

THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY

IMPORTANT

#: 0078-97
DATE: January 13, 1997
TO: All Participants
FROM: Dividend Department
ATTENTION: Managing Partner / Officer, Cashier

SUBJECT: The Gabelli Equity Trust

The attached correspondence containing tax information was received by the Depository Trust Company.

D. Ruggiero
Assistant Supervisor
Dividend Department

Attachment

B# 78-97

One Corporate Center
 Rye, NY 10580-1434
 Tel. (914) 921-5070
 Fax (914) 921-5118
 http://www.gabelli.com
 info@gabelli.com

The Gabelli Equity Trust Inc.

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION!

1998 DISTRIBUTION BREAKDOWN

To All Shareholders:

Set forth below is the allocation of net investment income, short- and long-term capital gains, and non-taxable return of capital for the 1998 distributions of The Gabelli Equity Trust Inc.

If there are any questions, please contact Marc Diagonale or Doug Neviera at (914) 921-5070.

SOURCE	\$ PER SHARE				
	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	TOTAL
	Record Date 03/11/98	06/17/98	09/16/98	12/19/98	
Net Investment Income (a)	\$0.1048	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.1048
Short-Term Capital Gains (a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Long-Term Capital Gains (b)	0.0312	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.7812
Return of Capital (c)	0.1140	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1140
TOTAL	\$0.2500	\$0.2500	\$0.2500	\$0.2500	\$1.0000

SOURCE	PERCENTAGES			
	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR
Net Investment Income (a)	41.92%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Short-Term Capital Gains (a)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Long-Term Capital Gains (b)	12.47%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Return of Capital (c)	45.61%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

The percentage of the ordinary income paid by the Gabelli Equity Trust in 1998 that was derived from U.S. Government Securities was 34.87%. The percentage of U.S. Government Securities held as of December 31, 1998 was 16.25%. (a)

Since there were no retained capital gains in 1998, Form 2439 will not be necessary.

- (a) Distributions from net investment income and short-term capital gains are taxable as ordinary income and will appear on your Form 1099-DIV under Ordinary Income Distributions.
- (b) Taxable as long-term capital gains.
- (c) Non-taxable distribution of capital. Tax basis of an individual's investment should be reduced by the same amount.

TAXGBFCM
01/07/97