From: Ron Mittan
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Comments re: Form 990
Date: Sunday, September 13, 2015 12:47:42 PM

Dear Ms. Preston,

It has been brought to our attention that the IRS currently 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. We believe that all non-profit organizations should be treated equally, regardless of whether they espouse an atheist position, or a religious position. 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.

If the IRS has formulated any justification for the aforementioned exemption for churches, we would be most interested in receiving a written or digital copy of same, at your convenience.

Thanks very much for conveying our comments along to your colleagues at the IRS and Treasure Departments!

Sincerely, Ron Mittan and Terry Garrett
1137 Whisperwood Court SW
Bemidji, MN 56601-6264

rgmittan@gmail.com / tgarrett763@gmail.com