

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent,

In light of recent revelations regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), coupled with the organization's long history of political targeting, we respectfully request that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) revoke its tax-exempt status. Currently, the SPLC is a registered 501(c)(3) charity that enjoys an exemption from paying federal taxes.¹

As you know, a qualified tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code must be organized and operated primarily for charitable, educational, or similar purposes and cannot engage in political activity.²

As discussed during this week's House Judiciary Committee hearing, the SPLC has consistently engaged in the partisan targeting of conservative groups by placing them on its so-called "hate map" alongside organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan and the Aryan Brotherhood.³ Meanwhile, violent left-wing groups such as Antifa and Jane's Revenge have been widely ignored by the self-described civil rights organization.

Furthermore, the recent Department of Justice (DOJ) indictment involving the SPLC alleges that the organization actively funded some of the hate groups it told donors it was fighting. These groups include the KKK, the National Socialist Party of America, Aryan Nations, and the National Alliance.⁴ Funding such groups is not an act of charity but rather an act of fraud.

The Department of the Treasury has taken much-needed action to better detect misconduct and hold wrongdoers accountable. For example, the Department's April 23, 2026, announcement revealed that, under your leadership, the "IRS plans to revise Form 990 to improve transparency, strengthen tax administration, and provide clearer reporting on certain activities of tax-exempt organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code."⁵ This is a necessary step, but it does not immediately

¹ [SPLC Financial Information](#)

² [501\(c\)\(3\) organizations | Internal Revenue Service](#)

³ [The Southern Poverty Law Center: Manufacturing Hate, Part II | House Judiciary Committee Republicans](#)

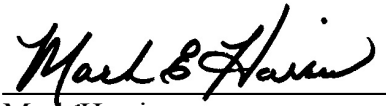
⁴ [Middle District of Alabama | Federal Grand Jury Charges Southern Poverty Law Center for Wire Fraud, False Statements, and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering | United States Department of Justice](#)

⁵ [Treasury Announces Form 990 Transparency Initiative to Expose Hidden Funding and Strengthen Oversight | U.S. Department of the Treasury](#)

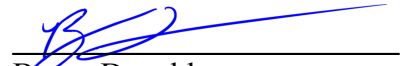
address the concerns about the SPLC as described by the DOJ's indictment and the House Judiciary Committee's oversight work.

The evidence is clear: the SPLC does not operate as a charitable organization and should therefore lose its tax-exempt status. We respectfully ask that you direct the IRS to examine the SPLC's Section 501(c)(3) status and take appropriate action to revoke their tax-exempt status. We look forward to your response detailing the IRS's investigation of this matter and any action taken.

Sincerely,



Mark Harris
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Andy Ogles
Member of Congress