



**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities**

Date:
07/03/2025
Employer ID number:

Form you must file:

Tax years:

Person to contact:
Name:
ID number:
Telephone:

Release Number: 202539013
Release Date: 9/26/2025
UIL Code: 501.03-00, 501.03-30, 501.33-00

Dear :

This letter is our final determination that you don't qualify for exemption from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(a) as an organization described in IRC Section 501(c)(3). Recently, we sent you a proposed adverse determination in response to your application. The proposed adverse determination explained the facts, law, and basis for our conclusion, and it gave you 30 days to file a protest. Because we didn't receive a protest within the required 30 days, the proposed determination is now final.

Because you don't qualify as a tax-exempt organization under IRC Section 501(c)(3), donors generally can't deduct contributions to you under IRC Section 170.

We may notify the appropriate state officials of our determination, as required by IRC Section 6104(c), by sending them a copy of this final letter along with the proposed determination letter.

You must file the federal income tax forms for the tax years shown above within **30 days** from the date of this letter unless you request an extension of time to file. For further instructions, forms, and information, visit www.irs.gov.

We'll make this final adverse determination letter and the proposed adverse determination letter available for public inspection after deleting certain identifying information, as required by IRC Section 6110. Read the enclosed Letter 437, Notice of Intention to Disclose - Rulings, and review the two attached letters that show our proposed deletions. If you disagree with our proposed deletions, follow the instructions in the Letter 437 on how to notify us. If you agree with our deletions, you don't need to take any further action.

If you have questions about this letter, you can call the contact person shown above. If you have questions about your federal income tax status and responsibilities, call our customer service number at 800-829-1040 (TTY 800-829-4933 for deaf or hard of hearing) or customer service for businesses at 800-829-4933.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Enclosures:

Letter 437

Redacted Letter 4034

Redacted Letter 4038



**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**

Date:
05/13/2025
Employer ID number:

Person to contact:
Name:
ID number:
Telephone:
Fax:

Legend:

B = Date
C = State
D = Organization
e percent = Percent
f percent = Percent
g percent = Percent
H = Number
J = Number

UIL:
501.03-00
501.03.30
501.33-00

Dear :

We considered your application for recognition of exemption from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(a). We determined that you don't qualify for exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3). This letter explains the reasons for our conclusion. Please keep it for your records.

Issues

Do you qualify for exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3)? No, for the reasons stated below.

Facts

You submitted Form 1023-EZ, Streamlined Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

You attest that you were incorporated on B, in the state of C. You attest that you have the necessary organizing document, that your organizing document limits your purposes to one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of the IRC Section 501(c)(3), that your organizing document does not expressly empower you to engage in activities, other than an insubstantial part, that are not in furtherance of one or more exempt purposes, and that your organizing document contains the dissolution provision required under Section 501(c)(3).

You attest that you are organized and operated exclusively to further charitable purposes. You attest that you have not conducted and will not conduct prohibited activities under IRC Section 501(c)(3). Specifically, you attest you will:

- Refrain from supporting or opposing candidates in political campaigns in any way.
- Ensure that your net earnings do not inure in whole or in part to the benefit of private shareholders or individuals.
- Not further non-exempt purposes (such as purposes that benefit private interests) more than insubstantially.
- Not be organized or operated for the primary purpose of conducting a trade or business that is not related to your exempt purpose(s)
- Not devote more than an insubstantial part of your activities attempting to influence legislation or, if you made a Section 501(h) election, not normally make expenditures in excess of expenditure limitations outlined in Section 501(h)
- Not provide commercial-type insurance as a substantial part of your activities

Your mission as stated on the Form 1023-EZ is to provide funds for D related functions (births, deaths, retirements) that are not supported by official military monies. You will plan and hold events with the intent to benefit D and provide aid to D members and their families in need and boost morale.

Your total activities will be broken down into:

- e percent is dedicated to promotion and retirement events
- f percent is dedicated to birth and death events
- g percent is dedicated to morale and holiday events

Membership is open to members of D. You currently have H members and will not have more than J members. Membership dues are collected yearly and are dependent on the member's rank. These dues will be used to fund events and purchase items related to births, deaths, promotions, and retirements for members and their families. Events will be held monthly or bimonthly.

Law

IRS Section 501(c)(3) provides for the recognition of exemption of organizations that are organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, or other purposes as specified in the statute. No part of the net earnings may inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

Treasury Regulation Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(a)(1) states that in order to qualify under IRC Section 501(c)(3), an organization must be both organized and operated exclusively for one or more exempt purposes. If an organization fails to meet either the organizational or operational test, it is not exempt.

Treas. Reg. Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(c)(1) states that an organization will be regarded as "operated exclusively" for one or more exempt purposes only if it engages primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of such exempt purposes specified in IRC Section 501(c)(3). An organization will not be so regarded if more than an insubstantial part of its activities is not in furtherance of an exempt purpose.

Treas. Reg. Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(d)(1)(ii) states that an organization is not operated exclusively for one or more exempt purposes unless it serves a public rather than a private interest. It must not be operated for the benefit of designated individuals or the persons who created it.

Revenue Ruling 61-170, 1961-1 C.B. 112., holds that an association composed of professional private duty nurses and practical nurses which supported and operated a nurses' registry primarily to afford greater employment opportunities for its members was not entitled to exemption under Section 501(c)(3). Although the public received some benefit from the organization's activities, the primary benefit of these activities was to the organization's members.

Rev. Rul. 69-175, 1969-1 C.B. 149, describes an organization which was formed by parents of pupils attending a private school. The organization provided bus transportation to and from the school for those children whose parents belong to the organization. The organization did not qualify for exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3) because it served a private rather than public interest.

In Korean-American Senior Mutual Association v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, 120 T.C.M. (CCH) 191 (T.C. 2020), the court held that an organization was not operated exclusively for any of the purposes indicated in IRC Section 501(c)(3) because it was a membership organization whose main purpose was to provide burial grants for the private benefit of its members. Therefore, the law does not permit it to qualify as an exempt organization described in Section 501(c)(3).

In Better Business Bureau of Washington D.C., Inc. v. United States, 326 U.S. 279 (1945), the Supreme Court held that the presence of a single non-exempt purpose, if substantial in nature, will destroy the exemption regardless of the number or importance of truly exempt purposes.

Application of law

IRC Section 501(c)(3) and Treas. Reg. Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(a)(1) set forth two main tests for an organization to be recognized as exempt. An organization must be both organized and operated exclusively for purposes described in Section 501(c)(3). Based on the information provided, you fail the operational test.

You do not meet the operational test under IRC Section 501(c)(3) because you are not operating exclusively for exempt purposes as required by Treas. Reg. Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(c)(1). More than an insubstantial part of your activities are devoted to the non-exempt private purpose of distributing funds to, and holding events on behalf of, your members. These member events and distributions serve their private interests, rather than a public interest as required by Treas. Reg. Section 1.501(c)(3)-1(d)(1)(ii).

You are like the organization described in Rev. Rul. 61-170, Rev. Rul. 69-175, and Korean-American Senior Mutual Association. You have a limited membership, your members pay a fee, and your dues paying members receive benefit due to paying those fees. By providing these benefits to your dues paying members, you are serving the private interests of your members rather than the interests of the public. You, therefore, fail the operational test and do not qualify for exemption as an organization described under Section 501(c)(3).

The Supreme Court held in Better Business Bureau that a single non-exempt purpose, if substantial in nature, would preclude an organization from qualifying under Section 501(c)(3) no matter the number or importance of truly exempt purposes. Your primary activity, providing events for and financial distributions to your members, is serving private non-exempt purposes and precludes you from exemption under Section 501(c)(3).

Conclusion

You are not operated exclusively for exempt purposes within the meaning of IRC Section 501(c)(3). You are formed to serve the private interests of your members rather than the interests of the public. Accordingly, you do not qualify for exemption under Section 501(c)(3).

If you agree

If you agree with our proposed adverse determination, you don't need to do anything. If we don't hear from you within 30 days, we'll issue a final adverse determination letter. That letter will provide information on your income tax filing requirements.

If you don't agree

You have a right to protest if you don't agree with our proposed adverse determination. To do so, send us a protest within 30 days of the date of this letter. You must include:

- Your name, address, employer identification number (EIN), and a daytime phone number
- A statement of the facts, law, and arguments supporting your position
- A statement indicating whether you are requesting an Appeals Office conference
- The signature of an officer, director, trustee, or other official who is authorized to sign for the organization or your authorized representative
- The following declaration:

For an officer, director, trustee, or other official who is authorized to sign for the organization:
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this request, or this modification to the request, including accompanying documents, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the request or the modification contains all relevant facts relating to the request, and such facts are true, correct, and complete.

Your representative (attorney, certified public accountant, or other individual enrolled to practice before the IRS) must file a Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative, with us if they haven't already done so. You can find more information about representation in Publication 947, Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney.

We'll review your protest statement and decide if you gave us a basis to reconsider our determination. If so, we'll continue to process your case considering the information you provided. If you haven't given us a basis for reconsideration, we'll send your case to the Appeals Office and notify you. You can find more information in Publication 892, How to Appeal an IRS Determination on Tax-Exempt Status.

If you don't file a protest within 30 days, you can't seek a declaratory judgment in court later because the law requires that you use the IRC administrative process first (IRC Section 7428(b)(2)).

Where to send your protest

Send your protest, Form 2848, if applicable, and any supporting documents to the applicable address:

U.S. mail:

Internal Revenue Service
EO Determinations Quality Assurance
Mail Stop 6403
PO Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Street address for delivery service:

Internal Revenue Service
EO Determinations Quality Assurance
550 Main Street, Mail Stop 6403
Cincinnati, OH 45202

You can also fax your protest and supporting documents to the fax number listed at the top of this letter. If you fax your statement, please contact the person listed at the top of this letter to confirm that they received it.

You can get the forms and publications mentioned in this letter by visiting our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676). If you have questions, you can contact the person listed at the top of this letter.

Contacting the Taxpayer Advocate Service

The Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) is an independent organization within the IRS that can help protect your taxpayer rights. TAS can offer you help if your tax problem is causing a hardship, or if you've tried but haven't been able to resolve your problem with the IRS. If you qualify for TAS assistance, which is always free, TAS will do everything possible to help you. Visit www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov or call 877-777-4778.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements