From:	Bobbie Howard
To:	Preston Christie A
Subject:	Comment re Form 990
Date:	Friday, September 11, 2015 7:42:06 PM

Dear Ms. Preston:

I'm writing to tell you that as a secular citizen and tax-payer, I highly resent the special considerations given to churches versus other non-profit organizations. I do not think that churches who count people like Kim Davis as a member should be given any special treatment over organizations who actually do good things for society.

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.

I am only one person but I bet that for every one of me, there are at least 100 other tax-payers who feel the same way. We are tired of churches getting kid-glove treatment while many churches do nothing but promote hate and bigotry. Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Howard

(Ms.) Bobbie Howard
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