

# Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization: A Legal Guide

By Bruce R. Hopkins



**Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization: A Legal Guide** By Bruce R. Hopkins

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### Nuts-and-bolts guidance on the laws, rules, and regulations governing the nonprofit sector—from leading nonprofit law expert, Bruce R. Hopkins

Nonprofits must comply with stringent federal and state laws due to their special tax-exempt status; the government's ultimate threat is revocation of a nonprofit's tax-exempt status, which usually means the nonprofit's demise. Written in plain English, not "legalese," *Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization: A Legal Guide, Sixth Edition,* provides essential guidance for those interested in starting nonprofits, as well as valuable advice for leaders of established organizations.

- Revised and expanded to include updated information on changes in laws, rules, and regulations governing the nonprofit sector
- Covers federal tax law, nonprofit, governance, the annual information return (Form 990), charitable giving rules, and current IRS ruling policy
- Presents essential, practical legal information in easy-to-understand English
- Explains the applications and implications of corporate, tax, and fundraising laws for nonprofits

This easy-to-read resource contains essential information on virtually every legal aspect of starting and operating a nonprofit organization from receiving and maintaining tax-exempt status to tips for successful management practices.

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#### **Editorial Review**

From the Back Cover

#### Nonprofit Organizations & Charities

### Everything you need to start and manage a nonprofit—from leading nonprofit legal expert Bruce R. Hopkins

Written by nonprofit legal expert Bruce R. Hopkins, *Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization: A Legal Guide, Sixth Edition* is essential reading for those new to the nonprofit world, as well as veteran directors, officers, and executives of well-recognized organizations. Now fully updated and revised, this guide equips you with all the critical information and know-how you need to protect your nonprofit's tax-exempt status and avoid the many legal traps that are out there.

This *Sixth Edition* of *Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization: A Legal Guide* presents in-depth discussions of the legal aspects involved in the formation and operation of a nonprofit organization, with updated information on changes in laws, rules, and regulations governing the nonprofit sector, such as:

- Federal tax law
- Nonprofit governance
- Reporting rules for tax-exempt organizations
- Public charity status
- Form 990—the annual information return
- Charitable giving rules
- Current IRS ruling policy
- Constitutional law principles

Packed with checklists, step-by-step guidance as to procedures, and a glossary of legal terms for fail-safe compliance, *Starting and Managing a Nonprofit Organization, Sixth Edition* demystifies intricate legal issues with plain-language explanations of nonprofit laws and regulations for non-legal professionals.

#### About the Author

**BRUCE R. HOPKINS** is the country's leading authority on tax-exempt organizations and a senior partner with the law firm Polsinelli Shughart. He is the author of more than twenty-eight books, all published by Wiley, including *The Law of Tax-Exempt Organizations, Tenth Edition,* and the newsletter *Bruce R*. *Hopkins' Nonprofit Counsel.* 

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