From: Shawn Nelson
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Form 990 Religous Exemptions
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015 5:19:03 PM

Dear Ms. Preston,

I am writing to you today to express my strong disapproval of the Internal Revenue Service's current policies regarding oversight, or the lack thereof, in regard to 501(c)(3)'s and other designated non-profits. Specifically, your agency does not require that any "religous" organization claim a Form 990 filing exemption, or, at the very least, is not enforcing rules that would.

I feel that 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 for your attention to this vital matter.

Shawn Nelson
Eureka, CA