From: Steve Brecker
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Comment regarding form 990
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015 1:43:41 PM

I am concerned that churches and religious institutions now receive preferential treatment under the current tax law which exempts them from filing Form 990. This is unfair to other secular non-profit organizations who are required to file Form 990. I believe the following would serve to level the playing field and increase fairness in the tax laws.

- 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.

Thank you.

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