

Googins & Anton

Investment Advisors/Financial Planners

January 2010

Dear Friends of Googins & Anton,

Enclosed is a statement showing the market value of your accounts as of 12/31/2009. Holdings from all custodians of various securities have been consolidated. Please look it over carefully and notify us if you see any errors.

Now begins the hectic tax season. We know many of you are anxious to complete your 2009 income taxes and frequently your tax preparer offers you a discount if you complete them in January. Unfortunately, 1099's can be revised as we move into March and April. Sometimes the revisions will not change your income tax calculation but sometimes they will.

Your 1099's and other forms will come directly to you from various investment companies and custodians of retirement accounts. Googins & Anton will be sending statements in late January that identify deductible investment advisor fees and cost basis for sales made in taxable accounts. We will do everything we can to help organize your tax preparation.

2010 begins with many questions regarding income and estate taxes. As it currently stands, there is no tax on estates of anyone dying in 2010. Will Congress retroactively change that? This is also the year the rules for conversion of IRA's to Roth IRA's are liberalized for high income earners; expect to be bombarded with advertisements.

If you are over 70 and ½ and you waived your required minimum distribution for 2009, we understand the distributions will start again automatically. However, if you stopped the distribution rather than waiving it, we will have to restart it. Checking on these types of details is why we stress meeting or holding a telephone review yearly.

2009 ended with most investments increasing dramatically for the year. What a difference a year makes! There are many reasons to believe 2010 can be another good year, but the markets are not the final determinant of your success – planning, investment, and emotion control are!

We like Professor Jeremy J. Siegel's recent comment found in *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, December, 2009. "**There is absolutely no reason to be pessimistic about either the U.S. or the world economy.**" He states technological growth and the large emerging middle classes in the developing economies will push demand. The United States will also benefit as the global economy grows.

Sincerely,

Louise Googins, Tracey Anton, Brenda Sims and Michael Googins