Challenging Charitable Contributions

A Panel Discussion:

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Agenda

- What is a contribution? 4 Definitions
- Charity Auction Rules
- Self- Dealing Issues
- Gift Acceptance Policies
- Gift Agreements
- Gifts with Strings and Other Unusual Gifts

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Charitable Contribution

- What is a charitable contribution?
  - Tax
  - Gift credit
  - Accounting
  - Gift counting

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Contribution - Tax

- IRC § 170(c) defines a charitable contribution as a gift or contribution made to or for the use of a qualified charitable organization
- Irrevocable transfer by a competent donor to a qualified donee without adequate consideration ("disinterested generosity")

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Contribution - Tax

- No deduction for donated services or use of facility (also not counted as contributions on Form 990)
  - Tip for donor relations: inform donors giving such donations upfront so they are not surprised when they don't get a deduction for them
- Volunteer expenses (e.g., board travel) may be deducted

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Contribution – Gift Credit

- Whatever donee policy allows
- Often count things that result in no tax deduction.
  - Services
  - Use of autos or plane
  - Free rent
  - FMV of item

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Title search: Challenging Charitable Contributions

Also available as part of the eCourse
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