From: lauramorzov@gmail.com
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Regarding IRS Form 990
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015 2:50:51 PM

Christie Preston:
In regards to your request for public commentary regarding Form 990, I would like to point out that all non-profit organizations should be treated equally, regardless of whether they espouse an atheist position, or a religious position. Currently the IRS singles out churches for privileged treatment by exempting them from the disclosure requirements all other 501(c)(3) organizations must comply with, or lose their exemption. Taxpayers, who are subsidizing tax-exempt groups, have a right to know what entities are exempt from taxation and to review general financial disclosures. The privilege of not being taxed must come with some measures of accountability. Please make churches conform to the same IRS requirements as all other 501(c)(3) groups. At a minimum, the IRS should require any organizations that claim to be religious organizations, to file an annual notice with the IRS that they are claiming tax exemption.
Therefore, I suggest that:

1) Any IRS oversight of 501(c)(3) organizations must be equally enforced against religious organizations.
2) The IRS should, at the very minimum, require church entities claiming exemption from filing the 990 to inform the IRS through a letter (or via a prescribed form).

I truly, honestly and openly believe in the ***separation of church and state***, and religious tax-exempt status wholly violates this law. Whereas I understand it may be too complicated right now to remove the exempt status entirely, asking the churches to be ACCOUNTABLE for this privilege seems like more then a fair request. After all, why should they deny such a request **if they have nothing to hide**?

And perhaps, someday, this accountability will indeed lead to the non-exempt status of the church, and what a wonderful, equal, and ***constitutional*** moment that will be.

Thank you for your consideration and willingness to fight the good fight (to uphold the law as it is written). Feel free to contact me with further questions or concerns,

Laura Morzov

206-786-0422

Sent from Windows Mail