

YEAR-END GIVING IS EASY

By Ivan Price, Executive Director, LACBF

As we approach the end of 2011, LACBF is making it easy for our donors to consider ways to make the most of their 2011 tax strategies as they review their financial activities. Your year-end contributions can yield valuable tax deductions.

The amount you save through charitable gifts and other deductions depends on your personal tax rate the higher your rate, the greater your tax benefit.

Do you anticipate paying a lower tax rate in 2012 because you will have a greater number of deductions? If yes, a larger donation now will increase your 2011 deductions. To benefit in this way, be sure to make your 2011 contributions by December 31.

Non-cash gifts (stocks, bonds, securities and real estate) are also an excellent strategy. If you donate property of a fair market value that is in excess of its cost basis, depending on your tax return you may, in some cases, be entitled to a deduction equal to the property's fair market value, as well as a deduction for the resulting cash gift.

Does your employer match gifts? If your company offers a matching plan for charitable gifts, please be sure to inform LACBF, and complete your firm's donation form completely. You will multiply your gift accordingly.

Gifts of cash or checks are completed when they are mailed or delivered to the Foundation. The postmark on your envelope is the record of the date of your gift. Mail your check, made payable to LACBF, to: The Los Angeles County Bar Foundation, P.O. Box 55020, Los Angeles, CA 90055-2020

Credit card transactions must be completed by Friday, December 30, 2011. Visit the LACBF website at www.lacbf.org and click on the **DONATE NOW** button to make your credit card contribution.

For additional information, call LACBF at (213) 896-6409, or email Ivan Price, Executive Director, at iprice@lacba.org. Fax to (213) 833-6718.

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