



COMMITTEE HEARING
Rules of Deliberation

5/20/82 7/1/82

1. The deliberation phase shall commence after all testimony has been taken and all reasonable factual information has been collected.
2. No allegation shall be judged unless there are facts/substantiation considered to be reliable.
3. A 2/3 majority vote of the committee shall be required to find any allegation or questions for deliberation true.
4. All reasonable efforts shall be exhausted to verify allegations/denials before considering deliberation on any question.
5. All voting shall be by secret ballot.
6. At the conclusion of deliberation/voting on all issues, a revote may be demanded on any specific issue by any committee member.
7. Only one deliberation question or issue may be considered at a time.
8. If a vote is a majority but less than the 2/3 required to find allegation true, discussion shall continue and up to a total of three ballots may be cast. If a 2/3 majority is not obtained by the third ballot, balloting and discussion on that question shall cease and the allegation shall be deemed to have failed/ or a "no" answer be concluded. Thereupon the allegation shall be dropped.
9. Judgments and voting shall not be based upon circumstantial evidence, one's opinions, assumptions, the opinions or conclusions of others, or heresay. Each member shall endeavor to search his own mind and conscience before God as to whether the allegations have or have not been proven to be true. All members shall carefully distinguish between proven fact and assumption.
10. Rule #9 above shall be read to the committee by the moderator prior to each vote.

11. A call for voting on a deliberation question may be initiated by the moderator or by any committee member. A call for vote shall terminate discussion at the conclusion of the speaker in progress. In no event may a call for vote be accepted prior to each member so desiring to speak at least once on the question at hand.

12. If in the process of discussion of a deliberation question, it is found that more information is needed, the deliberations on that question shall be put on hold and an attempt made to acquire the needed information. If the information sought is found not reasonably available, the discussion/deliberations on the question may continue when this becomes apparent.