



MARKET Highlights

Uncertainty Drives February Market Retreat

Uncertainty regarding tariffs, future rate cuts and geopolitical events stalled market momentum as investors awaited more clarity on the impact of these concerns. Investors generally rotated from growth to defensive positioning but remained attracted to companies with strong earnings and growth outlooks that may be less vulnerable to tariffs.

Federal Reserve Chair Powell stated that the Fed does not need to be in a hurry to cut rates as inflation remains above 2%. While tariffs could put upward pressure on inflation, he stated that it was too soon to discuss their potential impact. The yield on the 10-Year U.S. Treasury Note declined markedly during the month to 4.22% from 4.55%.

Tariff and interest rate uncertainty will challenge short-term planning for corporations and individuals. Consequently, the equity markets may remain volatile even as longer-term opportunities remain as companies adjust to market conditions.

See our [Weekly Recap](#) or [Quarterly Investment Update](#) for in-depth commentary. [Click here to subscribe.](#)

INVESTMENT Spotlight

Managing for Tax Efficiency

Managing portfolios for tax efficiency **begins with our focus on long-term investments**. Our value-oriented strategies identify superior companies with long-term growth potential that we can buy and hold for 3 to 5 years. This discipline of owning exceptional companies dovetails with our long-term investment strategy and minimizes the need for turnover which contributes to portfolio tax efficiency.

Utilizing dividend-paying stocks also aids tax efficiency. Dividend payments provide the ability to invest as market opportunities arise without having to sell or trim existing holdings. The regular dividend income stream also minimizes the need for portfolio sales to fund recurring account distributions.

To review the tax efficiency of your portfolio, please call Client Services at (800) 404-6693.

FINANCIAL Planning

7 Things to Consider this Tax Season

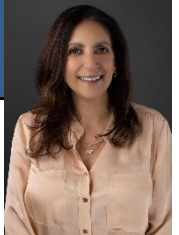
As you prepare to file your annual tax returns:

- Review your **paycheck withholding** to adjust for any life changes
- Maximize **contributions to your retirement** plans and accounts
- Understand if you need to take an **RMD** this year
- Determine if a **Roth IRA conversion** may be suitable
- Consider how **charitable contributions** may reduce your taxes
- Review your **estate plan** and gifting strategies
- Assess how **major life changes** - marriage, children, a new job or business - may impact your **tax planning strategies**

To schedule a free consultation with a financial planner, call Client Services at (800) 404-6693.

PROFESSIONAL Highlight

Laila Poveda



Client Services Manager

- Joined Pacific Global in 2004

Her **comprehensive experience, in-depth understanding of client services** and engaging personality make her an invaluable member of our team

- Oversees client requests and reporting for portfolio managers
- Business Administration degree from California State University Los Angeles
- Enjoys hiking, traveling, visiting art galleries and museums

Read more about Laila and our Team at www.pacificglobal.us