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The Source for Freedom and Self-Reliant Information¹

Thomas Jefferson defined *rightful liberty* as "unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others—I do not add 'within the limits of the law,' because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual."

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Retirement and Financial Independence

Retirement is a new concept that arose during the 20th Century. For most of recorded history only royalty could feasibly retire. However, beginning in about 1920 retirement became "feasible for the ordinary person." "Now those blissful days are gone. We're back to what's

¹ Each Jeffersonian Group, LLC publication is intended solely for information purposes and is not intended nor does it purport to provide legal, tax, individual investment advice, estate planning advice, insurance advice or business advice. In addition, information and analysis is compiled from sources believed to be reliable but such accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Readers should do their own research and consult with expert legal, tax, insurance, business and financial counsel before taking any action. Copyright © 2013 Jeffersonian Group, LLC

normal."² But, here is the good news: According to Dr. David Eifrig, Jr., "too many people work and save all their lives only to retire and discover they are bored . . . literally to death. Many succumb to depression and disease (even terminal illness) because they are unprepared for the mental shift in retirement. In fact, a shocking study in 2005 showed people who retire at age 55 die twice as fast as those who keep working."³ So, for those who have not accumulated enough investment capital to maintain the lifestyle you have become accustomed to, an early retirement would appear to be hazardous to your health anyway.

Furthermore, many of us have family and friends who have lived and are living well into their 90's; and, the oldest verified living person was a French woman who passed away on August 4, 1997 at age 122 years, 164 days old. With the strides made and to be made in the future in medical science and technology, those of us in our 50's and 60's should plan on living at least another sixty (60) years or longer. Because of this, we will need to make better financial decisions going forward.

Therefore, your goal should be financial independence and not retirement. Financial independence allows a person to work less, participate in more leisure activities, change careers, start new businesses, organize and contribute to charitable causes, etc. In addition, the quicker you become financially independent, the more freedom you have to do as you please.

The Road to Financial Independence

The quickest way to achieve financial freedom is to live below your means and the earlier you start, the better.⁴ Next, you need to make the right investment decisions. In addition, you need to learn as much as you can about investing⁵ and asset protection. And finally, you need to be flexible and adjust your plans when circumstances change.

According to Dr. Steve Sjuggerud, "The right person to look out for your money is YOU." This does not mean that you have to do all the research and trading yourself. You can certainly work with brokers, insurance agents, and other professionals, but, it is important that you

² Richard J. Maybury, U.S. & World Early Warning Report, July 2012.

³ David Eifrig, Jr., *The Retirement Millionaire Manifesto*, Retirement Millionaire Research Report, Stansberry & Associates.

⁴ This was discussed more fully in the 19-page Newsletter, *Suggested Personal Rules of Life*, dated February 22, 2013, which is available upon request.

⁵ *Id*.

understand what is going on with your money.⁶ I would also recommend that the best way to understand what is going on with your money is to take an active role in investing some of your own investment capital.

Making the Right Investment Decisions

The first thing one must do is to determine how much money you have that can be safely invested, which would normally represent all money which exceeds a properly established emergency reserve to cover unexpected expenses. Typically, everyone should have an emergency fund that covers at least 6-months of your personal living expenses. However, depending upon your particular situation, such a reserve might range from 3-to-18 months.⁷

In addition to an emergency reserve for unexpected expenses, it is recommended that any funds that may be needed within five years or less be included in your emergency reserves. However, based upon your particular circumstances, this may or may not be necessary.

Therefore, all money in excess of your emergency reserves, which may include funds needed within the next 5-years, would be available for investment and represent your investment capital.

Investing in the Stock Market⁸

As an alternative to investing in individual stocks, many financial planners recommend mutual funds, index funds and ETF's (exchange traded funds) as a means for diversification in support of a *buy and hold* strategy. Under this theory, as an investor, you are in it for the long term and any market crash should not worry you since, in the long run, the market always goes up... anyway, that's the theory.

The problem with the *buy and hold* strategy using such funds is all about timing; in affect, you are speculating that when you need your investment capital the stock market will have grown substantially. Numerous periods throughout history have proven that you may regret such an approach. For example, if you had invested all your money in this strategy in 1929 just before the great crash/depression, it would have taken 25-years to recoup that investment. More

⁶ Steve Sjuggerud, *The Right Person to Look After Your Money*, Daily Wealth Premium, July 15, 2013.

⁷ Supra note 4: Emergency Reserves were covered in prior Newsletter, which is available upon request.

⁸ There are certainly times when speculating in the stock market makes sense and using mutual funds and ETF's may be important vehicles to accomplish your goals.

recently, if you had invested your money in the S&P 500 Index on December 31, 1999, 12-years later (12/31/2011) your cumulative loss would be -14.36%; and, if you were counting on a decade and more of substantial growth, an original investment of say \$100,000 ended up being worth only \$85,640 after 12-years. If this were to happen to you, this would certainly slow your progress towards obtaining your goal of financial freedom.

Stock Market - The Crash Ahead and When

According to Harry S. Dent, "between now and 2019 we face the perfect storm" because of demographics; and, geopolitical cycles which shift every 18-years. The last positive cycle was 1983 to 2000, which turned negative in 2001 and created a market that moved more sideways than up . . . this [negative cycle] should last into around 2019." According to Mr. Dent,

This crisis is likely to be at its worst by early 2014, or by early 2015, at the latest, and only after stocks crash to between 3,300 and 5,600 on the Dow by the end of 2013, or 2014 at the latest. Home prices will fall by 55% to 65% from the top before this crisis is over. Also, the crash will be worldwide, not just in the United States and Europe, as the dramatic China bubble comes to an end. . . The next few years and the next decade will be the most challenging you have ever seen or will see in your lifetime. ¹⁰

Because of the Federal Reserve's QE¹¹ program combined with low interest rates, Mr. Dent currently believes there is another rally ahead and states that, "It's clearly not time to sell stocks yet as Dow 16,000 looks like a near certainty." However, he is expecting "a major top in stocks between August and January [2014]." 12

Although Mr. Dent sees a stock market crash coming within the next six months, Dr. Sjuggerud believes "the entire stock market could soar 95% in three years [through 2015]." According to Dr. Sjuggerud, the "three incredible forces [driving this market are]:

⁹ Harry S. Dent, Jr., *The Next Boom ...Guaranteed!*, Survive & Prosper, Feb. 14, 2013.

¹⁰ Harry S. Dent, Jr., *The Great Crash Ahead, Strategies For A World Turned Upside Down*, p. 15-16 (bold emphasis added), Free Press (2011).

[&]quot;Quantitative easing (QE) is an unconventional monetary policy used by central banks to stimulate the national economy when standard monetary policy has become ineffective. A central bank implements [QE] by buying financial assets from commercial banks . . . thus increasing the monetary base. . . On December 2012, the FOMC announced an increase in the amount of open-ended purchases from \$40 billion to \$85 billion per month." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantitative_easing.

¹² Harry S. Dent, Jr., H.S. Dent Forecast, July 15, 2013, available at www.hsdent.com.

- 1) U.S. stocks are the best value they've ever been during my lifetime.¹³ The upside potential in U.S. stocks over the next three years could be the biggest in my near-20-year career. *And all stocks have to do is return to their average.*
- 2) Zero-percent interest rates are here to stay.
- 3) Lastly, today's zero-percent rates will force Mom and Pop America to 'migrate' into the U.S. stock market... pushing the stock boom into 'bubble' territory, possibly in 2015."¹⁴

According to Mr. Dent, aggressive investors should stay in the stock market but be ready to bail sometime within the next 6-months, while conservative investors should be on the sidelines. On the other hand, Dr. Sjuggerud believes we have approximately 3-years left for this bull market, with "an upside potential in U.S. stocks . . . [which] could be the biggest in [his] . . . career."

What do we do?

The Ultimate Stock Strategy for the Coming Correction¹⁵

According to Dan Ferris, "if you're following the surest, safest path to stock market wealth, you simply don't care about a correction. That path is buying the world's best businesses at great prices... and then compounding your way to wealth over many years." The businesses Mr. Ferris is talking about are "blue-chip 'World Dominators' like Microsoft and Coca-Cola." "These businesses have tremendous advantages over their competitors. They generate huge cash flows, which are directed to shareholders in the form of higher dividends, share buybacks, and rising share prices." 16

¹³ According to Dr. Sjuggerud, "Since 1950, the S&P 500 has traded for an average P/E ratio of nearly 18. Right now, stocks are cheaper than that, at a P/E ratio of about 15. . . But when you dig a little deeper, the story gets much better... when interest rates are high, people have other investment choices. They can put their money into CDs or bonds paying double-digit interest rates. So P/E ratios are typically low when interest rates are high. But when interest rates are low - like today - CDs and bonds don't offer much competition for stocks. . . when short-term interest rates have been low (defined as below 2.5%), the S&P 500 has historically traded for an average P/E ratio of nearly 22 – much higher than today." Steve Sjuggerud's Daily Wealth Premuim, *Why I Believe Stocks Should Rise 1,000 Points by 2015*, July 23, 2013.

¹⁴ Steve Sjuggerud, *The Great Migration*, True Wealth, March 2013, available at www.stansberryresearch.com.

¹⁵ Dan Ferris, *The Ultimate Stock Strategy for the Coming Correction*, Steve Sjuggerud's Daily Wealth Premium, Sept. 26, 2012.

Mr. Ferris gives an example when in 2009 he recommended to his *Extreme Value* readers to purchase semiconductor giant Intel (INTC), which was trading at \$15.27 per share with a dividend yield of 5.8% on the original purchase price. Since then, Intel has climbed to over \$24 per share and Mr. Ferris poses the following question and answers it:

Do you think [the purchaser of Intel at \$15 per share] cares about a 10% or 20% correction in the stock market? No way. He only cares about those dividend checks that are coming from one of the world's best businesses... which now represent a 5.8% yield (and rising) on his original investment.

That buyer of Intel is comfortable knowing that no matter what the stock market does, the world is still going to use computers. Those computers will need semiconductor chips. He knows all sorts of bad things can happen and he will still receive a safe 5.8% yield on his money. They could even shut the market down for a year, and he'd still get his money. ¹⁷

"No matter what the day-to-day movements of the market are, World Dominator companies like Intel (INTC), Johnson & Johnson (JNJ), and Coca-Cola (KO) will still be No. 1 in their industries. They'll still have giant, insurmountable competitive advantages. They'll still have consistently thick profit margins. They'll still generate huge cash flows. They'll still direct a portion of those cash flows to shareholders through ever-increasing dividends. And they will still allow shareholders to put the power of long-term wealth compounding to work.¹⁸

In addition, World Dominator companies usually offer dividend reinvestment programs or DRIP's, where dividends can be used to directly purchase additional shares of stock.

Einstein's Law of Compound Interest and Investing in Great Businesses

If you put \$10,000 in a DRIP (dividend reinvestment program)¹⁹ "yielding 5% --and the company grows its dividend 10% each year, so that in year number two you're earning 5.5%, in year three you earn 6.05% and so on—you'll be sitting on well over \$5 million at the end of 30 years. And this . . . doesn't even factor in the potential growth in share price!"²⁰

"Investing in a DRIP addresses two of the most pressing problems facing . . . you today: inflation and relentlessly low interest rates." And, a "growing number of brokers are making it easy for

¹⁸ *Id.*, bold emphasis added.

¹⁷ Id.

¹⁹ There are more than 1,000 stocks that offer dividend reinvestment programs and some companies actually offer discounts of up to 10% off the current market price if you buy direct from them. Information is available on a particular company's investor page or in their DRIP prospectus.

²⁰ Addison Wiggin, *The Apogee Advisory*, Issue 20, November 2012.

you to automatically reinvest their dividends, with no extra fees or commissions. . . . Fidelity and ShareBuilder offer it on all dividend-paying stocks. TD Ameritrade and Vanguard make it available on a wide range of stocks. E-Trade offers it on all shares over \$5. If you are not sure whether your current positions are set up to reinvest dividends, by all means call your broker and get the ball rolling."²¹

Another example of the compounding principle includes the purchase of 100 shares of The Coca-Cola Company (KO) on November 30, 1994 for \$5,112 using the Company's DRIP or dividend reinvestment program; after approximately 18-years, ending December 17, 2012, that 100 shares grew to 1,958 shares worth \$73,914 representing an average annual return per year of 74.56%.

Richard Maybury "examined the 100 top household name companies and judged the four . . . [that he thought] as the best for riding through the economic trouble [he] believes is likely over the next five or more years." The companies he recommended were Proctor & Gamble (PG), Johnson and Johnson (JNJ), Colgate-Palmolive (CL), and Kimberly-Clark (KMB). All of these great companies have DRIP's.

For example, Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) has increased its dividend for 50 years in a row raising it an average of 11.7% over the past 10-years; and, Kimberly-Clark's (KMB) average dividend increase per year for the past 10-years is 9.5%.

But remember, the key to success using this strategy is that you have to buy great companies at great prices, when their dividend yields are high and acceptable to you. At present, I have over a dozen companies that I am watching, however, their prices are currently too high. Therefore, with this strategy, stock market corrections are good in that they allow us to purchase great companies at great prices.

Investing in World Dominators (Great Businesses) at the Right Price

In the *Extreme Value* portfolio, dated July 2013, they include 14 *World Dominating* companies but only identify 3 that are within buying range: (1) IBM (IBM), buy up to \$205; (2) Expeditors International (Nasdaq; EXPD), buy up to \$39; and Apple (Nasdaq; AAPL), buy up to \$500.²³

With respect to *The 12% Letter*, dated July 2013, of the 11 *World Dominating Dividend Growers* (WDDG) listed, only 4 were identified to watch since they may be near the "buy up to" range: (1) Coca- Cola (KO), buy up to \$35; Microsoft (MSFT), buy up to \$30; Sysco (SYY), buy up to \$33;

²¹ Id

²² Richard J. Maybury, U.S. & World Early Warning Report, Sept – Oct 2012.

²³ Extreme Value newsletter is available through <u>www.stansberryresearch.com</u>.

and Intel (INTC), buy up to \$22.²⁴ The remaining WDDG's were trading at prices that were significantly higher than their recommended purchase prices.

On Friday, July 19, 2013, Microsoft (MSFT) plunged 11% after reporting fiscal 2013 4th quarter and year-to-date results, so shares are currently trading around the \$31 range (close to the recommended buy up to price of \$30).²⁵ This is a good example of a great company falling out-of-favor representing a great buying opportunity.

How Much Should You Invest

College Graduates Entering Work Force²⁶

Several recent college graduates, who were fortunate enough to have the right type of degrees to obtain excellent paying jobs near their homes, read our publication, *Suggested Personal Rules of Life*, dated February 22, 2013. Both individuals are keeping their monthly living expenses to a minimum; one decided to live with his parents for at least another year, while the other found a cheap apartment and a roommate to share expenses. In addition, both decided to keep the cars they had in college, which are fully paid off. As a result of these decisions, both individuals are able to easily save between \$1,500 and \$2,400 per month and more.

After researching several of the online brokerage firms mentioned in our publication, they both decided to open an account with E*Trade Securities (www.etrade.com) with \$5,000. The reason for only putting \$5,000 in the account is because they desired to only purchase approximately \$5,000 of securities; and, they understood that the stocks they acquired were protected if the brokerage firm went bankrupt, but, any cash in their accounts may not be. Accordingly, they intend to only transfer cash into their new accounts when they are ready to purchase securities.

With only \$5,000, these individuals were limited to the number of stocks they could buy and the share price was also very important, e.g., share prices under \$50 per share would allow them greater diversification.

They each purchased four stocks: (1) Intel Corporation (INTC), 100 shares at \$20.37 per share; (2) Microsoft Corporation (MSFT), 50 shares at \$26.75 per share; (3) Ford Motor Company (F), 50 shares at \$12.51 per share; and (4) Main Street Capital Corporation (MAIN), 25 shares at \$34.19 per share. With brokerage commissions of \$9.99 per transaction or \$39.96, the total cost of these securities came to \$4,894.71.

²⁴ The 12% Letter is available through www.stansberryresearch.com.

²⁵ Extreme Value, Weekly Update, July 22, 2013, <u>www.stansberryresearch.com</u>.

²⁶ Some liberties were taken to better illustrate certain points and the values used were from my acquisitions adjusted for the individuals actual shares acquired.

Two days after these purchases, they enrolled all four stocks in their dividend reinvestment programs (DRIP's). Since acquiring these stocks several months ago, as of July 23, 2013, with reinvested dividends, these stocks are now worth \$5,569.94; an increase in value of 13.80% over the original cost, even though Main Street Capital's share price dropped 9.6% (from \$34.19 per share when they acquired it to \$30.90 as of July 23, 2013).

How did they decide to purchase these four stocks? They took the advice of *The 12% Letter* and purchased Intel and Microsoft, *World Dominating Dividend Growers*; they acquired more shares of Intel because the price was lower and the dividend yield (around 4%) was greater than Microsoft (around 3%).

They decided to acquire Ford Motor Company (F) because they drive autos made by Ford and intend to buy Ford vehicles in the future. This is a great way to look at stocks as real businesses; if you like a certain product or service, then you should consider investing in that company's stock. However, just because you use certain products does not necessarily mean that the businesses would be good stock investments. And, even if the stock would be a good investment, you must also buy it at the right price. In this case, after researching Ford Motor Company, using http://finance.yahoo.com/, and seeing several other newsletter write-ups, Ford (F) turned out to be a good investment, with a dividend reinvestment program. Including reinvested dividends, as of July 23rd, Ford is up over 37% since they acquired it.

Main Street Capital (MAIN) is a "private equity fund that invests in mid-level business development companies" which was recommended by Dr. Mark Skousen. It has a dividend reinvestment program and the dividend yield was over 5% when they acquired this stock; at current prices, the dividend yield is over 6% and is still on Dr. Skousen's recommended list.²⁷

Investment Capital of \$50,000 or More and Growing

If you have \$50,000 of investment capital and you are able to add to it on a regular basis, one option you may want to consider is to identify 10 different *World Dominating Dividend Growers*(WDDG) that you would like to own. By investing, on average, no more than 5% of your investment capital or about \$2,500 per WDDG, you can acquire 10 different companies for approximately \$25,000 and still have 50% of your investment capital left to take advantage of downturns in the market. In addition, you would have some cash available for speculation, if you so desire.

Again, you must remember to purchase the 10 different stocks at great prices. For example, if your plan is to acquire 100 shares of The Coca-Cola Company (KO) at \$35 or less per share and it is trading around \$40 per share, you should set aside \$3,500 and wait until the price drops to acquire the stock.

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²⁷ Dr. Mark Skousen's Forecasts & Strategies, available at www.MarkSkousen.com.

I used an example of 10 companies investing 50% of your capital. However, if you selected 8, you could invest, on average, \$3,125 per company, or, over \$4,000 per company if you went with 6 *World Dominators*. With respect to investing in *World Dominators*, I am personally not too concerned with the concept of diversification.

The greater your investment capital, especially if you are adding to it on a regular basis, the more options you have. In addition, as your investment capital grows and the market crashes, you can always add to your existing *World Dominators* and pick up new ones at great values.

Speculating in the Stock Market

To speculate sounds like a very risky proposition and it can be. The Oxford American Dictionary defines speculate as to "form a theory or conjecture" and to "invest in stocks, etc., in hope of a gain but with the possibility of loss." In my opinion, you are not speculating when you purchase a *world dominating blue-chip* like The Coca-Cola Company (KO) at a low price with the intent to hold it, reinvest the dividends; and, with the ultimate goal of living off those dividend payments when you have obtained financial independence.

On the other hand, by investing in index funds, mutual funds, ETF's, various sectors of the market, and individual stocks that are not *world dominators*, you are indeed, speculating. But, this is not a bad thing as long as you are knowledgeable, have a plan, and limit your losses and protect your gains using *trailing stops*.

For example, right now Dr. Steve Sjuggerud believes that the stock market will continue to rise for the next 3 years and Dr. Mark Skousen, a renowned economist who is a proponent of the *Austrian School*, recommends his newsletter readers invest 75% of their capital in stocks.²⁸

Some of Dr. Skousen's recommendations from the August issue of his *Forecasts & Strategies* are:

- Main Street Capital (MAIN, \$30.86, 6.1% yield), a Houston-based business development company; this Company has a dividend reinvestment plan.
- Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. (KKR, \$21.42, 5.3% yield), "currently trading at only 10 times earnings and is paying a rising dividend." This security is also recommended by Frank Curzio, *Small Stock Specialist*, available from www.stansberryresearch.com.
- Omega Healthcare Investors (NYSE: OHI, \$34.20, 6% yield), "owns and operates more than 477 long-term health-care facilities; Dr. Skousen states "I consider Omega the best way to profit from both the real estate recovery and an aging population."

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²⁸ Dr. Mark Skousen's Forecasts & Strategies, Vol. 34, No. 8, August 2013.

- Fidelity Select Defense & Aerospace Fund (FSDAX, \$108.25), Richard Maybury also recommends this fund and believes strongly in having a *War Portfolio*.
- Baron Growth Fund (BGRFX, \$64.93), Dr. Skousen believes that Ron Baron should be "in the list of top 99 investors of all time."
- Enterprise Products Partners (EPD, \$64, 4.3% yield), a Houston-based pipeline company.
- IAMGOLD (IAG, \$5, 5.6% yield), "a great undervalued way to invest in gold."

And, for those of you interested in the real estate market and have been bombarded with private placement memorandums promising high returns which tie up your money forever, consider investing in KKR and OHI (from above), with high dividend yields and substantial liquidity. In addition, consider The Blackstone Group, L.P. (BX, \$23.30, 3.9% yield), "now the largest landlord in the U.S." Dr. Sjuggerud recommended Blackstone to his readers back in November 2012 and they are now up more than 80%. As of this date, Dr. Sjuggerud is still listing Blackstone as a buy. 30

How much you should invest depends upon: (1) Your overall investment plan; (2) what you already have invested and plan to keep; (3) how much investment capital you have; and (4) how much is being added to your investment capital on a regular basis, if any. As a general rule, an initial investment in any stock or security should, on average, represent 5% or less of your investment capital. For example, if you have \$100,000 available and you desire to acquire all 8 securities (includes Blackstone) listed above, \$5,000 (5%) paid for each of the 8 securities would amount to \$40,000 leaving you with \$60,000 to acquire *World Dominating Dividend Growers*.

Using Trailing Stops

To protect your investment capital when speculating, you should use trailing stops. For example, if you invested \$5,000 in each of the 8 securities mentioned above and used a 25% trailing stop for each, if the price dropped to \$3,750 for any of the securities, you would sell and take the \$1,250 (25%) loss, representing an overall 1.25% loss of your total investment capital, which should be more than offset by the dividends paid.

Also, to protect your gains, you need to move your stops up. For example, let's say you invested \$10,000 in Blackstone back in November, with a trailing stop of \$7,500 (25% loss) when you acquired it. Today, your \$10,000 investment has grown to \$18,000 (80% increase), so your trailing stop should be raised to \$13,500 (25% loss, which still equals an overall gain).

²⁹ The S&A Digest Premium, from the desk of Porter Stansberry, July 23, 2013.

³⁰ The True Wealth Portfolio, Prices as of July 24, 2013.

Under this scenario you would still exit the trade with a 35% profit if the market starts to decline rapidly.

You may use any trailing stop you desire and change it from time-to-time, i.e., if you have an 80% gain and used a trailing stop of 25%, you could always reduce it to 10% to exit the market at an even higher profit than illustrated above. However, markets have been very volatile and too tight of a stop could force you out of the market earlier than desired.

To conclude, have a plan, limit your losses, and protect your profits.

The United States Version of the Gestapo – the U.S. Internal Revenue Service

As you may know, the IRS is currently being investigated by Congress for targeting conservative groups, groups with "Tea Party" in their names, Jewish organizations, and excessive targeting of small businesses for audit. This is in addition to the outright waste and fraud of U.S. taxpayer money.

In addition, several *Tea Party* groups have filed individual lawsuits, "the passionately pro-Israel organization Z STREET has filed a lawsuit against the IRS," and, the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) has filed a lawsuit on behalf of 25 Conservative Groups, expecting "to add another dozen or so groups" to the original complaint.

The Jeffersonian Group is in the final stages of publishing a book entitled, *The U.S. Individual Income Tax is Incompatible with a Free Society, A Legal Justification for the Abolishment of the IRS and Replacement of the Income Tax with a National Sales Tax.* An excerpt from the book sums up the problem quite well:

The 16th Amendment says Congress may tax incomes without apportionment but, it does not state that the 16th Amendment is superior to any other provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, Congress and the IRS have no authority to require U.S. citizens and residents to waive their rights under the Constitution, e.g., the 4th and 5th Amendments.³¹ But, this is exactly what is being done with respect to the administration and collection of U.S. income taxes. This is a fraud on the public.

Before this fraud becomes more readily understood by the populace at large, it would be prudent for Congress to: (1) Replace the U.S. individual income tax with a national sales or consumption tax; (2) get rid of the *Gestapo Tactics* of the IRS in forcing people to waive their rights; and (3) start the amendment process in Article V of the Constitution to abolish the 16th Amendment.

³¹ The 4th Amendment is our right to be secure in our papers and effects and the 5th Amendment is our right not to be compelled to be a witness against ourselves.

If Congress does not have the stomach to do the right thing, it is about time for practicing Attorney's and C.P.A.'s to step up and support their clients; and aggressively challenge the current thinking and propaganda spewed by Academia, Congress, the Judiciary, and the IRS.

I would highly recommend that the 53% of the population that pays 100% of the income tax get a copy of this publication, when available. Accordingly, when it is published, readers of this newsletter will be informed as to how to acquire their own copy.

Will Congress do the right thing and abolish the income tax?

Dum spiro, spero—While I breath I hope.

Slainte mhath,

Robert G. Beard, Jr., J.D., LL.M., C.P.A.