

Securities

Stocks and publicly traded securities are easy to give and offer great tax advantages. You can transfer the stock to us electronically through your broker or mail to us the stock certificate and a signed stock power for each certificate. To protect against possible fraud, the certificates and the stock powers should be mailed separately.

The best stocks to use for charitable giving are those that have increased greatly in value, particularly those producing a low yield. Even if it is a stock you wish to keep in your portfolio, by giving us the stock and using cash to buy the same stock through your broker, you will have received the same income tax deduction but will have a new higher basis in the stock.

Appreciated securities that have risen in value and that you've held for more than one year are best given by transferring them. If you do that, you'll pay no capital gains tax on this transaction, and you can deduct the full fair market value. Fair market value is calculated using the average of the high and low share price on the gift date.

If you are holding securities that have lost value, sell the stock yourself to realize the loss and take the deduction for tax purposes. Then generate a charitable deduction by donating the cash proceeds of the sale to us.

Please consult your tax specialist or an attorney on the above information.