From: Ernest Som
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Form 990
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015 8:39:02 PM

Ms. Preston,

I'd like to submit my opinion regarding the F990. Before I do, I'd like to mention the mission statement of the IRS.

*The **IRS mission** is to "provide America's taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and by applying the tax law with integrity and fairness to all."*

In regards to the "fairness to all" section, I'd like to point out that the IRS is showing favoritism to churches by exempting them from the F990 when
secular non-profit organizations are required to file them each year. I know that the IRS avoids actions that may contribute to negative public opinion, but this preferential treatment must end.

As as a remedy, I suggest:

- 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.

As you know, the IRS has been in the news a lot lately with a lot of bad press. Please correct this problem before it becomes another issue in the public spotlight that you will have to answer to.

Thank you