

Appendix A3



CHURCH QUALIFIER FORM **(For use only if you don't have a 501(c)(3))**

The Internal Revenue Service uses 14 criteria to determine whether an organization qualifies as a Church.

In accordance with this provision, America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend has established a policy which requires that an organization, which operates as an independent, unincorporated church must certify that at least ten of these characteristics are evidenced by their program. The characteristics are as follows:

(Please check each item that applies and provide proper verification documentation)

- _____ 1. A distinct legal existence
- _____ 2. A recognized creed and form of worship
- _____ 3. A definite and distinct ecclesiastical government
- _____ 4. A formal code of doctrine and discipline
- _____ 5. A membership not associated with any other church or denomination
- _____ 6. A distinct religious history
- _____ 7. A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations
- _____ 8. Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study
- _____ 9. A literature of its own
- _____ 10. Established places of worship
- _____ 11. Regular congregations
- _____ 12. Regular religious services
- _____ 13. Sunday schools for the religious instruction of the young
- _____ 14. Schools for the preparations of its ministers

As duly authorized officers of _____ (church name), we certify that this organization meets the requirements indicated for identification as a church.

Signature of Officer

Title

Date

Please print name and address below:

