

Sept 11, 2015

Internal Revenue Service
Attn: Christie A. Preston
1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Rm 6129
Washington, DC 20224.

Dear Ms. Preston,

I believe in the separation of Church and State as enumerated in the United States Constitution. I also believe that preferential treatment of all 501(c)(3) organizations should be held to the same standard.

Furthermore, 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.

Sincerely,



Rowena N Hartman

Richard B. and Rowena N. Hartman
110 Bank St. Se #105
Minneapolis, MN 55414
rbhartman_64@yahoo.com
(612) 331-5920