



FINANCIAL FORECASTS, INC.

TAX PREPARATION & PLANNING

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"No great man ever complains of want of opportunity" Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Clients:

We stand at the beginning of another year with unlimited opportunities, to make better decisions in our lives. Access to these opportunities can take many paths, so you want to use the shortest and best direction. Nowadays, we rely heavily on GPS devices to get us to unknown locations and even factoring in current traffic updates. There are no automatic plans for life, but you can learn from your mistakes and get good directions and updates to your current path. Learning "who to ask" and "when to ask" are your best devotions of time.

Our first lesson is that the government (Federal or State) is not here to help us. They need us to pay taxes and elect individuals, but once they get comfortable, it becomes more about them than us. We have cautioned regularly about being driven to action by government or advertising: fear actions (collapsing; financials, housing, terrorism), tax credits (homebuyers credits, energy credits, hybrid auto), rewards cards (spur you to excessive spending on the guise of getting something for nothing). Try not to be driven to financial actions by others, make it your decision, negotiate hard and get the best deal. If you happen to get a bonus from others fine, but it should not come into the equation. Long term the dollar will be driven down in value, so invest appropriately.

Tax season is upon us and our government has failed us by waiting until the last minute to do nothing. IRS will have some delays in its processing of returns and all forms are not currently available. Congress has decided to extend the current law for two years. Some slight changes are in effect, but not enough to warrant discussion. We continue to encourage good record keeping in support of your tax filings.

Now is the time to start collecting the various financial mailings: W2, 1099's, mortgage and brokerage statements. Remember to answer the questions on the front and back pages of our tax organizer, as your situation changes we need to know. We encourage your earliest appointments!

****WE WILL BE OFFERING WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS (SAT/SUN), DURING FEBRUARY ONLY. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM!**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry B. De Marr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

Barry B. De Marr, CFP, EA