



# *Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.*

1033 Long Prairie Road, Suite 5 • Flower Mound, TX 75022

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS TO THE “**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION, INC.**” CAN HELP YOU AND OTHERS

The popular conception is that only persons who have large accumulations of wealth have “estates” and that “estate planning” is something that only the elderly rich must do. In reality, everyone has an “estate.” Estate planning is, therefore, something that starts at birth, continues through life, and depending on the plans of the owner, may end only generations after the owner has died.

Your personal estate is unique. No other person has an estate exactly like it. You move through three steps.

**ACCUMULATION.** Much of your adult life is spent acquiring cash and other property.

**SAFEGUARDING.** All through your life, you try to safeguard your estate. You buy insurance to protect your property against fire and burglary. You put money in a bank. You buy securities of the Government or of business corporations. You want it to be safe and you want it to grow and become more valuable.

**DISPOSITION.** The day comes when you must plan the disposition of your estate. The law permits you to execute a will and say where and to whom your possessions are to go at the time of your death. If you die without a will then state laws will decree to whom your property will pass after state and federal estate taxes have been deducted and your debts have been paid.

Through careful planning of your estate, you can dictate exactly what portion of your property will go to what persons or what organizations, and through such methods as taking of the marital deduction (if you are married) or by giving a portion of your estate to a non-profit charitable institution, such as the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, to prevent and cure blindness, you may greatly reduce the amount of estate taxes that must be paid to federal and state governments upon your death.

Taking advantage of the tax benefits allowed by law is not tax-dodging. In setting up the tax laws, our legislators realized that our government could not – and cannot – support all the charitable, educational and religious institutions that are basic to our way of life. The law-makers, therefore, embodied in our tax laws a series of incentives that would encourage citizens to support these institutions with private monies rather than public taxation. If you believe in the purpose and goals of the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, strongly enough to support it with your funds, our government recognizes your support by permitting you to take advantage of tax deductions allowed by law.

The Officers and Trustees would welcome any questions from any prospective donor in order to prove the unique planning and tax advantages connected with his or her specific gift. A gift may be of one or more types.

**OUTRIGHT GIFTS DURING LIFE.** Cash, Real Estate, Gifts-in-Kind. Outright gifts are the most popular form of philanthropic giving. These generally provide charitable deductions in income taxes for the year in which they are given. Gifts to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, during your life are deductible items in your tax returns. Under some conditions, gifts during life may likewise reduce eventual estate taxes or eliminate capital gains taxes.

**GIFTS OF SECURITIES DURING LIFE.** Within the past few decades, more and more citizens have become shareholders in American industry. They purchased stocks and bonds. In recent years gifts have increasingly been of stocks and bonds.

**GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE.** An extremely practical way to make a significant contribution to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, is to name the Foundation as the beneficiary in a life insurance policy. This is true whether the policy is paid up, partially paid up, or new.

**SHORT-TERM TRUST.** You may create for ten years or more (a) to pay the income to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, for the term of the trust with the principal to revert to you, or (b) to pay the income to you during the term of the trust with the principal then to pass to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**

**TESTAMENTARY TRUST.** A trust set up in a will becomes operative upon the death of its creator. This type of trust frequently produces tax benefits for the estate and for the beneficiary (or beneficiaries).

**THE BEQUEST.** The advantages of making a Will are unquestionable. You can thereby assure yourself that the property you accumulated and safeguarded during your life, will go to those person's and those institutions you want to benefit upon your death. Bequests to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.** may have a favorable impact on estate taxes as well as on the amount of property your heirs will receive.

If you would like to have direct and personalized assistance in making a gift for charitable purposes, here are some of the people you can call upon: YOUR LAWYER, YOUR TRUST OFFICER, YOUR LIFE INSURANCE AGENT, OR YOUR ACCOUNTANT.

If you should desire in planning your estate to make a gift to be used by the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, for its charitable program, regardless of the form which your gift may take, the proper words to be used are that the gift is made to **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**

Assistance and additional information as to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**, can be received at:

**The Administrative Office  
1033 Long Prairie Road, Suite 5  
Flower Mound, Texas 75022**

*The comments in this article, while written with authenticity as their goal, are of necessity non-technical in form and general in nature. In no way are they presumed to be a substitute for legal counsel for persons considering a plan for charitable giving; in fact, such persons are encouraged to seek advice.*

*Prepared by: Committee on Gifts and Bequests, **Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**  
"A Masonic Charity"*

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