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June 12, 2008

Internal Revenue Service EO Classification
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To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of violations of the tax laws as they pertain to 501(c)(3) charitable organizations by the "United Macedonian Diaspora" (UMD) based in the District of Columbia. This organization has engaged in extensive political and legislative activities, and as such should face the repercussions outlined in law.

IRS Publication 1828 states that "In general, no organization, including a church, may qualify for IRC section 501(c)(3) status if a substantial part of its activities is attempting to influence legislation (commonly known as lobbying)." Based on the information available on the web site of the organization (http://www.umdiaspora.org/) and numerous press releases, it is evident that they are in violation of this directive. In a press release issued on July 11, 2007 (Exhibit A), the UMD expresses satisfaction with its lobbying effort in Congress, its political coordination with a foreign government, the relation is has with numerous "members of Congress and Senators", and mentions specific elected representatives that it maintains relations with (Congressmen Pascrell and Souder). In their magazine (Exhibit B) the UMD states that they "worked together with these representatives" in order to effect a change on pending legislation.

The same IRS publication also states that "Contributions to political campaign funds or public statements of position (verbal or written) made by or on behalf of the organization in favor of or in opposition to any candidate for public office clearly violate the prohibition against political campaign activity." Not only has the president and founder of UMD, Mr. Metodija Koloski, contributed and publically supported Congressman Bill Pascrell, he also worked for him as an intern in 2005 following the founding of this organization (2004). One example of a public statement includes the April 2, 2008 press release (Exhibit C) where the "UMD commends Representatives Pascrell, Souder, Engel, Miller, and Pomeroy". In fact, the UMD has repeatedly made mention of serving elected officials who are running for reelection through its web site, press releases, and in various public events.

IRS Publication 1828 further states that "A church or religious organization will be regarded as attempting to influence legislation if it contacts, or urges the public to contact, members or employees of a legislative body for the purpose of proposing, supporting, or opposing legislation, or if the organization advocates the adoption or rejection of legislation." On April 2, 2008 the UMD called on its members to "Contact your Representative Today! Urge them to Co-Sponsor H. Res. 1070." (Exhibit D), as it had also done in the past (Exhibit E: February 27, 2008 "Contact your Senator Today! Urge them to Co-Sponsor S. Res. 459").

The UMD has also taken positions against legislation, as they did with their paid advertisement in the Express, a Washington Post publication, to counter "Greece's intransigence and hostile propaganda through H. Res 356 and S. Res. 300" (Exhibit F).

The UMD has hired the firm Foley Government & Public Affairs, Inc. (Senate Lobbying Disclosure Identification Numbers 15053-342 and 15053-354) to actively engage in lobbying.

I urge you to review the specific accompanying material as well as the plethora of public evidence where the United Macedonian Diaspora is in violation of IRS laws pertaining to the political and legislative restrictions on 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations. I look forward to a positive conclusion of your investigation of this claim.

Sincerely,

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