

An Opportunity to Protect Your Donors' Privacy

A significant case is moving through the federal courts. *Buckeye Institute v. IRS* seeks to end the government's practice of collecting donor information on the Form 990 (i.e., the names and addresses of major donors on the form's Schedule B). The IRS is not immune from data leaks or breaches. And the threat of misuse by the government is always present, regardless of who is at the helm. **You can help eliminate this threat by taking action now.**

This case follows in the footsteps of the *Bonta* U.S. Supreme Court case. California required Schedule B of Form 990 (major donors' names and addresses) as part of its solicitation law registration. The Court ruled this violated donors' First Amendment rights and ordered the state to stop. The Court was persuaded the nonprofit community needed this donor protection by an amicus brief co-signed by one hundred twenty-six 501(c)(3) organizations. The number was influential but more so was the range in size, geography, mission, and political leanings of the signing organizations.

Buckeye is now on appeal to the federal 6th Circuit. A brief comparable to that in [Bonta](#) is under way for the *Buckeye* case. It will have similar purposes: to demonstrate to the judges the importance of donor privacy to the nonprofit community and that the community, as a whole, needs the threat removed. It's important to note here: the IRS has admitted it has no routine need for Schedule B information.

We invite you to join the growing list of intended signers. Among those are The Nonprofit Alliance Foundation, Catholic Charities USA, PETA, Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), Reporters without Borders, Susan G Komen for the Cure, National Space Society, Claremont Institute, People for the American Way Foundation, Feeding America, and The Wilderness Society. **Please consider adding your organization to this list.**

To do so, send an email from your organization to Robert Tigner, Regulatory Counsel at The Nonprofit Alliance (rtigner@tnpa.org). Please feel free to pose any questions you may have to him. All wishing to be a signer will receive a near-final version of the brief to review and can withdraw consent at any time through November 23.