



MWM NEWS & VIEWS

"Think cash flow, not rate of return. You can't spend rate of return!"

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Volume 1,

Your Team Of Financial Professionals



Mark, Brook, Brett, Steve, Tanya

Personalized and Custom Designed Strategies in:

Retirement Planning
Comprehensive Financial
Planning
Investment Management
Estate Planning
Insurance Planning
Long Term Care
Tax Planning
Wealth Management

Join our rooftop party!



See page 4 page
For details

Getting Close to Retirement? Some Things to Think About

When most clients first come to us, the financial goal is usually a secure retirement. While that means very different things to each of our clients, some things remain the same for everyone.

- We are probably all going to live longer in retirement than any previous generation.
- We may have more health issues than previous generations because we are living longer.
- We have no assurances that what we have been told about retirement is actually valid in today's complex world.

While we generally always begin in the "accumulation" phase of life, our goal of a safe and secure retirement means that as we approach retirement it is important to understand that:

"The investment and tax strategies used to accumulate wealth are vastly different than those used to distribute wealth."

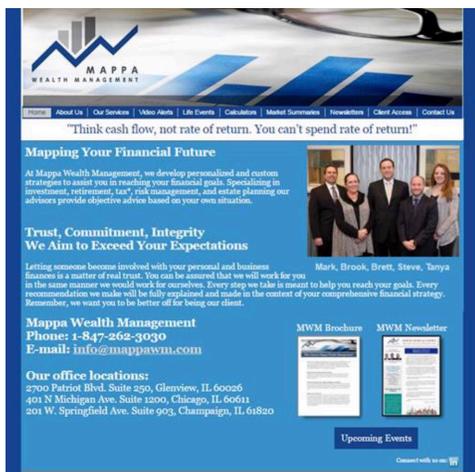
Retirement Distribution Planning is the name of the strategies used to properly manage your retirement money so that it provides the appropriate balance of safety and growth. Taking into consideration all of the about, I believe that sound retirement distribution strategy incorporates:

- A strategy for providing income from your retirement accounts that is not affected by market volatility.
- The understanding that you need "income for life" and the ways you can achieve that goal.
- How taxes can and will affect your retirement income – while none of us knows what future tax policy is going to be, we need to plan ahead to the best of our ability.
- Being prepared for the "what-if's" of life?

Cont'd on page 2



Our new website is live.
Take a stroll through it today
www.mappawm.com



Getting Close to Retirement? Some Things to Think About con't. from pg. 1

Here are some of the objectives we recommend for a retirement planning strategy for clients to address those issues:

- Reliable lifetime income - think cash flow not rate of return.
- Tax advantaged income (tax free if possible).
- Inflation protection.
- Appropriate insurances for medical, long term care, and to help minimize income and estate tax liabilities.

As retirement gets closer, there are many things to decide. All of us at Mappa Wealth Management can help you put together the right plan for your retirement. Please call us so we can start the process now.

Mappa Wealth Management Concierge Services: Professional Relationships That Work for You

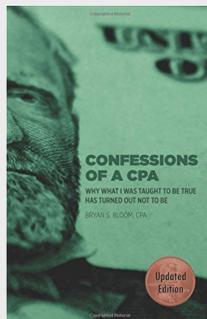
A strong, solid financial strategy is a cohesive and integrated plan that includes savings and investments, insurance planning, tax strategies, and estate-planning. To be effective every piece of your plan must fit and work together.

Professionals such as a CPA or attorney may be needed to provide advice and services, for example wills or trusts, that may be required to insure that all the pieces of your financial plan work together to achieve your goals. That is why we have very carefully vetted and established relationships with other like-minded professionals to be able to offer you these services. All of the professionals we may recommend to you offer the same knowledge, experience and attention to personal service that we do. For more information please call us to discuss how we can help.

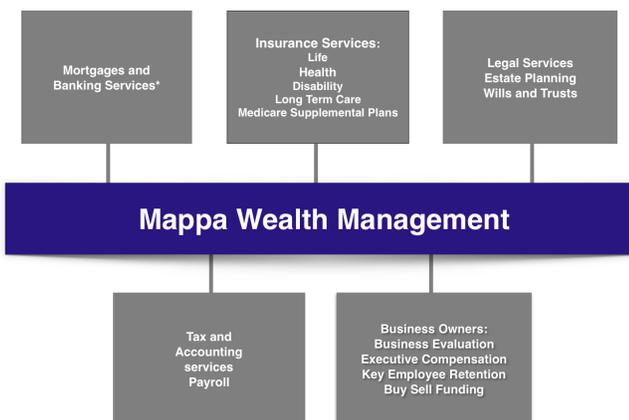
MWM Book of the Month

**Confessions of a CPA:
Why What I Was Taught
to be True Has Turned Out
Not to Be**

Bryan S. Bloom CPA



**Mark Mappa says this book
gets right to the point to
educate us on the
misinformation fed to us
from some business media**



Summer Travel: Is Your Money Safe?

Vacation time is here and we are all on the road, or in the air to someplace. While odds are your trip is going to go smoothly, things can happen. You could be robbed, lose a credit card, get sick or have your trip interrupted by a problem at home. You might even have trouble at some foreign ATM machines. We want you to have the best trip possible so here are a few tips that can help if the unexpected happens.

Credit Cards

- Always carry at least two different credit cards from two different payment networks: i.e. American Express or Visa or MasterCard. Keep them in different places or only carry one at a time. That way if one of them is lost or stolen, you are covered. Notify the provider the moment you realize a card is missing or compromised.
- Take the time to call your credit card providers and tell them you will be traveling and where, so they won't decline what they see as "unusual" charges. Do the same thing with the bank that issues your debit cards.
- Not every "name-brand" bank's ATM card can be used everywhere internationally. Check with the bank ahead of time to see if you can use it where you are traveling.

Keep Records

- Take photos of your important documents, passport, credit cards, etc. and email the images to yourself. You can also store them in the cloud. That way you can easily reproduce them, if needed.

Currency Exchange

- Always look up the current exchange rate for the country you are visiting. When leaving the country, exchange only the amount of cash you think you will need to begin your trip. You will usually get a better exchange rate at a local ATM than from a currency exchange firm. *Try to use an ATM inside a bank*, where "skimmers" are unlikely to set up. That's good advice here as well.
- Let your bank know the dates of your foreign travel. That limits any damage done by someone who has "skimmed" your information and tries to use it abroad.

Use the Hotel Safe

- It seems like we all should know this but keep your passport, jewelry and electronics either in the safe in your room, or ask the front desk to put them in their safe while you are out of the hotel and ask for a receipt. Carry a copy of your passport when touring around, keep your actual passport in the safe.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance is a bit tricky; you need to decide what your risks are. It's more than just thinking about cancelled flights or lost luggage. You may want to look at some of these issues:

- Will your medical insurance cover foreign medical care out of the USA? Medicare does not, except with a few very specific incidences (if you are in US but only a nearby foreign hospital can treat you). Some private health insurance companies may cover foreign medical expenses. Check your policy carefully and make sure you have written confirmation about what they do cover.
- Some credit cards will pay for foreign medical expenses. Call and ask but also have them send you the actual coverage in writing.
- I know of a couple that went to Switzerland for a three-week stay; on the first day the husband tripped and broke his femur. He had to have emergency surgery and spent three days in the hospital. Then he had to be flown home and because of the surgery, it was a medical flight. They had spent about \$150.00 on travel insurance that also covered medical expenses. It was well worth it. Just the flight home was about \$45,000.
- What happens if you have to return home unexpectedly? Can you redeem any prepaid expenses?

Travel Insurance is usually sold in combinations: trip cancellation, interruption, medical, evacuation, flight insurance. There are a number of companies you can check out through reputable travel sites like RickStev.es.com or PeterGreenberg.com.

Travel is great, it broadens our viewpoints, it's fun with family and usually it's safe, but at Mappa we want you to always be prepared.

Up Upcoming Client Events: Save-the-Date For: An Evening Under the Chicago Sky

**Join Mappa and Guaranteed Rate
Wednesday, July 12th
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

For a Sunset/Starlight Evening

**On the rooftop of the Guaranteed Rate Building
3940 North Ravenswood, Chicago**



Bring your adult children – or bring your parents - for a casual evening of appetizers and drinks. We'll present a market update and a short discussion on mortgages and interest rates.

For more information please call Tanya Widner at
847-262-3032

MWM News & Views is for You.

This newsletter is produced to keep you informed about the team at MWM and provide information on financial issues you need to know about, as well as keeping you updated on upcoming events and seminars. If there is a financial issue you want to know more about, or an idea that should be mentioned here, please let us know by contacting us at:

info@mappawm.com

Our Office Locations:

2700 Patriot Blvd - Suite 250, Glenview, IL 60026
401 N Michigan Ave, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60611

847-262-3030

E-mail: info@mappawm.com

Website: www.mappawm.com