On 7 February 2011 a criminal case was opened against Andrey and Lyutsiya Raitin under Article 282(1) of RF CrC for allegedly distributing What Does the Bible Really Teach? books.

On the following day, 8 February, 13 searches were made of the homes of Jehovah's Witnesses in the city of Chita as authorized by rulings of the Chitinskiy District Court. In the majority of cases, any religious literature discovered was confiscated regardless of whether or not it was on the Federal List of Extremist Literature.

Between 10 February and 18 February, the Witnesses whose homes were searched appealed the rulings of the Chitinskiy District Court authorizing the searches, but on 10 March 2011 the Zabaykalskiy Territory Court rejected 16 of the 17 appeals filed.

Andrey and Lyutsiya Raitin were indicted on 8 July 2011, and the Chitinskiy District Court began the trial of their criminal case on 22 December 2011.
In court sessions between January 2012 and May 2012, the case materials were examined, the physical evidence in the case (religious books and brochures) was studied, and the testimony of several witnesses for the defense and the prosecution was heard. Nearly one-third of the case materials, including all the files from the 12 searches conducted in the homes of the Raitins’ fellow believers, were declared by the court to be irrelevant to the case due to their being collected in violation of the law. The remaining two-thirds of the case materials gathered by the prosecution are mainly either procedural rulings directing the investigation in the case but not containing incriminating information, or a variety of reports and character references about the defendants, in which the Raitins are described as conscientious workers, good neighbors, and orderly members of society who do not have bad habits (Attachments 2).

It should be noted that even FSB operative D. Dogadin and investigator A. Tskhay, when questioned in court, confirmed that serious violations of the Criminal Procedural Code were made when the procedural documents in the case were drawn up. During the proceedings the defense called attention to the numerous violations committed by law enforcement officers prior to the case being opened and during the investigation—the disappearance of documents, unauthorized corrections, signs of falsification, and so on. The court, however, has ignored all of these facts, and we are forced to conclude that in trying this case the court has not put forth the necessary effort to establish the truth in the case.

It is as if the only purpose of these proceedings is to discredit the activity of the LRO of Jehovah's Witnesses “Chita” (despite clear proof that the Raitins are not members of that organization), in contravention of the requirements in Article 4.4 of the Federal Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations dated 26 September 1997, No. 125-FZ. According to that law, “officials of state authorities or other state agencies and local self-government agencies as well as servicemen shall have no right to use their official position to cultivate any particular attitude toward religion.”

On 1 and 2 March 2012 Konstantin Brinev, doctor of philological sciences, was questioned in court. He confirmed that there are no statements encouraging illegal activities—including violence or restriction of the rights of representatives of other religions—in the texts of Jehovah's Witnesses that are being examined in the criminal case against Andrey and Lyutsiya Raitin.

The judicial proceedings are still under way.

| 19 October 2010–19 January 2012 | Kemerovo, Kemerovo Region | Criminal case against Igor Potapov, Nadezhda Panchenko, and Dmitriy Drakenberg |

In October 2010, four criminal cases were opened in Kemerovo—three of which, including the case against Igor Potapov, under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC (inciting religious hatred), and one under Article 282.1(1) (organization of an extremist community). The legal, chartered activity of the LRO of Jehovah's Witnesses, which it has carried out since 1992, was categorized as criminal by the investigation. In November of that year, the four cases were combined into one.

On 26 and 27 October 2010, investigators from the Investigation Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the RF Prosecutor’s Office for the Kemerovo Region together with FSB officers and officers from the CCE of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, without appropriate court authorization, conducted searches in three homes of Jehovah's Witnesses and in a religious building (Kingdom Hall) belonging to the local religious organization of Jehovah's Witnesses. A religious meeting in the Kingdom Hall was disrupted as a result of the search. That same day the investigator seized religious literature of Jehovah's Witnesses that had been newly published in Germany and arrived in Kemerovo by train. Neither the Witnesses nor the inspector were familiar with the contents of said literature and, therefore, it obviously could not have been in the Federal List of Extremist Materials.

The Zavodskiy District Court declared the searches to be legal only after they had been conducted. The Kemerovo Regional Court granted the demands of the Witnesses’ cassation appeals, reversed the above-mentioned ruling of the Zavodskiy District Court, and remanded the case for a new trial. Nevertheless, later that same district court again declared the searches to be lawful, and this time the regional court upheld that
decision. The Witnesses also filed complaints regarding the disruption of a religious meeting during the search in the Kingdom Hall and regarding the seizure of newly published literature; however, the courts refused to grant the demands of their claims, and the regional court upheld that part of the ruling.

On 10 January 2012 a group of Witnesses filed two applications with the European Court of Human Rights in connection with the disruption of a religious service and seizure of new religious literature.

Eight judicial expert studies were assigned in the criminal cases that were opened. All of them were assigned to employees of the Kemerovo State University, who are known for their biased and unprofessional conclusions finding publications of Jehovah's Witnesses extremist in the case in Gorno-Altaysk (see the earlier description of the case against Aleksandr Kalistratov). Two of the studies have been completed, the others are still in the preparation stage.

On 19 January 2012 the criminal case against Igor Potapov, Nadezhda Panchenko, and Dmitriy Drakenberg was dismissed for lack of corpus delicti.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6 September 2010–ongoing</th>
<th>Salekhard, Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area</th>
<th>Criminal case against unidentified members of a religious group of Jehovah's Witnesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On 6 September 2010 a criminal case was opened against unidentified members of the religious group of Jehovah's Witnesses in Salekhard under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>On 20 October 2010 the investigator rendered a ruling to assign a linguistic expert study of an audio recording made during several religious meetings of Jehovah's Witnesses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 21 October 2010 the Salekhard City Court rendered a ruling to search three homes of Witnesses, which was carried out on the night of 26–27 October 2010.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 12 March 2011 the investigator rendered a ruling to assign a judicial psycholinguistic religious expert study of 350 publications seized during the searches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 31 March 2011 the linguist at the Ural Regional Center for Judicial Expert Studies completed his conclusions. After studying the audio recording, he found that there was no information inciting hatred or enmity in the speeches made during the religious meetings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 2 June 2011 a judicial psychological expert study of the above-mentioned audio recording was also assigned.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 1 July 2011 the psychologist, an employee at the Ural State Pedagogical University, provided his conclusions. Having studied the audio recording, he also did not find any efforts by Jehovah's Witnesses to “ultra-radically change the thinking” of other people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On 6 June 2011 the investigator dismissed the criminal case during the preliminary investigation because of the lack of the event of the crime specified in Article 282(1) of the RF CrC. That same day, however, the investigator separated the study of the 350 publications seized during the searches into a new case. The investigation in the case continues.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28 April 2012–ongoing</th>
<th>Orenburg, Orenburg Region</th>
<th>Criminal case against members of a religious organization of Jehovah's Witnesses in the city of Orenburg and the Orenburg Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On 28 April 2012 investigation agencies of the RF Investigative Committee for the Orenburg Region opened a criminal case under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC (incitement of hatred or enmity, as well as degrading the dignity of a person) in connection with extremist activity of the religious organization of Jehovah's Witnesses in the city of Orenburg and the Orenburg Region.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
On 4 May 2012 the investigators along with officers of the regional directorates of the FSB and Ministry of Internal Affairs conducted more than 15 searches. Searches in private homes and religious buildings of Jehovah's Witnesses in five cities of the Orenburg Region (Buguruslan, Buzuluk, Orsk, Yasniy, and Orenburg itself) began early in the morning. During the searches books, computer disks, hard disks, photo albums, personal notes, and other personal documents were confiscated.

Especially disturbing was a search that took place in the home of an elderly couple in Buguruslan in which twelve operatives participated, beginning at 7:00 a.m. The lady of the house was bedridden, had experienced several strokes, and suffers from Alzheimer’s disease. Their daughter and disabled son also live with them. The search did not end until 10:00 p.m.

According to the investigation, between June 1994 and April 2012 members of the organization repeatedly held mass religious events (public sermons) intended to incite enmity and hatred, aimed at degrading a person's dignity based on his attitude toward religion. Jehovah's Witnesses are also charged with distributing publications with extremist content.

Files from the Orenburg Regional Directorate of the Russian FSB together with the results of operational-investigative measures by the CCE of the Orenburg Regional Directorate of the RF Ministry of Internal Affairs served as the basis for opening a criminal case.

Presently, investigative measures are being taken to establish the circumstances of the crime and to establish the persons alleged to be involved in the commission of the crime. Investigation in the criminal case continues.
**ECHR APPLICATIONS AGAINST RUSSIA INVOLVING JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES**

**Denial of Registration Despite Positive Decision in Jehovah’s Witnesses of Moscow v. Russia**

On June 10, 2010, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) unanimously ruled that the liquidation and ban on the activities of the Moscow Community of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia was unlawful. Among many salient statements in the judgment, the ECHR declared that the Russian government should “put an end to the violation found by the Court and to redress so far as possible the effects.” The Russian government referred the case to the Grand Chamber of the ECHR on September 9, 2010, but on December 13, 2010, the panel of the Grand Chamber announced its rejection of Russia’s request to have the case reviewed.

Since then, the Moscow Community of Jehovah’s Witnesses has taken every possible legal step to re-register. The Moscow Community submitted applications to reopen the cases in the Golovinskiy, Butyrskiy, and Presnenskiy District Courts that were originally involved in the liquidation of the Community. However, the courts and the Ministry of Justice have refused to implement the ruling of the ECHR.

- **On February 15, 2011:** The Golovinskiy District Court in Moscow dismissed an application to have the ruling on the liquidation and ban on the activity of the Community reviewed, stating that this is a right, but not a duty of the State. It also stated that the ECHR judgment “cannot in itself serve as grounds for reversing the court decision . . . or for reconsidering it on the basis of newly discovered circumstances . . .” On April 28, 2011, the Moscow City Court upheld the decision on appeal. A supervisory appeal was filed with the Moscow City Court to reconsider the decision.

- **On April 26, 2011:** The Butyrskiy District Court in Moscow rejected an application requesting to have the ruling on the refusal to re-register reconsidered. The court stated that the decision of the ECHR is not grounds for a review of the earlier court decision. On June 28, 2011, the Moscow City Court upheld the decision made by the Butyrskiy Court.

- **On May 12, 2011:** The Presnenskiy District Court in Moscow rejected an application requesting that the ruling on the refusal to re-register the Community be reviewed, stating that the decision on its liquidation cannot be revoked. On October 4, 2011, the Moscow City Court upheld the decision of the district court.

Additionally, when the ECHR judgment came into force on January 11, 2011, the Community filed an application with the General Directorate of the RF Ministry of Justice in Moscow, requesting re-registration of the Community as a legal entity. Included in the application was a copy of the judgment of the ECHR. On February 1, 2011, the application was refused by the Directorate based on the fact that the decision of the Golovinskiy District Court had already been implemented and the Community had been liquidated. Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia informed the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of this fact.

Meanwhile, the Administrative Center of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia sent a letter of 30 May 2012 to the Minister of Justice, Mr. A. Konovalov. In its letter the Administrative Center requested that Mr. Konovalov clarify the procedure that Jehovah’s Witnesses should follow to have the Moscow Community reregistered (Attachment 3).

Thus, the Community of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Moscow is still liquidated and its activity is still banned.

**Other pending applications before the ECHR**

Presently, 19 other applications in the cases of Jehovah’s Witnesses are pending before the European Court.
### Other Pending ECHR Applications Against Russia Involving Jehovah’s Witnesses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Name</th>
<th>Date Filed</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> Aliiev v. Russia</td>
<td>February 9, 2011</td>
<td>Unlawful raid of religious meeting and seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 14821/11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong> Avilkina and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>December 19, 2008</td>
<td>Intrusive investigation of the Administrative Center in Solnechnoye. Disclosure of private medical records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 1585/09</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong> Boltnyev v. Russia</td>
<td>January 3, 2011</td>
<td>Unlawful detention and seizure of personal items and religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 3488/11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong> Burenkov and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>December 15, 2011</td>
<td>Unlawful raid of religious meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 78114/11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong> Chavychalova v. Russia</td>
<td>December 7, 2010</td>
<td>Unlawful home search and seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 74329/10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong> Cheprunov and Cheprunova v. Russia</td>
<td>December 7, 2010</td>
<td>Unlawful home search and seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 74320/10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong> Chukan and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>January 5, 2012</td>
<td>Four separate cases in which religious publications were declared extremist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 2269/12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong> Fedorin and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>March 11, 2011</td>
<td>Seizure of religious literature, prosecution and fines for distributing literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 17552/11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong> Gareyev and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>January 10, 2012</td>
<td>Unlawful seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 5547/12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong> Golovko and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>January 10, 2012</td>
<td>Unlawful raid of religious meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 5571/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alien no. 44285/10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong> Krupko and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>June 20, 2007</td>
<td>Police disruption of Commemoration of Christ’s Death on April 12, 2006 (Moscow).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 26586/07</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>13</strong> Mardonov v. Russia</td>
<td>January 3, 2011</td>
<td>Seizure of personal items and religious literature, prosecution and fines for distribution literature.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alien no. 3492/11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>14</strong> Martynenko and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>July 21, 2011</td>
<td>Special forces raid congregation meeting and detain members all night. Medical assistance is denied.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 44363/11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15</strong> Nabokikh and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>March 21, 2011</td>
<td>Prosecution and fines for organizing religious meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 19428/11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>16</strong> Novakovskaya v. Russia</td>
<td>December 7, 2010</td>
<td>Unlawful home search and seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 74339/10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17</strong> Taganrog LRO and Others v. Russia</td>
<td>June 1, 2010</td>
<td>Religious publications declared extremist, liquidation of LRO and seizure of Kingdom Hall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 32401/10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18</strong> Zharinova v. Russia</td>
<td>March 14, 2012</td>
<td>Unlawful detainment by the police and seizure of religious literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. TBA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>19</strong> Zinchenko and Others</td>
<td>November 18, 2011</td>
<td>Prosecution and fines for organizing religious meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien no. 73036/11</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

(December 2011-May 2012)

28 criminal cases under Article 282 of the RF Criminal Code (CrC) have been closed (Attachment 4): with either a denial to open a criminal case or a decision to terminate it. One of the criminal cases under Article 282 of the RF CrC was terminated by court. Five others were closed while under investigation and in 22 incidents the investigators denied opening any criminal case all together. In fact, the entire number of all criminal investigations—both closed and yet open—expose the scale of the harassment campaign launched against Jehovah’s Witnesses. The very fact that the investigators have worked on the cases proves that the campaign has spread throughout Russia. As the list shows certain cases were repeatedly closed and reopened.

Gorno-Altaysk, Altay Republic. On 22 December 2011 the Supreme Court of the Altay Republic reversed the guilty verdict rendered on 3 November 2011 by the Gorno-Altaysk City Court in the case of one of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Aleksandr Kalistratov, chairman of the Local Religious Organization (LRO) of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Gorno-Altaysk.” The believer was charged under Article 282(1) of the RF CrC (incitement of hatred or enmity, as well as degrading a person’s dignity).

Chelyabinsk, Chelyabinsk Region. On 23 April 2012 A. Frolov, Investigator of Especially Important Cases of the Investigative Department for the city of Chelyabinsk of the Investigation Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the RF Prosecutor’s Office for the Chelyabinsk Region rendered a ruling to terminate the criminal case against an organized group of members of the LRO of Jehovah’s Witnesses “Chelyabinsk,” initiated under Article 282(2) of the RF CrC (incitement of hatred by an organized group). At the same time, the investigator outlined in the ruling that, although there are no grounds for criminal prosecution of individual believers, there are grounds for liquidating their LRO. For this reason he sent all the publications he had obtained to the prosecutor’s office, which can file a claim with the court to liquidate this LRO.

Kemerovo, Kemerovo Region. On 19 January 2012 a ruling was rendered to terminate the criminal case in which Igor Potapov and his fellow-believers were charged with the crime stipulated in Article 282(1) of the RF CrC (incitement of religious hatred) and Article 282.1(1) (organization of an extremist community).

Other positive developments:

Yaroslavl, Yaroslavl Region. On 27 March 2012 the Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Yaroslavl Region sent a letter to the (Interdistrict) Private Security Department of Territorial Agencies on a district level under the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs (Attachment 5). The letter stated that in order to comply with directive dated 11 March 2012 from the Main Directorate for the Protection of Public Order under the RF Ministry of Internal Affairs, they must conduct additional training with personnel of subdivisions to review Article 28 of RF Constitution and Article 2(1) of the Federal Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations dated 29 September 1997 No. 125-FZ, which guarantee citizens the right to freedom of conscience and religion.
ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКА
На Райтина Андрея Алексеевича 1979 г. рождения

Райтин Андрей Алексеевич с 1999г. работает в Читинской дистанции электроснабжения в должности электролесаря по ремонту электрических машин.

За время работы на нашем предприятии Райтин А.А. зарекомендовал себя только с положительной стороны.

К трудовым обязанностям относится добросовестно, нарушений трудовой дисциплины не допускает.

Работая на нашем предприятии Райтин А.А. постоянно повышает свою квалификацию. За время своей работы он повысил свою квалификацию с 3 до 6 разряда электромеханика по ремонту электрических машин.

Райтин А.А. проявляет стремление к познанию и изучению техники. В 2006 году окончил курсы машиниста мостового крана.

В 2008г. Райтин А.А. был назначен на должность электромеханика передвижной дегазационной установки.

В результате добросовестной и качественной работы Райтина А.А. в 2010г. по восстановлению 12 трансформаторов наше предприятие сэкономило значительные материальные средства.

Райтин А.А. активно участвует в рационализаторской работе цеха.

За время работы имел следующие поощрения: (по трудовой книжке) Денежная премия по итогам отраслевого соревнования за 1 квартал 2005 г. Приказ № 385 от 14.06.05.

Взысканий не имеет.

Ратин А.А. женат, хороший семьянин, вредных привычек не имеет, не конфликтен.

В коллективе пользуется заслуженным уважением.

Характеристика дана по месту требования.

__

Начальник Дорожной комплексной электро- и теплотехнической лаборатории

Ц.А.Бишаров
Andrey Alekseyevich Raitin has worked at the Chita Power Station since 1999 as an electrical fitter, repairing electrical equipment.

During the time of his employment with our company, A. A. Raitin has earned nothing but recommendations.

He is conscientious in carrying out his responsibilities at work and does not violate labor discipline.

While working at our company, A. A. Raitin has continued to raise his qualifications. Over the course of his employment, he raised his qualification from Class 3 to Class 6 electrical fitter for repair of electrical equipment.

A. A. Raitin demonstrates a desire to learn and to study technology. In 2006 he completed courses for overhead crane machinists.

In 2008, A. A. Raitin was assigned the position of electrician for a portable degassing unit.

A. A. Raitin’s conscientious and quality work in rebuilding 12 transformers in 2010 resulted in considerable savings on materials for our company.

A. A. Raitin actively engages in the shop’s labor-saving work.

He has received the following awards over the course of his employment: (in labor book) Monetary award for the department competition for the first quarter of 2005, Order No. 385 dated 14 June 2005.

He has no penalties.

A. A. Raitin is married and a good family man. He has no bad habits and is not contentious.

He has earned the respect of his coworkers.

Character reference provided according to the place it was requested.

Chief of the Mobile Integrated Electrical Laboratory

О направлении информации

Во исполнение указания ГУСООП МВД России от 11.03.2012 № 12/1313 -

ТРЕБУЮ:

1. До 31.03.2012 в системе служебной подготовки провести дополнительные занятия с личным составом подразделений по изучению положений ст. 28 Конституции Российской Федерации и ч. 1 ст. 3 Федерального закона от 26.09.1997 № 125-ФЗ, гарантирующих гражданам право на свободу совести и свободу вероисповедания.

В ходе указанных занятий обратить особое внимание сотрудников на неотъемлемое право граждан исповедовать любую религию, свободно выбирать и распространять свои религиозные убеждения и действовать в соответствии с ними, отметив, что при этом необходимо учитывать применяемую в конкретном субъекте Российской Федерации судебную практику в отношении некоторых религиозных и иных организаций, а также их представителей.

2. Об исполнении доложить в ОРЛС УВО до 03.04.2012.

3. Предупреждаю о персональной ответственности за выполнение данного указания.

Д.А. Божинсков

В.Н. Комаров
25-26-45
LIST OF CRIMINAL CASES THAT HAVE BEEN CLOSED: (I) IN COURT SESSION, (II) AT THE INVESTIGATION STAGE (BEFORE COURT), OR (III) WHEN OFFICIALS REFUSED TO OPEN A CRIMINAL CASE from 8 December 2009 until the present (as of 16 May 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Grounds for opening the case (Article of Criminal Code)</th>
<th>Date of rulings to open and close the case</th>
<th>Persons against whom the case was opened</th>
<th>Grounds for closing the case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>II.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Asbest (Sverdlovsk Region)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>19 June 2008–3 March 2010</td>
<td>Initially against an indeterminate group of persons, later against I. Ananyin</td>
<td>Criminal prosecution of I. Ananyin closed because he was not involved in commission of the crime.¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Tambov (Tambov Region)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>16 March 2010–July 2011</td>
<td>Pavel Stegachev</td>
<td>Absence of constituent elements of the crime (two psycholinguistic religious expert studies were conducted in the case).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ We have no information about closing the case. Most likely the criminal case was suspended for failure to establish persons liable for prosecution.
² Waiting for a ruling to close the case.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Region and Location</th>
<th>Article(s)</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Defendants</th>
<th>Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Belgorod (Belgorod Region)</td>
<td>Article 282(1) and Article 282</td>
<td>24 November 2009–9 April 2012</td>
<td>Sergey Ishchenko</td>
<td>Absence of constituent elements of the crime (rulings refusing to open a criminal case were rendered on: 7 December 2009, 30 December 2009, 5 March 2010, 3 April 2010, and 9 April 2012; a religious study was also conducted by Belgorod State University).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Vyshniy Volochek (Tver Region)</td>
<td>Article 282.2</td>
<td>18 January 2010–28 January 2010</td>
<td>Dmitriy Kocharovskiy and members of the organization of Jehovah's Witnesses</td>
<td>In the case against D. Kocharovskiy, for absence of constituent elements of the crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Mogocha (Zabaykalskiy Territory)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>3 June 2011–14 August 2011</td>
<td>Ivan Kyssa, Aleksandr and Valentina Penzin</td>
<td>Absence of indicia of a crime (first ruling refusing to open a criminal case was on 3 July 2011; the second, on 27 July 2011; and the third, on 14 August 2011).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 According to information we have received, the ruling to close the criminal case was overturned. We are waiting for supporting documents.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Defendant(s)</th>
<th>Absence of constituent elements of the crime.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noyabrsk (Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>17 October 2010–16 December 2011</td>
<td>Viktor Golik</td>
<td>(first ruling refusing to open a criminal case 7 July 2011; second, 21 October 2011; third, 7 November 2011; fourth, 28 November 2011; fifth, 16 December 2011).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy (Kamchatka Territory)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>7 June 2010–17 September 2010</td>
<td>Andrey Shabunin, Galina Gontsova, Tamara Ivakina</td>
<td>Absence of constituent elements of the crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pindushi, Medvezhyegorskiy District (Republic of Karelia)</td>
<td>Article 282</td>
<td>21 January 2010–5 February 2010</td>
<td>For distribution of print materials (Aleksandra and Yuliya Gurenko were detained)</td>
<td>Absence of the occurrence of a crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uksyanskoje (Kurgan Region)</td>
<td>Article 282(1)</td>
<td>22 May 2010–30 September 2011</td>
<td>Vera Ufimtseva and Tatyana Krylova</td>
<td>Absence of constituent elements of the crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherepovets (Vologda Region)</td>
<td>Article 282</td>
<td>28 February 2010–25 March 2010</td>
<td>Nikolay Chursanov, chairman of the LRO of Jehovah's Witnesses of the city of Cherepovets, Vologda Region</td>
<td>Absence of constituent elements of the crime (two rulings refusing to open a criminal case were rendered: on 10 March 2010 (overturned on 12 March 2010) and on 25 March 2010).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
27 March 2012  11:43:07  From: DPS under the DPD for YaR   Fax  Page 2 of 2
To: DPS of the Tugayevo Interdistrict Police Department under the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs

Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia

DIRECTORATE OF PRIVATE SECURITY

Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation (DPS DMIA of Russia for the Yaroslavl Region)
Respublikanskii pr-d, 13, Yaroslavl, 150003
uvo76@mail.ru
27 March 2012  No. 28/1007

To: Chiefs of (Interdistrict) Departments of Private Security of Territorial Agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia at the District Level

Re: Information being sent

In execution of the order from the Main Directorate for Ensuring Public Order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia dated 11 March 2012 No. 12/1313,

I ORDER:

1. Prior to 31 March 2012, to hold additional courses in the staff training system with the staff of the departments to study the provisions of Article 28 of the RF Constitution and Article 3(1) of Federal Law No. 125-FZ dated 26 September 1997 that guarantee citizens the right to freedom of conscience and freedom of religion.

During said courses, the officers’ attention should be especially focused on the inalienable right of citizens to practice any religion, to freely choose and disseminate their religious convictions, and to act in accordance with them, noting that at the same time it is necessary to take into consideration applicable jurisprudence concerning certain religious and other organizations and their representatives in a specific subject of the Russian Federation.

2. To report, by 3 April 2012, to the Staff Assistance Department of the Directorate of Private Security that this has been carried out.

3. You are hereby warned of personal accountability for carrying out this order.

Acting Chief
Police Major [signature] D. A. Bozhinskov
V. N. Komarov
25-26-45

[Handwritten: illegible, 27 March 2012]
Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia

DIRECTORATE OF PRIVATE SECURITY

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Police Major
D. A. Bozhinskoy

V. N. Komarov
25-26-45

[Handwritten: illegible, 27 March 2012]
О направлении информации

По исполнению указания ГУООП МВД России от 11.03.2012 № 12/1313 -

ТРЕБУЮ:

1. До 31.03.2012 в системе служебной подготовки провести дополнительные занятия с личным составом подразделений по изучению положений ст. 28 Конституции Российской Федерации и ч. 1 ст. 3 Федерального закона от 26.09.1997 № 125-ФЗ, гарантирующих гражданам право на свободу совести и свободу вероисповедания.

В ходе указанных занятий обратить особое внимание сотрудников на неотъемлемое право граждан исповедовать любую религию, свободно выбирать и распространять свои религиозные убеждения и действовать в соответствии с ними, отметив, что при этом необходимо учитывать применяемую в конкретном субъекте Российской Федерации судебную практику в отношении некоторых религиозных и иных организаций, а также их представителей.

2. Об исполнении доложить в ОРЛС УВО до 03.04.2012.

3. Предупреждаю о персональной ответственности за выполнение данного указания.

Врио начальника майор полиции

Д.А. Божинсков

В.Н. Комаров
25-26-45