

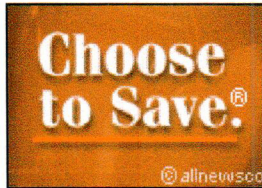
From ABC 7 News:

Choose To Save: Portfolio Check-Up

Reporter: Horace Holmes

Posted: December 28, 2004 6:33 PM EST

URL: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/0105/199469.html>



WJLA-TV Script

Anchor:

TIME NOW FOR TONIGHT'S CHOOSE TO SAVE REPORT. AS WE CLOSE OUT THE YEAR, A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE TAKING A CLOSE LOOK AT THEIR FINANCES.

ESPECIALLY IF THEY LOST MONEY ON INVESTMENTS.

BUT AS HORACE HOLMES IS ABOUT TO TELL US.. NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO GIVE YOUR PORTFOLIO A CHECK-UP.

Story:

IF YOU'VE BEEN RIDING THE WAVE OF AN UP AND DOWN STOCK MARKET ALL YEAR LONG - AND RIGHT NOW SOME OF THE SECURITIES IN YOUR PORTFOLIO ARE TAKING A DIVE - FINANCIAL PLANNER JAMIE LAPIN SAYS NOW IS THE TIME TO THROW THOSE STOCKS OVERBOARD.

Jamie Lapin, financial planner: "Some stuff went up, some stuff went down. You can offset your gains against your losses and create a situation where you have a better starting point for next year. ... If you have a situation where you have a stock that's not doing very well, you can sell it now and buy it back in 31 days."

LAPIN SAYS THAT WAY YOU CAN TAKE THE LOSS TODAY WHICH WILL GIVE YOU A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES NOW. AND THEN IF YOU REALLY LIKE THE STOCK LONG TERM, BUY IT BACK NEXT MONTH. THAT WAY YOU ...

Lapin: "Start the clock ticking again so you can have the opportunity for gain in the future, but you can still utilize that loss against current income. "

WITH YOUR CHOOSE TO SAVE REPORT, HORACE HOLMES, ABC 7 NEWS.

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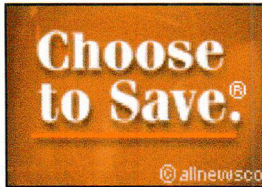
From ABC 7 News:

Choose To Save: Small Business and College

Reporter: Horace Holmes

Posted: December 29, 2004 5:50 PM EST

URL: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/1204/197131.html>



-WJLA Script-

Anchor:

TIME NOW FOR TONIGHT'S "CHOOSE TO SAVE REPORT."

IF YOU ARE A PARENT WHO WILL BE SENDING A KID TO COLLEGE, WE HAVE SOME ADVICE... ESPECIALLY IF YOU OWN A SMALL BUSINESS.

HORACE HOLMES HAS THE DETAILS...

Story:

IF YOU OWN A SMALL BUSINESS IF MOST LIKELY HAS BECOME A FAMILY BUSINESS. IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SAVE ON TAXES AND AT THE SAME TIME PAY FOR COLLEGE...FINANCIAL ADVISER FEMI SHOTE HAS A TIP FOR YOU. FIRST HIRE YOUR KIDS...THEN...

Femi Shote: "In lieu of paying them the cash out where they will probably use it to buy clothes and the like you could put this money away for their future in an IRA."

PUT YOUR CHILD'S SALARY HE SAYS IN AN INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT. UNDER IRA RULES THE MONEY CAN GROW TAX FREE AS LONG AS IT'S IN THE ACCOUNT. SO THE YOUNGER YOUR KIDS ARE TO START THIS THE BETTER.

Femi Shote: "They can then turn around when it comes time for college to take that money out practically tax free."

SHOTE SAYS THE LONGER THE MONEY IS IN THE IRA THE GREATER THE TAX BREAK. HE ADVISES YOU CONSULT A TAX SPECIALIST BEFORE SETTING EVERYTHING UP.

WITH YOUR CHOOSE TO SAVE REPORT, HORACE HOLMES ABC7 NEWS.

Anchor:

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHOOSE TO SAVE... LOG ONTO TO OUR WEBSITE AT WJLA.COM.. AND CLICK ON THE CHOOSE TO SAVE ICON.

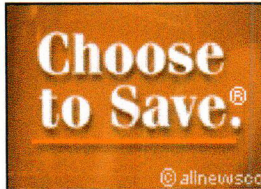
From ABC 7 News:

Choose To Save: Car Donations

Reporter: Horace Holmes

Posted: December 30, 2004 4:56 PM EST

URL: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/1204/197350.html>



-WJLA Script-

Anchor:

SOME LOCAL CHARITIES ARE SEEING A BIG INCREASE IN CAR DONATIONS - AND THAT'S BECAUSE OF A NEW LAW THAT AFFECTS TAX DEDUCTIONS.

IN TONIGHT'S CHOOSE TO SAVE, HORACE HOLMES EXPLAINS WHAT CHANGES TO EXPECT AT THE START OF THE NEW YEAR.

Story:

Femi Shote, Financial Planner: "You hear that commercial on TV saying, 'give us your car instead of selling it.'"

AND A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE JUMPED ON THAT OFFER FROM CHARITIES. MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE DONATING THEIR OLD CARS AND IN RETURN ARE GETTING A GOOD WRITE OFF ON THEIR TAXES AND AT THE SAME TIME HELPING A CHARITY. IT'S BEEN A WIN-WIN SITUATION, BUT STARTING JANUARY FIRST HOW YOU DETERMINE THE AMOUNT YOU CAN DEDUCT ON THAT CAR WILL CHANGE DRAMATICALLY.

Shote: "They use the Kelly Blue Book and say it's worth \$10,000, so starting next year they'll say what can the charity actually sell the car for, and they'll say, 'it's old... it's actually worth \$5,000,' then that's going to be the deduction next year.

SO FINANCIAL PLANNER FEMI SHOTE SAYS HURRY UP AND DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU WANT TO DONATE THE CAR OR ANY OTHER ITEM TO CHARITY. IN ORDER TO GET THE MAXIMUM TAX BENEFIT, YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE THE DONATION TODAY OR TOMORROW.

CHARITIES SAY A LOT OF FOLKS ARE RUSHING TO BEAT THE DEADLINE. THEY'VE SEEN AN EIGHT TO NINE PERCENT JUMP IN CAR DONATIONS.

WITH YOUR CHOOSE TO SAVE REPORT, HORACE HOLMES, ABC-7 NEWS.