

Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi, Cedarhurst

Dear friends:

We are pleased to make available once again the Hebrew and English *shetaros* – documents – for appointing me as your *sheliach* -- agent – for selling your chometz. The following are a few important points to remember:

- 1). If possible, please complete both the Hebrew and English document. If you find this difficult, either one of them will be sufficient.
- 2). If you will be in a time zone which is earlier than ours on Erev Pesach, please make sure to indicate this on the bottom of the English version in the appropriate space. This will assure that we will sell your chometz on Thursday, instead of Friday (known in Halacha as a " -- a sale on the thirteenth).
- 3). The purpose of the dollar amount of chometz is not to worry about a few dollars up or down, since we estimate with the gentile who is buying the chometz anyway. However, it does make a great deal of difference if you own or have a partnership in a business which has a great deal of chometz. This includes having a large number of shares in stocks which might include chometz in their portfolio.
- 4). Cars which are on your property are automatically included in the sale if you are leaving home for Pesach. If you wish to sell cars which are parked on the street, please indicate the Make, Model and license plate.
- 5). If you will not be home for Yom Tov at all, you do not need to itemize the location of the Chometz.
- 6). If you are leaving home for all of Yom Tov but wish to let other people use your home over Pesach you must indicate this on the form. Otherwise, they have no permission to use the gentile's home over Pesach. You, however, may briefly enter to remove items over Chol Hamoed. Even given this permission from the gentile, you should not leave chometz out on the table, counters etc. if Jewish people will be in the home. Clarify to them clearly which areas, if any, are chometz-free and may be used over Yom Tov.
- 7). If you are entering a new hotel on Chol Hamoed, you must thoroughly inspect the room(s) for chometz. Please do not rely upon anyone's promise that it is completely clean. If you do find real chometz (e.g. an old pizza box with remnants), you should try to destroy the chometz, first making the bracha *al biur chometz*. If you can't even flush down the chometz, just bring it to the nearest public trash receptacle.

Have a Chag Kasher Vesameach.

Rabbi Yaakov Feitman