**From:** Mark Renton
**To:** Preston Christie A
**Subject:** Comments on Form 990, as requested
**Date:** Saturday, September 12, 2015 9:11:03 PM

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I believe Form 990 provides critical information needed to evaluate the tax exempt status of organizations.

I also believe that churches, ministries, and other religious organizations should be required to file Form 990.

To exempt them from doing so gives religious organizations a preferred status over other charitable organizations,
which in my opinion violates the Constitutional separation of Church and State. There are frequent news stories
about ministries whose true purpose turned out to be giving riches and a luxuriant lifestyle to the head of the
ministry and his family. Requiring Form 990 would provide some desperately-needed financial transparency and
public accountability for the finances of religious organizations. People could also better compare religious
and non-religious charities, for the purpose of deciding which organizations should get their donations.

I also believe that, when making available to the public the public information from organizations' Form 990's
and Form 990-EZ's, the IRS should put it into a machine-readable format (rather than in an image format, as it
apparently currently is). Failing to do so contributes to making the information de facto unavailable, or at
least slowing down and complicating the process of making the information widely available to the public.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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