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OLD RULE – NEW IRS EMPHASIS

CHURCH & CHARITY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUIRED DISCLOSURES AND DISCLAIMER

The IRS requires specific disclosure language to be included on Contribution Letters or Statements issued by Churches and other Charities.

A donor cannot claim a deduction for any single contribution of \$250 or more without a contemporaneous written acknowledgement of the contribution from the Church or other Charity. The Acknowledgement Must contain the following information:

- Name of the Church or Charity
- Date of the Contribution
- Amount of cash (check, credit card) contributed, and
- A statement that no goods or services were provided.
- For Non-Cash contributions, a description of donated items, but not the Value of them. Note, Contribution of Labor is NOT tax deductible and should NOT be listed.

If the Organization provides an Annual Statement:

The Annual Statement must have the name of the church, list each donation Date and Amount and have the Disclaimer Notice.

Of the three choices provided by the IRS for the disclaimer notice, we suggest the following for Churches:

No goods or services were provided in return for these contributions other than intangible religious benefits.

Unless the Donor has a Compliant Contribution Record IN HAND at the time of Filing their Tax Return, they are Not Allowed to Claim the Deduction! Obtaining it at a later date does not cure the problem.

IRS Publication 1828 Tax Guide For Churches And Religious Organizations, provides more information and is available from the IRS at 1-800-TAXFORM, or just Google IRS Pub 1828.