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Turning the Impacts of the Negative Financial Crisis Into a Positive

The financial crisis has caused many difficulties for both businesses and individuals. For businesses, there are some formal government programs. For individuals, there could be significant tax savings opportunities available. Today's financial stresses provide an excellent opportunity for you to "turn the tables" on the taxation authorities through tactical estate planning.

- ▶ Reduced asset values make excellent gifts.
 - Gifts are taxed at "fair market value". When that value is lower, you are taxed less and the gift may be entirely covered by exemptions or credits.
- ▶ The interest rate assumptions used by the Internal Revenue Service are at historical lows.
 - For many types of gifts, any future return above these low rates is a tax-free gift.
- ▶ Market volatility can work to your advantage.
 - Value discounts used by appraisers to reduce gift values go up when the market gyrates, leaving gift taxes greatly reduced.

Now, and through the end of the year, may be a once-in-a-lifetime gifting opportunity. DON'T MISS OUT! Contact the tax attorneys at Dykema to review planning opportunities.

To learn more about Estate Planning in the current economy, please visit <http://www.dykema.com/tax/estates.asp>.

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