



RETIREMENT PLANNING



Is Like Shooting A Moving Target



The best laid plans can be uprooted at any time by a simple change in legislation. After all, the rules are all man made and can be broken whenever Congress decides to act. Well, the recently passed Secure Act is groundbreaking retirement legislation — just like its predecessors, the 1974 ERISA (the bedrock law of employee benefit plans) and the 2006 Pension Protection Act. It will substantially alter the landscape for employer-sponsored retirement plans and individual retirement savers. So, what does this mean for you? These are three of the most notable changes that I think will affect our clients considerably.

Repeals the prohibition of IRA contributions after the account owner reaches age 70½ and raises the age for required minimum distributions (RMD's) to 72

The new retirement act makes retirement account contributions allowable regardless of age—that's great news for older Americans who wish to continue or catch up on saving, especially as more Americans work full-time or part-time in retirement. As Americans continue to live longer than before, raising the RMD age to 72 could allow savings to last longer into retirement years.

Removes the stretch IRA option

The act no longer allows non-spouse beneficiaries of IRAs to "Stretch" their Inherited IRA's over their own life expectancy. Instead, they will be required to deplete the inherited balance within 10 years of the decedent's death (although some exceptions would apply). Depending on the beneficiary's tax bracket and the

size of the account, it may be advantageous to consider Roth IRA conversions, now, instead of having your beneficiaries pay taxes at a higher rate.

Allows account holders to make a penalty-free distribution of up to \$5,000 from their defined contribution plan or IRA upon the birth or adoption of a child (Taxes still apply)

The distribution must be taken within one year of the child's birth or the finalization of the adoption to be considered a "qualified birth or adoption distribution." Though not mandated, it may be repaid back to the account within a yet-to-be-determined time frame.

Allows the use of Tax Advantaged 529 accounts to be used for qualified student loan repayments (up to \$10,000 lifetime per beneficiary).

Up to this point 529 accounts could be used to pay qualified educational expenses tax free, but not repay student loan debt. If one member of the family has student loans and another member has a 529 plan but has no intention of furthering their education, this may be an opportunity to change

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So, how are those New Year's Resolutions coming along? Hopefully you're eating healthier, exercising regularly and even getting your finances more organized! February kicks off Daytona's annual tourism as Speed Weeks Roars into town on Saturday, February 8th and culminates with the Daytona 500 on Sunday, February 16th. We'll know if Punxatawny Phil sees his shadow on Sunday the 2nd and of course don't forget Valentine's Day on the 14th. Just a note, I will be travelling from the 16th to the 26th, so access to phone and emails may be limited. However, if you need immediate service, please feel free to contact the home office of JW Cole at 813-935-6776. I'll be sure to share my travel experiences in our March newsletter. Happy February!

Respectfully,
Scott Weidman, CFP®

Not So Good Ideas For V-Day



Since I don't actually have a Valentine to share Valentine's Day with this year, I thought I'd share some insightful ideas of what "NOT" to do for Valentine's Day to keep you out of the Doghouse, because I think I may have done all of these at one point.

1. **DO NOT say a single word if she asks "Does this dress make me look FAT?"** Simply smile and do the Moon Walk out of the room.

- Honesty is not always the best policy under these conditions.

2. **DO NOT believe her when she says "Oh, it's ok, we don't have to do anything SPECIAL for Valentine's Day this year."**

- The real interpretation means...You best get to plannin' something nice.

3. **DO NOT give her a box of Fat Free Chocolate.** - Though this may seem like a thoughtful, health con-

scious thing to do, she may not see it that way.

4. **DO NOT plan a camping trip in the Okefenokee Swamp.** - Though she may be outdoorsy, the swamp isn't the best romantic spot to celebrate your love.

5. **DO NOT buy her a brand-new Vacuum Cleaner for Valentine's Day.** - Though the utilitarian purpose of a new tool like a high-powered vacuum, seems like a great gift idea, it tends to only anger and infuriate the recipient.

So, there you have it. Hopefully with these simple techniques of what NOT TO DO, you and your significant other can avoid making any unintended blunders that lead from LOVE to HATE in a matter of a split second.

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beneficiaries and use the 529 funds to pay down that student loan.

Encourage Employers to include more lifetime income annuities in 401(k) plans.

For most Americans today, the safety net of a lifetime pension does not exist. By allowing 401k plans to offer these

types of investments, it could provide more Retirement Income Security with guaranteed lifetime payouts.

As you can see, the practice of Retirement Planning is constantly changing and this new law should illustrate the importance of revisiting your Retirement and Estate planning, to be certain your goals are still

being met.

<https://www.financial-planning.com/opinion/from-401ks-to-stretch-iras-what-the-secure-act-means-for-clients?>

<https://www.investopedia.com/what-is-secure-act-how-affect-retirement-4692743>



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Insurance

- Life Insurance (term, variable, universal and whole)
- Long Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Buy / Sell Funding
- Business Overhead Expense Insurance

Services

- Hourly Consulting
- Retirement Projections and Evaluation
- Income Planning
- Asset Allocation and Risk Management

Investments

- Mutual Funds
- Variable Annuities
- Equity Indexed Annuities
- Fixed Annuities
- Stocks / Bonds
- Public Non Traded REIT's (real estate investment trusts)

Account Types

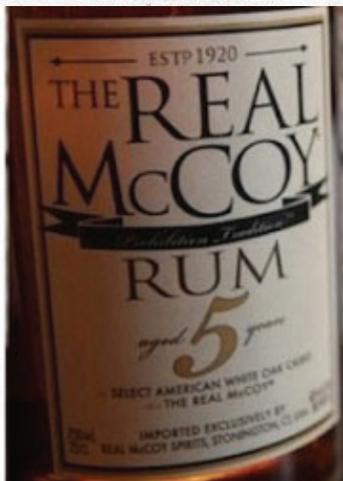
- Fee Based Advisory Accounts
- Brokerage Accounts
- Third Party Money Managers
- 401k Rollovers
- IRA's and Roth IRA's

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 Evenings and Saturdays available by appointment.



The Real McCoy



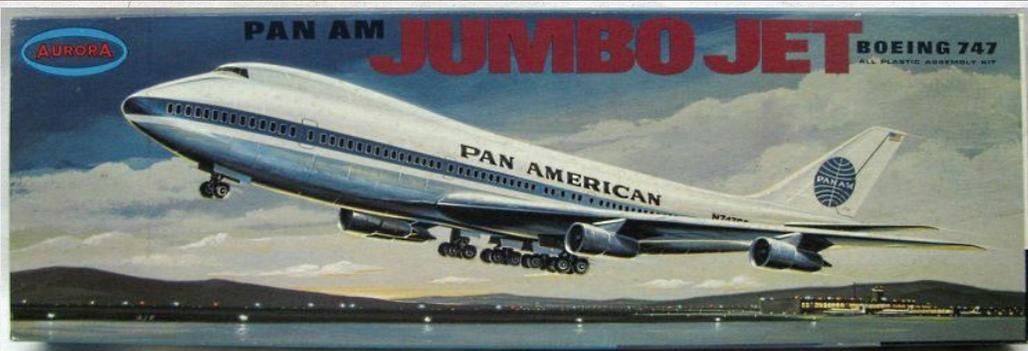
is now known as LPGA Blvd. McCoy smuggled whiskey into the United States from Nassau and Bimini in the Bahamas aboard one of his many vessels, "The Tomoka" until his final arrest and capture on November 23rd, 1923.

<http://www.floridahistorynetwork.com/true-stories-about-the-real-mccoy.html>

Everyone has heard of "The Real McCoy", but did you know he was a local legend? Bill McCoy of Holly Hill, FL provided only the best quality of booze, by refusing to dilute his rum with water and iodine like other bootleggers of the time (during the prohibition), inspiring the world-famous name. Around 1900 McCoy

and his family moved to the Holly Hill residence on the corner of Beach Street and what

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_McCoy_\(bootlegger\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_McCoy_(bootlegger))



January 22nd, 1970 the Boeing 747 makes its first commercial passenger flight to London.

THE BEATLES

I WANT TO HOLD YOUR HAND
I SAW HER STANDING THERE



- The Beatles first appear on the Ed Sullivan Show in February of 1964 and "I Want to Hold Your Hand" becomes a number one hit in the United States.
- The Inflation Rate in the US was 5.84% with the year end Dow Jones closing at

838!

- An average new home cost \$23,450 with average yearly income at \$9,400.

*<http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1970.html>



Tip Of The Month

If you have a payroll deducted 403(b) through work, it's important to know that there is a 20% mandatory Federal Tax withholding for any withdrawals from a "Qualified Plan". Once you retire, you are able to roll it to an IRA and invest in virtually anything without the 20% withholding requirement. For most retirees, they are nowhere near a 20% tax liability, so the mandatory withholding essentially forces you to pay tax on money you didn't even need in the first place. For more tips and strategies, join one of our upcoming classes and register at www.FR-Workshop.com



Idiom Of The Month



How fitting for Valentine's Day to find a heart referenced idiom.

We use the phrase "Wear Your Heart on Your Sleeve" in a casual way to say that we are showing our intimate emotions in an honest and open manner. The first recorded use of the expression was in William Shakespeare's *Othello*. It's likely that the phrase

"wear your heart on your sleeve" comes from medieval jousts, where a 'sleeve' referred to a piece of armor which covered and protected the arm. Knights would often wear the token of a lady, around their sleeve of armor openly showing the tournament spectators which lady they favored. And now you know.