

All Copy

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Form **990**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2016

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Do not enter Social Security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2016 calendar year, or tax year beginning , 2016, and ending , 20

B Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. Doing Business As			D Employer identification number 36-0802950
	Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite		E Telephone number (312) 427-8330	
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code CHICAGO, IL 60606			
	F Name and address of principal officer: ANDREW SHAW 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606			G Gross receipts \$ 4,781,407.
I Tax-exempt status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527			H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No H(b) Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)	
J Website: ▶ WWW.BETTERGOV.ORG			H(c) Group exemption number ▶	
K Form of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ▶			L Year of formation: 1923 M State of legal domicile: IL	

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: PROMOTES INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT. SEE PART III FOR MORE INFORMATION		
	2	Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3	Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	34.
	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	34.
	5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2016 (Part V, line 2a)	5	30.
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	85.
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0.
7b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0.	
Revenue			Prior Year	Current Year
	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	4,496,428.	3,641,509.
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0.	0.
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	77,658.	67,796.
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	-197,489.	-222,279.
	12	Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	4,376,597.	3,487,026.
Expenses	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	0.	0.
	14	Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0.	0.
	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	1,804,558.	2,035,579.
	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0.	0.
	16b	Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 290,886.		
	17	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	941,394.	1,043,661.
	18	Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2,745,952.	3,079,240.
19	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	1,630,645.	407,786.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances			Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)	4,022,116.	4,589,613.
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	125,810.	235,263.
22	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	3,896,306.	4,354,350.	

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	▶ Signature of officer	Date			
	▶ Type or print name and title				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	GEORGE BODENBERG		11/15/2017		P00434750
	Firm's name ▶ MARCUM LLP	Firm's EIN ▶ 11-1986323		Phone no. 847-282-6300	
Firm's address ▶ NINE PARKWAY NORTH, SUITE 200 DEERFIELD, IL 60015					

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions. Form **990** (2016)

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III [X]

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

TO PROMOTE INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT BY EXPOSING WASTE, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION, PROMOTING EFFECTIVE PUBLIC POLICY, AND ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? [] Yes [X] No

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? [] Yes [X] No

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 1,476,366. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

ATTACHMENT 1

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 458,813. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

CITIZEN EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION PROGRAMS (CIVIC ENGAGEMENT) - THROUGH THE WEBSITE AND ITS COMPREHENSIVE DIGITAL STRATEGY, THE BGA PRESENTS ITS JOURNALISTIC INVESTIGATIONS, EDUCATES THE PUBLIC ON IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ISSUES AND TRAINS CITIZENS ON TECHNIQUES FOR MONITORING GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. THE WEBSITE ALSO INCLUDES THE ACTION CENTER WHICH EMPOWERS CITIZENS TO STAY UP TO DATE ON POLICY PRIORITIES AND CONNECT DIRECTLY WITH LAWMAKERS TO ACHIEVE POLICY CAMPAIGNS.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 467,190. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

POLICY ADVOCACY - THE BGA'S POLICY UNIT CONTINUES TO MAKE GREAT STRIDES IN SHAPING THE DISCUSSION, BOTH IN CHICAGO AND IN SPRINGFIELD, ABOUT WAYS TO IMPROVE OUR GOVERNMENT. THE POLICY TEAM WAS AT THE FOREFRONT OF KEY ISSUES, RELAYING THEM TO BGA FOLLOWERS ON THE THINK TANK BLOG AND IN THE MEDIA. THE POLICY UNIT FOCUSES ON STREAMLINING GOVERNMENT, KEEPING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT FROM BEING DIMINISHED, WRONGFUL CONVICTION REFORM, PUBLIC PENSION REFORM AND GREATER FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RELATED TO THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)

(Expenses \$ 117,434. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses 2,519,803.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question number, Yes, No. Rows 1-19 detailing various organizational requirements and reporting obligations.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

		Yes	No
20a	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H.</i>		X
b	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		
21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II.</i>		X
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III.</i>		X
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J.</i>	X	
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a.</i>		X
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
25a	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I.</i>		X
b	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I.</i>		X
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II.</i>		X
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III.</i>		X
28	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):		
a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV.</i>		X
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV.</i>		X
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV.</i>		X
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M.</i>	X	
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M.</i>		X
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I.</i>		X
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II.</i>		X
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I.</i>		X
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1.</i>		X
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		X
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2.</i>		
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2.</i>		X
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI.</i>		X
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.	X	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

Table with columns for line numbers (1a-14b), descriptions, and Yes/No checkboxes. Includes questions about Form 1096, Form W-2G, Form W-3, Form 990-T, Form 8886-T, Form 8282, Form 8899, Form 1098-C, Form 4966, Form 720, and Form 702.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include 1a (34), 1b (34), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7a, 7b, 8a, 8b, 9.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include 10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15a, 15b, 16a, 16b.

Section C. Disclosure

- 17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed IL,
18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.
19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.
20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: EMMETT MURPHY 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., SUITE 900 CHICAGO, IL 60606 312-427-8330

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII.

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) MARK E. RUST CHAIR	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(2) STEVEN N. MILLER VICE CHAIR	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(3) JACK MODZELEWSKI VICE CHAIR	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(4) HEIDI RUDOLPH VICE CHAIR	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(5) NICOLE NOCERA SECRETARY	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(6) G. SCOTT SOLOMON TREASURER	1.00 0.	X		X				0.	0.	0.
(7) CLARK BELL DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(8) ERIC BERLIN DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(9) JONATHAN C. BUNGE DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(10) MARTA CARREIRA-SLABE DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(11) CINDY DAVIS DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(12) BARACK ECHOLS DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(13) SAMUEL FIFER DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(14) MERRI JO GILLETTE DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X						0.	0.	0.

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(15) STEVE GREENSPON ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(16) FRAN GROSSMAN ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(17) HILL HAMMOCK ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(18) HAMILTON H. HILL ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(19) CARROLL JOYNES ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(20) GARY KLEINRICHERT ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(21) DAVID KOHN ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(22) LUDWIG KOLMAN ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(23) ROBERT LEVIN ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(24) CHRIS LYNCH ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
(25) GEETA MALHOTRA ----- DIRECTOR	1.00 ----- 0.	X						0.	0.	0.
1b Sub-total								0.	0.	0.
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A								637,353.	0.	121,375.
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)								637,353.	0.	121,375.

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization **▶** 4

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		X
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	X	
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization **▶** 0.

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
26) CHRISTINA MARTINI DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
27) ROSEMARY MATZL DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
28) RYAN MURPHY DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
29) JESSICA NOLAN DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
30) LAWRENCE OLIVER II DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
31) CHUCK PERUCHINI DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
32) CHRIS SEGAL DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
33) THOM SERAFIN DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
34) LISABETH WEINER DIRECTOR	1.00 0.	X					0.	0.	0.	
35) ANDREW SHAW PRESIDENT/CEO	40.00 0.			X			250,000.	0.	13,859.	
36) ROBERT HERGUTH EDITOR OF INVESTIGATION	40.00 0.				X		131,615.	0.	48,564.	
1b Sub-total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)										

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization **4**

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual		X
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual	X	
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(37) MARY FRANCES O'CONNOR ----- DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL	40.00 0.					X		148,571.	0.	35,194.
(38) ROBERT REED ----- DIR. OF PROGRAMMING	40.00 0.					X		107,167.	0.	23,758.

1b Sub-total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)										

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ► 4

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		X
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	X	
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization ►

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII.

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a					
	b Membership dues	1b					
	c Fundraising events	1c	1,572,916.				
	d Related organizations	1d					
	e Government grants (contributions) . .	1e					
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above .	1f	2,068,593.				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: \$		100,089.				
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f			3,641,509.			
Program Service Revenue	2a _____	Business Code					
	b _____						
	c _____						
	d _____						
	e _____						
	f All other program service revenue						
	g Total. Add lines 2a-2f			0.			
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts).			38,579.			38,579.
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds .			0.			
	5 Royalties			0.			
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
	b Less: rental expenses						
	c Rental income or (loss)						
	d Net rental income or (loss)			0.			
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
	b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses						
	c Gain or (loss)			29,217.			
	d Net gain or (loss)			29,217.			
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 1,572,916. of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	ATCH 2		0.			
	b Less: direct expenses	ATCH 3		241,997.			
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events.			-241,997.			
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19			0.			
b Less: direct expenses			0.				
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities			0.				
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances			0.				
b Less: cost of goods sold			0.				
c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory			0.				
Miscellaneous Revenue			Business Code				
11a MISCELLANEOUS	900099		6,680.			6,680.	
b SPEAKING FEES AND AWARDS	900099		13,038.			13,038.	
c _____							
d All other revenue							
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d			19,718.				
12 Total revenue. See instructions.			3,487,026.			58,297.	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	0.			
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	0.			
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16	0.			
4 Benefits paid to or for members	0.			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	250,000.	250,000.		
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0.			
7 Other salaries and wages	1,387,861.	1,074,776.	135,306.	177,779.
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	0.			
9 Other employee benefits	279,293.	195,013.	62,935.	21,345.
10 Payroll taxes	118,425.	95,788.	9,783.	12,854.
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management	0.			
b Legal	112,346.	89,421.	11,020.	11,905.
c Accounting	71,539.	44,401.	21,034.	6,104.
d Lobbying	0.			
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17	0.			
f Investment management fees	0.			
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	0.			
12 Advertising and promotion	116,130.	114,530.	29.	1,571.
13 Office expenses	22,544.	17,945.	2,211.	2,388.
14 Information technology	73,365.	59,713.	3,245.	10,407.
15 Royalties	0.			
16 Occupancy	85,487.	68,043.	8,385.	9,059.
17 Travel	0.			
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0.			
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	7,639.	6,820.		819.
20 Interest	0.			
21 Payments to affiliates	0.			
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	49,671.	40,106.	3,375.	6,190.
23 Insurance	66,472.	52,908.	6,520.	7,044.
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a <u>INVESTIGATIVE</u>	255,456.	255,283.		173.
b <u>WATCHDOG TRAINING UNIT</u>	63,355.	63,355.		
c <u>POLICY & GOV'T AFFAIRS</u>	46,634.	46,634.		
d <u>TELEPHONE</u>	26,221.	19,027.	2,073.	5,121.
e All other expenses	46,802.	26,040.	2,635.	18,127.
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	3,079,240.	2,519,803.	268,551.	290,886.
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)	0.			

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X.

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash - non-interest-bearing	171,668.	1	766,465.
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	25,971.	2	10,997.
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	338,500.	3	110,000.
	4 Accounts receivable, net	3,585.	4	2,385.
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L	0.	5	0.
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L	0.	6	0.
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net	0.	7	0.
	8 Inventories for sale or use	0.	8	0.
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	82,877.	9	59,306.
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 211,039.		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 150,875.	59,723.	10c 60,164.
	11 Investments - publicly traded securities	2,505,948.	11	2,738,781.
	12 Investments - other securities. See Part IV, line 11	0.	12	0.
	13 Investments - program-related. See Part IV, line 11	0.	13	0.
	14 Intangible assets	103,355.	14	94,589.
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	730,489.	15	746,926.
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	4,022,116.	16	4,589,613.	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	90,520.	17	166,145.
	18 Grants payable	0.	18	0.
	19 Deferred revenue	0.	19	0.
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities	0.	20	0.
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D	0.	21	0.
	22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L	0.	22	0.
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	0.	23	0.
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	0.	24	0.
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D	35,290.	25	69,118.
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	125,810.	26	235,263.
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets	2,795,008.	27	3,120,479.
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	1,101,298.	28	1,233,871.
	29 Permanently restricted net assets	0.	29	0.
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30	
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund		31	
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32	
	33 Total net assets or fund balances	3,896,306.	33	4,354,350.
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	4,022,116.	34	4,589,613.	

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI.

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	3,487,026.
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	3,079,240.
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	407,786.
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	3,896,306.
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	50,258.
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	0.
7	Investment expenses	7	0.
8	Prior period adjustments	8	0.
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	0.
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	4,354,350.

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII.

- 1** Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: Cash Accrual Other _____
If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O.
- 2a** Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?
If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both:
 Separate basis Consolidated basis Both consolidated and separate basis
- b** Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?
If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both:
 Separate basis Consolidated basis Both consolidated and separate basis
- c** If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.
- 3a** As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?
- b** If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.

	Yes	No
2a		X
2b	X	
2c	X	
3a		X
3b		

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land-grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university: _____
- 10 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3 % of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions - subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3 % of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**.
Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations.

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
Total						

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2016

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2012, (b) 2013, (c) 2014, (d) 2015, (e) 2016, (f) Total. Rows include: 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received; 2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit; 3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit; 4 Total; 5 The portion of total contributions by each person; 6 Public support.

Section B. Total Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2012, (b) 2013, (c) 2014, (d) 2015, (e) 2016, (f) Total. Rows include: 7 Amounts from line 4; 8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources; 9 Net income from unrelated business activities; 10 Other income; 11 Total support; 12 Gross receipts from related activities; 13 First five years.

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Line number, Percentage. Rows include: 14 Public support percentage for 2016 (95.20%); 15 Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A (83.73%); 16a 33 1/3% support test - 2016 (checked); 16b 33 1/3% support test - 2015; 17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test - 2016; 17b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test - 2015; 18 Private foundation.

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II.
If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2012, (b) 2013, (c) 2014, (d) 2015, (e) 2016, (f) Total. Rows include: 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received; 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed; 3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business; 4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit; 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit; 6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5; 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons; 7b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons; 7c Add lines 7a and 7b; 8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)

Section B. Total Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2012, (b) 2013, (c) 2014, (d) 2015, (e) 2016, (f) Total. Rows include: 9 Amounts from line 6; 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources; 10b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975; 10c Add lines 10a and 10b; 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b; 12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets; 13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.); 14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here.

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Line number, Percentage. Row 15: Public support percentage for 2016 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). Row 16: Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part III, line 15.

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Line number, Percentage. Row 17: Investment income percentage for 2016 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). Row 18: Investment income percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part III, line 17.

19a 33 1/3% support tests - 2016. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

19b 33 1/3% support tests - 2015. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box in line 12 on Part I. If you checked 12a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 12b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 12c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 12d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.</i>		
2 Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).</i>		
3a Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.</i>		
b Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.</i>		
c Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.</i>		
4a Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? <i>If "Yes," and if you checked 12a or 12b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.</i>		
b Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.</i>		
c Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.</i>		
5a Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed; (ii) the reasons for each such action; (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action; and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).</i>		
b Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
c Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
6 Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
7 Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).</i>		
8 Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).</i>		
9a Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
b Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
c Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
10a Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? <i>If "Yes," answer 10b below.</i>		
b Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? <i>(Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings.)</i>		

Part IV Supporting Organizations (continued)

		Yes	No
11	Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?		
a	A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?	11 a	
b	A family member of a person described in (a) above?	11 b	
c	A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI .	11 c	

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.	1	
2	Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization.	2	

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).	1	

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?	1	
2	Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).	2	
3	By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.	3	

Section E. Type III Functionally Integrated Supporting Organizations

1	Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions).			
a	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below.			
b	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below.			
c	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions).			
2	Activities Test. Answer (a) and (b) below.		Yes	No
a	Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.	2a		
b	Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.	2b		
3	Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer (a) and (b) below.			
a	Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? Provide details in Part VI .	3a		
b	Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs, and activities of each of its supported organizations? If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.	3b		

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

1 Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (explain in Part VI). **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.

Section A - Adjusted Net Income		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1 Net short-term capital gain	1		
2 Recoveries of prior-year distributions	2		
3 Other gross income (see instructions)	3		
4 Add lines 1 through 3.	4		
5 Depreciation and depletion	5		
6 Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)	6		
7 Other expenses (see instructions)	7		
8 Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6, and 7 from line 4).	8		

Section B - Minimum Asset Amount		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1 Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year):			
a Average monthly value of securities	1a		
b Average monthly cash balances	1b		
c Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets	1c		
d Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)	1d		
e Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI):			
2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt-use assets	2		
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d.	3		
4 Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions).	4		
5 Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)	5		
6 Multiply line 5 by .035.	6		
7 Recoveries of prior-year distributions	7		
8 Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6)	8		

Section C - Distributable Amount			Current Year
1 Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)	1		
2 Enter 85% of line 1.	2		
3 Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)	3		
4 Enter greater of line 2 or line 3.	4		
5 Income tax imposed in prior year	5		
6 Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions).	6		

7 Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions).

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations (continued)

Section D - Distributions	Current Year
1 Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	
2 Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	
3 Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	
4 Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	
5 Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)	
6 Other distributions (describe in Part VI). See instructions.	
7 Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6.	
8 Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI). See instructions.	
9 Distributable amount for 2016 from Section C, line 6	
10 Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2016	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2016
1 Distributable amount for 2016 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2016 (reasonable cause required-explain in Part VI). See instructions.			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2016:			
a			
b			
c From 2013.			
d From 2014.			
e From 2015.			
f Total of lines 3a through e			
g Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2016 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2011 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f.			
4 Distributions for 2016 from Section D, line 7: \$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2016 distributable amount			
c Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4.			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2016, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. For result greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2016. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. For result greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2017. Add lines 3j and 4c.			
8 Breakdown of line 7:			
a			
b Excess from 2013. . . .			
c Excess from 2014. . . .			
d Excess from 2015. . . .			
e Excess from 2016. . . .			

Part VI **Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V, Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions.)

SCHEDULE A PART II, LINE 10, EXPLANATION FOR OTHER INCOME:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

2012 AMOUNT: \$14,923

2013 AMOUNT: \$13,073

2014 AMOUNT: \$9,390

2015 AMOUNT: \$24,356

2016 AMOUNT: \$ NONE

PART VIII LINE 11B SPEAKER FEES AND AWARDS:

2014 AMOUNT: \$29,500

2015 AMOUNT: \$15,300

2016 AMOUNT: \$13,038

PART VIII LINE A MISCELLANEOUS:

2012 AMOUNT: \$3,650

2013 AMOUNT: \$10,600

2014 AMOUNT: \$6,101

2015 AMOUNT: \$35

2016 AMOUNT: \$6,680

Schedule of Contributors

2016

▶ **Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.**

▶ Information about Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:

Section:

Form 990 or 990-EZ

501(c)(3) (enter number) organization

4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation

527 political organization

Form 990-PF

501(c)(3) exempt private foundation

4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation

501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.

Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 1/3 % support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of **(1)** \$5,000 or **(2)** 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.

For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.

For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Name of organization **BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Employer identification number
36-0802950

Part I **Contributors** (See instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1		\$ 175,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
2		\$ 75,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
3		\$ 500,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
4		\$ 100,089.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
5		\$ 150,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
6		\$ 75,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number 36-0802950
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Part I **Contributors** (See instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
7	_____	\$ 150,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
8	_____	\$ 100,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
9	_____	\$ 100,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
_____	_____	\$ _____	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
_____	_____	\$ _____	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
_____	_____	\$ _____	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization **BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Part II **Noncash Property** (See instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
4	5,770 SHARES RPAI	\$ 100,089.	08/11/2016
_____	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____

Name of organization **BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Employer identification number
36-0802950

Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions of **\$1,000 or less** for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) ► \$ _____
Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
_____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____ _____ _____		_____ _____ _____	
_____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____ _____ _____		_____ _____ _____	
_____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____ _____ _____		_____ _____ _____	
_____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____ _____ _____		_____ _____ _____	

SCHEDULE C
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ **Complete if the organization is described below.** ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
▶ **Information about Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and B. Do not complete Part I-C.
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and C below. Do not complete Part I-B.
- Section 527 organizations: Complete Part I-A only.

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-A. Do not complete Part II-B.
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-B. Do not complete Part II-A.

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations: Complete Part III.

Name of organization BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number 36-0802950
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Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV. (see instructions for definition of "political campaign activities")
- 2 Political campaign activity expenditures (see instructions) ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Volunteer hours for political campaign activities (see instructions) _____

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955. ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 ▶ \$ _____
- 3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
- 4a Was a correction made? Yes No
- b If "Yes," describe in Part IV.

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities. ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Total exempt function expenditures. Add lines 1 and 2. Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b ▶ \$ _____
- 4 Did the filing organization file **Form 1120-POL** for this year? Yes No
- 5 Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments. For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds. Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization. If none, enter -0-.
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2016

Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

A Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures).

B Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply.

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)	(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)														
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)														
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)														
d Other exempt purpose expenditures														
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)														
f Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.														
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:35%; text-align: left;">If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th style="width:65%; text-align: left;">The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:													
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.													
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.													
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.													
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.													
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.													
g Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)														
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a. If zero or less, enter -0-														
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c. If zero or less, enter -0-														
j If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No												

4-Year Averaging Period Under section 501(h)

(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below.

See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column (e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

Table with 3 main columns: Description, (a) Yes/No, and (b) Amount. Rows include: 1 During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation...; a Volunteers?; b Paid staff or management...; c Media advertisements?; d Mailings to members...; e Publications...; f Grants to other organizations...; g Direct contact with legislators...; h Rallies, demonstrations...; i Other activities?; j Total...; 2a Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?; b If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912; c If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912; d If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1 Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?; 2 Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?; 3 Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political campaign activity expenditures from the prior year?

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No," OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

Table with 2 main columns: Description and Amount. Rows include: 1 Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members; 2 Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid); a Current year; b Carryover from last year; c Total; 3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues; 4 If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?; 5 Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures (see instructions)

Part IV Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1; Part I-B, line 4; Part I-C, line 5; Part II-A (affiliated group list); Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions); and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

PROVIDING RESEARCH, REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING CURRENT

POLICIES AND LEGISLATION BASED ON BGA INVESTIGATIONS.

Part IV Supplemental Information *(continued)*

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.

Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

36-0802950

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows include: 1 Total number at end of year, 2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year), 3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year), 4 Aggregate value at end of year, 5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?, 6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Held at the End of the Tax Year. Rows include: 1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply), 2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year., 3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year, 4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located, 5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?, 6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year, 7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year, 8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?, 9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include: 1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items., 1b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items: (i) Revenue included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1, (ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X., 2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items: a Revenue included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1, b Assets included in Form 990, Part X.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule D (Form 990) 2016

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):
a Public exhibition
b Scholarly research
c Preservation for future generations
d Loan or exchange programs
e Other
4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.
5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?
b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:
Table with columns: Amount, 1c Beginning balance, 1d Additions during the year, 1e Distributions during the year, 1f Ending balance
2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?
b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided on Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

Table with 6 columns: (a) Current year, (b) Prior year, (c) Two years back, (d) Three years back, (e) Four years back. Rows include: 1a Beginning of year balance, b Contributions, c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses, d Grants or scholarships, e Other expenditures for facilities and programs, f Administrative expenses, g End of year balance.

- 2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:
a Board designated or quasi-endowment %
b Permanent endowment %
c Temporarily restricted endowment %
The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.

- 3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:
(i) unrelated organizations
(ii) related organizations
b If "Yes" on line 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?
Table with columns: Yes, No. Rows: 3a(i), 3a(ii), 3b

4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Table with 5 columns: (a) Cost or other basis (investment), (b) Cost or other basis (other), (c) Accumulated depreciation, (d) Book value. Rows include: 1a Land, b Buildings, c Leasehold improvements, d Equipment, e Other, Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10c.)

Part VII Investments - Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.) ▶		

Part VIII Investments - Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 13.) ▶		

Part IX Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1) SECURITY DEPOSIT	6,391.
(2) LONG TERM PLEDGES RECEIVABLE	740,535.
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 15.) ▶	746,926.

Part X Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value	
(1) Federal income taxes		
(2) DEFERRED RENT	69,118.	
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 25.) ▶	69,118.	

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements			1	4,163,760.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:				
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	50,258.		
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	384,479.		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c			
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d	241,997.		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d			2e	676,734.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1			3	3,487,026.
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:				
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a			
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b			
c	Add lines 4a and 4b			4c	
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)			5	3,487,026.

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements			1	3,705,716.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:				
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	384,479.		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b			
c	Other losses	2c			
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d	241,997.		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d			2e	626,476.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1			3	3,079,240.
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:				
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a			
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b			
c	Add lines 4a and 4b			4c	
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)			5	3,079,240.

Part XIII Supplemental Information.

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

SEE PAGE 5

Part XIII Supplemental Information (continued)

PART X, LINE 2:

THE ORGANIZATION IS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAXES UNDER SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, EXCEPT FOR NET INCOME DERIVED FROM UNRELATED BUSINESS ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION, THE ORGANIZATION QUALIFIES FOR THE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION DEDUCTION UNDER SECTION 170(B)(1)(A) AND HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS AN ORGANIZATION OTHER THAN A PRIVATE FOUNDATION UNDER IRC SECTION 509(A). THE ORGANIZATION'S INCOME TAX FILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO AUDIT BY VARIOUS TAXING AUTHORITIES. THE ORGANIZATION'S OPEN AUDIT PERIODS ARE 2013 THROUGH THE CURRENT YEAR. IN EVALUATING THE ORGANIZATION'S ACTIVITIES, MANAGEMENT BELIEVES ITS POSITION OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS IS BASED ON CURRENT FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO UNCERTAIN POSITIONS TAKEN RELATED TO RECORDING INCOME TAXES. IN THE OPINION OF MANAGEMENT, THERE ARE NO ACTIVITIES UNRELATED TO THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THEREFORE NO TAX IS TO BE RECOGNIZED. IT IS THE POLICY OF THE ORGANIZATION TO INCLUDE IN MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSES PENALTIES AND INTEREST ASSESSED BY INCOME TAXING AUTHORITIES. THERE ARE NO PENALTIES OR INTEREST FROM TAXING AUTHORITIES INCLUDED IN MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015.

PART XI AND PART XII, LINE 2D:

EXPENSES DIRECTLY RELATED TO SPECIAL EVENTS: \$241,997

**SCHEDULE G
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Supplemental Information Regarding Fundraising or Gaming Activities

OMB No. 1545-0047

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

2016

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

**Open to Public
Inspection**

▶ Information about Schedule G (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17.
Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.

- a** Mail solicitations **e** Solicitation of non-government grants
b Internet and email solicitations **f** Solicitation of government grants
c Phone solicitations **g** Special fundraising events
d In-person solicitations

2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees, or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? **Yes** **No**

b If "Yes," list the 10 highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

	(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col. (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
			Yes	No			
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
Total							

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

		(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other events	(d) Total events		
		ANNUAL LUNCHEON (event type)	SPRING AWARDS (event type)	2. (total number)	(add col. (a) through col. (c))		
Revenue	1	Gross receipts	1,463,246.	82,460.	27,210.	1,572,916.	
	2	Less: Contributions	1,457,510.	70,099.	24,281.	1,551,890.	
	3	Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	5,736.	12,361.	2,929.	21,026.	
Direct Expenses	4	Cash prizes					
	5	Noncash prizes					
	6	Rent/facility costs					
	7	Food and beverages	55,430.	21,044.	5,118.	81,592.	
	8	Entertainment					
	9	Other direct expenses	110,383.	40,271.	9,751.	160,405.	
	10	Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶					241,997.
	11	Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶					-220,971.

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col. (a) through col. (c))	
Revenue	1	Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2	Cash prizes				
	3	Noncash prizes				
	4	Rent/facility costs				
	5	Other direct expenses				
	6	Volunteer labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	7	Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
	8	Net gaming income summary. Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities: _____
 a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? Yes No
 b If "No," explain: _____

 10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? Yes No
 b If "Yes," explain: _____

- 11 Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers? Yes No
- 12 Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming? Yes No
- 13 Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in:

a The organization's facility	13a	%
b An outside facility	13b	%

14 Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records:

Name ▶ _____

Address ▶ _____

- 15 a Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue? Yes No
- b If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____.
- c If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party:

Name ▶ _____

Address ▶ _____

16 Gaming manager information:

Name ▶ _____

Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$ _____

Description of services provided ▶ _____

Director/officer Employee Independent contractor

- 17 Mandatory distributions:
 - a Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license? Yes No
 - b Enter the amount of distributions required under state law to be distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanation required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v), and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information (see instructions).

**SCHEDULE J
(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

- ▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.
- ▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (such as, maid, chauffeur, chef) |

b If any of the boxes on line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, and officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:

- a** Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?
 - b** Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?
 - c** Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?
- If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.

5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes" on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes" on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described on lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.

8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.

9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

	Yes	No
1b		
2		
4a		X
4b		X
4c		X
5a		X
5b		X
6a		X
6b		X
7		X
8		X
9		

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule J (Form 990) 2016

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that aren't listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note: The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual.

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 ANDREW SHAW PRESIDENT/CEO	(i)	250,000.	0.	0.	6,000.	7,859.	263,859.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
2 ROBERT HERGUTH EDITOR OF INVESTIGATION	(i)	131,615.	0.	0.	0.	0.	131,615.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
3 MARY FRANCES O'CONNOR DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL	(i)	148,571.	0.	0.	0.	0.	148,571.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
4	(i)							
	(ii)							
5	(i)							
	(ii)							
6	(i)							
	(ii)							
7	(i)							
	(ii)							
8	(i)							
	(ii)							
9	(i)							
	(ii)							
10	(i)							
	(ii)							
11	(i)							
	(ii)							
12	(i)							
	(ii)							
13	(i)							
	(ii)							
14	(i)							
	(ii)							
15	(i)							
	(ii)							
16	(i)							
	(ii)							

Part III Supplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

**SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)**

Noncash Contributions

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

**Open To Public
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

- ▶ Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.
- ▶ Attach to Form 990.
- ▶ Information about Schedule M (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

36-0802950

Part I Types of Property

	(a) Check if applicable	(b) Number of contributions or items contributed	(c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g	(d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts
1 Art - Works of art				
2 Art - Historical treasures				
3 Art - Fractional interests				
4 Books and publications				
5 Clothing and household goods				
6 Cars and other vehicles				
7 Boats and planes				
8 Intellectual property				
9 Securities - Publicly traded	X	1.	100,089.	FAIR MARKET VALUE
10 Securities - Closely held stock				
11 Securities - Partnership, LLC, or trust interests				
12 Securities - Miscellaneous				
13 Qualified conservation contribution - Historic structures				
14 Qualified conservation contribution - Other				
15 Real estate - Residential				
16 Real estate - Commercial				
17 Real estate - Other				
18 Collectibles				
19 Food inventory				
20 Drugs and medical supplies				
21 Taxidermy				
22 Historical artifacts				
23 Scientific specimens				
24 Archeological artifacts				
25 Other ▶ ()				
26 Other ▶ ()				
27 Other ▶ ()				
28 Other ▶ ()				

29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement **29**

	Yes	No
30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which isn't required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?		X
b If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II.		
31 Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any nonstandard contributions?		X
32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions?		X
b If "Yes," describe in Part II.		
33 If the organization didn't report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II.		

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule M (Form 990) (2016)

JSA

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Part II **Supplemental Information.** Provide the information required by Part I, lines 30b, 32b, and 33, and whether the organization is reporting in Part I, column (b), the number of contributions, the number of items received, or a combination of both. Also complete this part for any additional information.

**SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Employer identification number

36-0802950

FORM 990, PART III, LINE 4D, OTHER PROGRAM SERVICES:

CITIZEN WATCHDOG TRAINING PROGRAM - THE BGA'S CITIZEN WATCHDOG TRAINING IS A FREE PROGRAM THAT EMPOWERS CITIZENS TO EXAMINE GOVERNMENT AND DEMAND THE CHANGES THEY WANT TO SEE MADE. IN A SERIES OF FREE TRAINING SESSIONS HELD THROUGH THE STATE, CITIZENS LEARN HOW TO KEEP AN EYE ON GOVERNMENT FROM VETERAN JOURNALISTS AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS. PRO BONO SPEAKERS TEACH CITIZENS HOW TO UNDERSTAND GOVERNMENT AND HOW TO USE THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND OPEN MEETINGS ACT. IN 2016 THE BGA TRAINED OVER 543 PEOPLE THROUGH THIS PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, THE BGA CONTINUED TO EXPAND ITS CITIZEN WATCHDOGS OF EDUCATION PROGRAM, A TRAINING PROGRAM DESIGNED TO EMPOWER PARENTS TO KEEP AN EYE ON THEIR LOCAL CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS. FINALLY, THE BGA HELD FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CLINICS.

FORM 990 PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B:

THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND PRESIDENT AND CEO WILL ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE FORM 990 BEFORE IT IS FILED.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C:

THE ORGANIZATION'S BOARD HAS A STANDING COMMITTEE, THE TRUSTEESHIP COMMITTEE, THAT KEEPS AN EVALUATION CHART ON EACH BOARD MEMBER AND OVERSEES ACTIVITIES THAT MIGHT RESULT IN POSSIBLE CONFLICTS.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15A:

THE COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR THE PRESIDENT/CEO INCLUDED THE EXECUTIVE

Name of the organization BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number 36-0802950
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COMMITTEE APPOINTING A SUB-COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH LEGAL COUNCIL AND TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE SUB-COMMITTEE DID A FULL EVALUATION OF THE PRESIDENT/CEO'S PERFORMANCE IN THE PROCESS OF RENEGOTIATING THE CONTRACT. THE SUB-COMMITTEE ALSO WORKED WITH A NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT WHO USED EXISTING STUDIES THAT COMPARED NONPROFIT SALARIES FOR PRESIDENT TYPE POSITIONS. THE CONTRACT WAS DISCUSSED AND APPROVED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE CONTRACT WAS LAST REVIEWED IN NOVEMBER 2014. SINCE THE LAST CONTRACT REVIEW, THE PRESIDENT/CEO HAS BEEN ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS.

THE ORGANIZATION DOES NOT HAVE ANY OTHER COMPENSATED KEY EMPLOYEES OR TOP MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19:

THE ORGANIZATION MAKES ITS BYLAWS AVAILABLE ON ITS WEBSITE AND THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST.

ATTACHMENT 1

FORM 990, PART III - PROGRAM SERVICE, LINE 4A

INVESTIGATIVE UNIT - THE BGA'S INVESTIGATIVE UNIT LOOKS INTO ALLEGATIONS OF WASTE, FRAUD, AND CORRUPTION IN CITY, COUNTY, SUBURBAN, AND STATE GOVERNMENT. THE RESULTS OF THESE IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATIONS ARE MADE PUBLIC THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL MEDIA. INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDE ANALYSIS OF GOVERNMENT BUDGETS, CONTRACTS AND PAYROLLS, MONITORING OF EFFICIENT ALLOCATION OF GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND REVIEW OF OPEN, HONEST AND FAIR

Name of the organization BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number 36-0802950
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ATTACHMENT 1 (CONT'D)

LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES. THE BGA FILED NEARLY 110 INVESTIGATIONS IN 2016. IN A SIGNIFICANT STEP FOR THE ORGANIZATION, 2013 MARKED THE INITIATION OF THE RESCUING ILLINOIS PROJECT, AN ONGOING SERIES OF IN-DEPTH REPORTS ABOUT IMPROVING AND REFORMING STATE GOVERNMENT AND FOCUSING ON THE STATE'S SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS SUCH AS FAILING PUBLIC PENSIONS SYSTEMS, WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS, AND THE HIGH COST OF TOWNSHIPS. IN ADDITION THE BGA CONTINUES TO PRODUCE DAY-TO-DAY, HARD-HITTING INVESTIGATION.

ATTACHMENT 2FORM 990, PART VIII - EXCLUDED CONTRIBUTIONS

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
ANNUAL LUNCHEON	1,463,246.
SPRING LUNCHEON	82,460.
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS	7,000.
OTHER SMALL EVENTS	20,210.
TOTAL	<u>1,572,916.</u>

ATTACHMENT 3FORM 990, PART VIII - FUNDRAISING EVENTS

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME</u>	<u>DIRECT EXPENSES</u>	<u>NET INCOME</u>
ANNUAL LUNCHEON		165,813.	-165,813.
SPRING LUNCHEON		61,315.	-61,315.
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS		175.	-175.
OTHER SMALL EVENTS		14,694.	-14,694.

Name of the organization

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

36-0802950

ATTACHMENT 3 (CONT'D)

FORM 990, PART VIII - FUNDRAISING EVENTS

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME</u>	<u>DIRECT EXPENSES</u>	<u>NET INCOME</u>
TOTALS		<u>241,997.</u>	<u>-241,997.</u>

Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (and proxy tax under section 6033(e))

2016

For calendar year 2016 or other tax year beginning, 2016, and ending, 20

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Information about Form 990-T and its instructions is available at www.irs.gov/form990t. Do not enter SSN numbers on this form as it may be made public if your organization is a 501(c)(3).

Open to Public Inspection for 501(c)(3) Organizations Only

A Check box if address changed

Name of organization (Check box if name changed and see instructions.)

D Employer identification number (Employees' trust, see instructions.)

B Exempt under section 501(c)(3) 408(e) 220(e) 408A 530(a) 529(a)

Print or type

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

36-0802950

Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions.

223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300

E Unrelated business activity codes (See instructions.)

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

CHICAGO, IL 60606

C Book value of all assets at end of year

F Group exemption number (See instructions.)

4,589,613.

G Check organization type 501(c) corporation 501(c) trust 401(a) trust Other trust

H Describe the organization's primary unrelated business activity. NONE

I During the tax year, was the corporation a subsidiary in an affiliated group or a parent-subsidiary controlled group? Yes No

J The books are in care of EMMETT MURPHY Telephone number 312-427-8330

Table with 4 columns: (A) Income, (B) Expenses, (C) Net. Rows include 1a Gross receipts or sales, 2 Cost of goods sold, 3 Gross profit, 4a Capital gain net income, 5 Income (loss) from partnerships and S corporations, 6 Rent income, 7 Unrelated debt-financed income, 8 Interest, annuities, royalties, and rents from controlled organizations, 9 Investment income of a section 501(c)(7), (9), or (17) organization, 10 Exploited exempt activity income, 11 Advertising income, 12 Other income, 13 Total. Combine lines 3 through 12.

Part II Deductions Not Taken Elsewhere (See instructions for limitations on deductions.) (Except for contributions, deductions must be directly connected with the unrelated business income.)

Table with 4 columns: (A) Income, (B) Expenses, (C) Net. Rows include 14 Compensation of officers, directors, and trustees, 15 Salaries and wages, 16 Repairs and maintenance, 17 Bad debts, 18 Interest (attach schedule), 19 Taxes and licenses, 20 Charitable contributions, 21 Depreciation, 22 Less depreciation claimed on Schedule A and elsewhere on return, 23 Depletion, 24 Contributions to deferred compensation plans, 25 Employee benefit programs, 26 Excess exempt expenses (Schedule I), 27 Excess readership costs (Schedule J), 28 Other deductions (attach schedule), 29 Total deductions. Add lines 14 through 28, 30 Unrelated business taxable income before net operating loss deduction, 31 Net operating loss deduction, 32 Unrelated business taxable income before specific deduction, 33 Specific deduction, 34 Unrelated business taxable income.

Part III Tax Computation

Table with 2 main columns: Description and Line Number. Rows include: 35 Organizations Taxable as Corporations, 36 Trusts Taxable at Trust Rates, 37 Proxy tax, 38 Alternative minimum tax, 39 Tax on Non-Compliant Facility Income, 40 Total.

Part IV Tax and Payments

Table with 2 main columns: Description and Line Number. Rows include: 41 Foreign tax credit, 42 Subtract line 41e from line 40, 43 Other taxes, 44 Total tax, 45 Payments, 46 Total payments, 47 Estimated tax penalty, 48 Tax due, 49 Overpayment, 50 Enter the amount of line 49 you want.

Part V Statements Regarding Certain Activities and Other Information (see instructions)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 51 At any time during the 2016 calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account... 52 During the tax year, did the organization receive a distribution from, or was it the grantor of, or transferor to, a foreign trust?... 53 Enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature and Preparer Information section. Includes fields for: Sign Here, Signature of officer, Date (11/15/2017), Title, Preparer's name (GEORGE BODENBERG), Preparer's signature, Date (11/15/2017), Firm's name (MARCUM LLP), Firm's address (NINE PARKWAY NORTH, SUITE 200, DEERFIELD, IL 60015), PTIN (P00434750), Firm's EIN (11-1986323), Phone no. (847-282-6300).

Schedule A - Cost of Goods Sold. Enter method of inventory valuation ►

1 Inventory at beginning of year	1		6 Inventory at end of year	6	
2 Purchases	2		7 Cost of goods sold. Subtract line		
3 Cost of labor	3		6 from line 5. Enter here and in		
4a Additional section 263A costs			Part I, line 2	7	
(attach schedule)	4a				
b Other costs (attach schedule)	4b		8 Do the rules of section 263A (with respect to		Yes No
5 Total. Add lines 1 through 4b	5		property produced or acquired for resale) apply		
			to the organization?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Schedule C - Rent Income (From Real Property and Personal Property Leased With Real Property)
(see instructions)

1. Description of property

(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)

2. Rent received or accrued

(a) From personal property (if the percentage of rent for personal property is more than 10% but not more than 50%)	(b) From real and personal property (if the percentage of rent for personal property exceeds 50% or if the rent is based on profit or income)	3(a) Deductions directly connected with the income in columns 2(a) and 2(b) (attach schedule)
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
Total	Total	

(c) Total income. Add totals of columns 2(a) and 2(b). Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 6, column (A) ►

(b) Total deductions. Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 6, column (B) ►

Schedule E - Unrelated Debt-Financed Income (see instructions)

1. Description of debt-financed property		2. Gross income from or allocable to debt-financed property	3. Deductions directly connected with or allocable to debt-financed property	
			(a) Straight line depreciation (attach schedule)	(b) Other deductions (attach schedule)
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
4. Amount of average acquisition debt on or allocable to debt-financed property (attach schedule)	5. Average adjusted basis of or allocable to debt-financed property (attach schedule)	6. Column 4 divided by column 5	7. Gross income reportable (column 2 x column 6)	8. Allocable deductions (column 6 x total of columns 3(a) and 3(b))
(1)		%		
(2)		%		
(3)		%		
(4)		%		
Totals ►			Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 7, column (A).	Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 7, column (B).
Total dividends-received deductions included in column 8 ►				

Schedule F - Interest, Annuities, Royalties, and Rents From Controlled Organizations (see instructions)

1. Name of controlled organization	2. Employer identification number	Exempt Controlled Organizations			
		3. Net unrelated income (loss) (see instructions)	4. Total of specified payments made	5. Part of column 4 that is included in the controlling organization's gross income	6. Deductions directly connected with income in column 5
(1)					
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					

Nonexempt Controlled Organizations

7. Taxable Income	8. Net unrelated income (loss) (see instructions)	9. Total of specified payments made	10. Part of column 9 that is included in the controlling organization's gross income	11. Deductions directly connected with income in column 10
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
			Add columns 5 and 10. Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 8, column (A).	Add columns 6 and 11. Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 8, column (B).

Totals ▶

Schedule G - Investment Income of a Section 501(c)(7), (9), or (17) Organization (see instructions)

1. Description of income	2. Amount of income	3. Deductions directly connected (attach schedule)	4. Set-asides (attach schedule)	5. Total deductions and set-asides (col. 3 plus col. 4)
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
		Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 9, column (A).		Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 9, column (B).

Totals ▶

Schedule I - Exploited Exempt Activity Income, Other Than Advertising Income (see instructions)

1. Description of exploited activity	2. Gross unrelated business income from trade or business	3. Expenses directly connected with production of unrelated business income	4. Net income (loss) from unrelated trade or business (column 2 minus column 3). If a gain, compute cols. 5 through 7.	5. Gross income from activity that is not unrelated business income	6. Expenses attributable to column 5	7. Excess exempt expenses (column 6 minus column 5, but not more than column 4).
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
		Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 10, col. (A).	Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 10, col. (B).			Enter here and on page 1, Part II, line 26.

Totals ▶

Schedule J - Advertising Income (see instructions)

Part I Income From Periodicals Reported on a Consolidated Basis

1. Name of periodical	2. Gross advertising income	3. Direct advertising costs	4. Advertising gain or (loss) (col. 2 minus col. 3). If a gain, compute cols. 5 through 7.	5. Circulation income	6. Readership costs	7. Excess readership costs (column 6 minus column 5, but not more than column 4).
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
Totals (carry to Part II, line (5))						

Part II **Income From Periodicals Reported on a Separate Basis** (For each periodical listed in Part II, fill in columns 2 through 7 on a line-by-line basis.)

1. Name of periodical	2. Gross advertising income	3. Direct advertising costs	4. Advertising gain or (loss) (col. 2 minus col. 3). If a gain, compute cols. 5 through 7.	5. Circulation income	6. Readership costs	7. Excess readership costs (column 6 minus column 5, but not more than column 4).
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
Totals from Part I ▶						
Totals, Part II (lines 1-5) ▶	Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 11, col (A).	Enter here and on page 1, Part I, line 11, col (B).				Enter here and on page 1, Part II, line 27.

Schedule K - Compensation of Officers, Directors, and Trustees (see instructions)

1. Name	2. Title	3. Percent of time devoted to business	4. Compensation attributable to unrelated business
(1)		%	
(2) ATCH 1		%	
(3)		%	
(4)		%	
Total . Enter here and on page 1, Part II, line 14 ▶			

ATTACHMENT 1SCHD. K, FORM 990-T, COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & TRUSTEES

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUSINESS PERCENT</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
MARK E. RUST 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	CHAIR	0	0.
STEVEN N. MILLER 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	VICE CHAIR	0	0.
JACK MODZELEWSKI 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	VICE CHAIR	0	0.
HEIDI RUDOLPH 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	VICE CHAIR	0	0.
NICOLE NOCERA 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	SECRETARY	0	0.
G. SCOTT SOLOMON 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	TREASURER	0	0.
CLARK BELL 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
ERIC BERLIN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
JONATHAN C. BUNGE 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
MARTA CARREIRA-SLABE 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.

ATTACHMENT 1 (CONT'D)SCHD. K, FORM 990-T, COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & TRUSTEES

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUSINESS PERCENT</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
CINDY DAVIS 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
BARACK ECHOLS 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
SAMUEL FIFER 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
MERRI JO GILLETTE 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
STEVE GREENSPON 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
FRAN GROSSMAN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
HILL HAMMOCK 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
HAMILTON H. HILL 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
CARROLL JOYNES 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
GARY KLEINRICHERT 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.

ATTACHMENT 1 (CONT'D)SCHD. K, FORM 990-T, COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & TRUSTEES

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUSINESS PERCENT</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
DAVID KOHN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
LUDWIG KOLMAN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
ROBERT LEVIN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
CHRIS LYNCH 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
GEETA MALHOTRA 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
CHRISTINA MARTINI 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
ROSEMARY MATZL 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
RYAN MURPHY 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
JESSICA NOLAN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
LAWRENCE OLIVER II 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.

ATTACHMENT 1 (CONT'D)SCHD. K, FORM 990-T, COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & TRUSTEES

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUSINESS PERCENT</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
CHUCK PERUCHINI 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
CHRIS SEGAL 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
THOM SERAFIN 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
LISABETH WEINER 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR	0	0.
ANDREW SHAW 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	PRESIDENT/CEO	0	0.
ROBERT HERGUTH 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	EDITOR OF INVESTIGATION	0	0.
MARY FRANCES O'CONNOR 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL	0	0.
ROBERT REED 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CHICAGO, IL 60606	DIR. OF PROGRAMMING	0	0.
TOTAL COMPENSATION			<u>0.</u>

ILLINOIS CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION ANNUAL REPORT

Attorney General **LISA MADIGAN** State of Illinois
 Charitable Trust Bureau, 100 West Randolph
 11th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601

PMT #	_____
AMT	_____
INIT	_____

CO # 01-005523

Check all items attached:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of IRS Return
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Audited Financial Statements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Form IFC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00 Annual Report Filing Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00 Late Report Filing Fee

Report for the Fiscal Period:

Beginning 1 / 1 / 2016

& Ending 12 / 31 / 2016

Make Checks Payable to the Illinois Charity Bureau Fund

Federal ID # 36-0802950

Are contributions to the organization tax deductible? Yes No

Date Organization was created: 6 / 5 / 1923

LEGAL NAME BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. MAIL ADDRESS 223 W. JACKSON BLVD., STE. 300 CITY, STATE CHICAGO, IL ZIP CODE 60606	Year-end amounts	
	A) ASSETS	A) \$ 4,589,613.
	B) LIABILITIES	B) \$ 235,263.
	C) NET ASSETS	C) \$ 4,354,350.
I. SUMMARY OF ALL REVENUE ITEMS DURING THE YEAR:		
D) PUBLIC SUPPORT, CONTRIBUTIONS & PROGRAM SERVICE REV. (GROSS AMTS.)	PERCENTAGE 98%	AMOUNT D) \$ 3,641,509.
E) GOVERNMENT GRANTS & MEMBERSHIP DUES	%	E) \$
F) OTHER REVENUES	2%	F) \$ 87,514.
G) TOTAL REVENUE, INCOME AND CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED (ADD D, E, & F)	100%	G) \$ 3,729,023.
II. SUMMARY OF ALL EXPENDITURES DURING THE YEAR:		
H) OPERATING CHARITABLE PROGRAM EXPENSE	76%	H) \$ 2,519,803.
I) EDUCATION PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSE	%	I) \$
J) TOTAL CHARITABLE PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSE (ADD H & I)	76%	J) \$ 2,519,803.
J1) JOINT COSTS ALLOCATED TO PROGRAM SERVICES (INCLUDED IN J): \$		
K) GRANTS TO OTHER CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS	%	K) \$
L) TOTAL CHARITABLE PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENDITURE (ADD J & K)	76%	L) \$ 2,519,803.
M) MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSE	8%	M) \$ 268,551.
N) FUNDRAISING EXPENSE	16%	N) \$ 532,883.
O) TOTAL EXPENDITURES THIS PERIOD (ADD L, M, & N)	100%	O) \$ 3,321,237.
III. SUMMARY OF ALL PAID FUNDRAISER AND CONSULTANT ACTIVITIES:		
<small>(Attach Attorney General Report of Individual Fundraising Campaign - Form IFC. One for each PFR.)</small>		
PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISERS:		
P) TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED BY PAID PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISERS	100%	P) \$
Q) TOTAL FUNDRAISERS FEES AND EXPENSES	%	Q) \$
R) NET RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY (P MINUS Q=R)	%	R) \$
PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISING CONSULTANTS:		
S) TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISING CONSULTANTS		S) \$
IV. COMPENSATION TO THE (3) HIGHEST PAID PERSONS DURING THE YEAR:		
T) NAME, TITLE: ANDREW SHAW, PRESIDENT/CEO		T) \$ 250,000.
U) NAME, TITLE: MARY FRANCES O'CONNOR, DIR. OF EXTERNAL RELATION		U) \$ 148,571.
V) NAME, TITLE: ROBERT HERGUTH, EDITOR OF INVESTIGATION		V) \$ 131,615.
V. CHARITABLE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: CHARITABLE PROGRAM (3 HIGHEST BY \$ EXPENDED) CODE CATEGORIES		
W) DESCRIPTION: INVESTIGATIVE PROGRAMS		W) # 300
X) DESCRIPTION:		X) #
Y) DESCRIPTION:		Y) #

IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING IS YES, ATTACH A DETAILED EXPLANATION:		YES	NO
1. WAS THE ORGANIZATION THE SUBJECT OF ANY COURT ACTION, FINE, PENALTY OR JUDGMENT?	1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. HAS THE ORGANIZATION OR A CURRENT DIRECTOR, TRUSTEE, OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE THEREOF, EVER BEEN CONVICTED BY ANY COURT OF ANY MISDEMEANOR INVOLVING THE MISUSE OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS OR ANY FELONY?	2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. DID THE ORGANIZATION MAKE A GRANT AWARD OR CONTRIBUTION TO ANY ORGANIZATION IN WHICH ANY OF ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS OR TRUSTEES OWNS AN INTEREST; OR WAS IT A PARTY TO ANY TRANSACTION IN WHICH ANY OF ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS OR TRUSTEES HAS A MATERIAL FINANCIAL INTEREST; OR DID ANY OFFICER, DIRECTOR OR TRUSTEE RECEIVE ANYTHING OF VALUE NOT REPORTED AS COMPENSATION?	3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. HAS THE ORGANIZATION INVESTED IN ANY CORPORATE STOCK IN WHICH ANY OFFICER, DIRECTOR OR TRUSTEE OWNS MORE THAN 10% OF THE OUTSTANDING SHARES?	4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. IS ANY PROPERTY OF THE ORGANIZATION HELD IN THE NAME OF OR COMMINGLED WITH THE PROPERTY OF ANY OTHER PERSON OR ORGANIZATION?	5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. DID THE ORGANIZATION USE THE SERVICES OF A PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISER? (ATTACH FORM IFC)	6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7a. DID THE ORGANIZATION ALLOCATE THE COST OF ANY SOLICITATION, MAILING, ADVERTISEMENT OR LITERATURE COSTS BETWEEN PROGRAM SERVICE AND FUNDRAISING EXPENSES?	7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7b. IF "YES", ENTER (i) THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THESE JOINT COSTS \$ _____; (ii) THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO PROGRAM SERVICES \$ _____; (iii) THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL \$ _____; AND (iv) THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO FUNDRAISING \$ _____			
8. DID THE ORGANIZATION EXPEND ITS RESTRICTED FUNDS FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN RESTRICTED PURPOSES?	8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. HAS THE ORGANIZATION EVER BEEN REFUSED REGISTRATION OR HAD ITS REGISTRATION OR TAX EXEMPTION SUSPENDED OR REVOKED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY?	9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. WAS THERE OR DO YOU HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ANY KICKBACK, BRIBE, OR ANY THEFT, DEFALCATION MISAPPROPRIATION, COMMINGLING OR MISUSE OF ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDS?	10.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11. LIST THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WHERE THE ORGANIZATION MAINTAINS ITS THREE LARGEST ACCOUNTS: MB FINANCIAL BANK, 800 WEST MADISON STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60607 UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC., ONE NORTH WACKER DRIVE, CHICAGO IL 60606			
12. NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF CONTACT PERSON: EMMETT MURPHY - 312-427-8330			

ALL ATTACHMENTS MUST ACCOMPANY THIS REPORT - SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, I (WE) THE UNDERSIGNED DECLARE AND CERTIFY THAT I (WE) HAVE EXAMINED THIS ANNUAL REPORT AND THE ATTACHED DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING ALL THE SCHEDULES AND STATEMENTS AND THE FACTS THEREIN STATED ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE AND FILED WITH THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS RELY THEREUPON. I HEREBY FURTHER AUTHORIZE AND AGREE TO SUBMIT MYSELF AND THE REGISTRANT HEREBY TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL FEES DUE:

- 1.) REPORTS ARE DUE WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF YOUR FISCAL YEAR END.
- 2.) FOR FEES DUE SEE INSTRUCTIONS.
- 3.) REPORTS THAT ARE LATE OR INCOMPLETE ARE SUBJECT TO A \$100.00 PENALTY.

PRESIDENT or TRUSTEE (PRINT NAME)	SIGNATURE	DATE
TREASURER or TRUSTEE (PRINT NAME)	SIGNATURE	DATE
GEORGE BODENBERG PREPARER (PRINT NAME)	SIGNATURE	11/15/2017 DATE