From:	Gloria Cingano
To:	Preston Christie A
Subject:	IRS favoritism of churches over non-profit organizations
Date:	Friday, September 11, 2015 2:37:11 PM

I am a member the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) whose purpose is to protect the constitutional principle of the separation of state and church and to educate the public about nontheism.

I believe 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

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.

The current situation is a burden on non-theistic organizations and shows a definite favoritism on behalf of religious groups. It is past time to correct this onerous situation.

Thank you.

Gloria Cingano
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