



YOUR WEALTH COUNCIL

Newsletter

Volume 1 / Issue 3: July 15, 2019

Your financial peace of mind is our highest priority

News & Commentary

We hope you're enjoying your summer and that you had a wonderful 4th of July! We certainly celebrated in style - or at least, Erica did! (See picture.) Independence Day brings out our feelings of patriotism for our great country, and there's definitely plenty to celebrate this year. The U.S. Women's Soccer team took home the World Cup in France, and economically speaking, the U.S. economy remains strong. According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), unemployment for June remains at 3.7% while real average hourly earnings increased 0.2% over the month in June.



In Market News, the S&P 500 has broken out to new highs – up nearly 20% for the year, having regained the losses seen at the end of 2018. Since its previous highs in September 2018, it's up around 2%. Interest rates have declined substantially. Early last winter, we were purchasing U.S. Treasuries paying nearly 3% while those same treasuries are only paying about 2% today. Gold is having its best year in quite some time – up nearly 10%. Oil continues to have extreme volatility: up over 30% in 2019, but still down over 20% since the October 2018 high.

Looking Ahead: According to the Stock Trader's Almanac, since 1950, August and September have historically been the worst months for the S&P 500. Some analysts are predicting that S&P 500 Q2 earnings will be flat. However, the feeling is that the Fed will lower rates before year-end in an attempt to make short-term rates lower than long-term rates. (Currently, short-term and long-term rates are fairly equal, which creates a flat yield curve. By lowering interest rates, the Fed hopes to create a more “normal”, upward-sloping yield curve.) With lower interest rates on the horizon, and some potential action on tariffs, the majority of analysts still believe 2019 annual earnings will be 5-6% higher.

Fun Fact: Recent IPOs Beyond Meat, Lyft, Uber, Real Real, Zoom Video, CrowdStrike, and Slack have combined estimates for 2019 of under \$20 Billion in sales, but over \$10 Billion in net income losses. Yet, the total market value of these companies is approximately \$175 Billion! (Thomson One®)

FINANCIAL PLANNING CORNER

Did You Know?

IRA assets, retirement plan assets, insurance policies and annuities pass according to the beneficiary(ies) named on the account or policy, not to the person(s) named in your will or trust. It's a good idea to review your estate plan frequently – at least every 5 years – or whenever you have a major life event (marriage, divorce, new child, etc.). Part of this review should include reviewing the beneficiaries named on each of your IRA accounts, retirement plan accounts, annuities and insurance policies to insure your assets pass to your desired heirs.

This month is a great time to review this information. Your 2nd quarter statements have recently arrived in the mail or are available online. Take a moment to review your statement – your named beneficiaries will be towards the back of your IRA account statement. The Top of the Page will say “Retirement Plan Summary” and your beneficiaries will be in a box on the lower right-hand side.



Council Oak
WEALTH ADVISORS

May 31 to June 28, 2019

Your Retirement Plan Summary

Stephanie Martin Simple IRA Account No. .

Retirement Plan Summary

Activity Summary

Contribution Summary	Total
Employee Contributions rec'd 2019	
Employee Contributions rec'd 2018	
Employer Contributions rec'd 2019	
Employer Contributions rec'd 2019 for 2018	
Employer Contributions rec'd 2018 for 2018	
Distribution Summary	Year to Date
Gross Distributions	\$0.00
Federal Withholding	\$0.00
State Withholding	\$0.00
Net Distributions	\$0.00

Your Distribution Standing Withholding Elections

Federal Withholding Election	No Election on File
State (OK) Withholding Election	No Election on File

Please see Standing Withholding Elections on the Understanding Your Statement page.

Beneficiaries

Primary Beneficiaries	
Jack Martin	100.00%
Contingent Beneficiaries	
The Jack D & Stephanie S	100.00%

If you need to make updates to your beneficiary information, please contact Erica at 918-984-9116 or eransbottom@counciloakwealth.com.

Contact Us

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