

ED SLOTT'S IRA ADVISOR

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May 2005

TAX & ESTATE PLANNING FOR YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS

How to name minors as IRA beneficiaries

See pages 2-4

"If you can count your money, you don't have a billion dollars."

- J. Paul Getty (1892-1976)

IRA Creditor Protection

In a landmark case the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that IRAs receive federal creditor protection in bankruptcy, but the implications for

IRA owners and plan participants still need to be addressed on a case-by-case basis. This ruling does *NOT* mean blanket federal creditor protection for all IRAs. Still, nothing beats the iron-clad federal creditor protection of qualified plans under ERISA. See our story "The Supreme Court

Rules that IRAs Are Protected in Bankruptcy" on pages 5-6.

Naming IRA Beneficiaries

Naming younger beneficiaries means that they can extend RMDs on the inherited IRA over a longer period of time. Naming a very young beneficiary, such as a grandchild or a great-grandchild, can mean generations of tax-deferred wealth build-up and is a very effective way to provide a substantial long-term family legacy with even a modest IRA inheritance. That's all good, but the inherited IRA will need special handling to make sure this all works out as planned. Our feature article "Naming a Minor as IRA Beneficiary Requires Special Care" shows you how to set the IRA up and make sure the inherited IRA distributions are handled properly.

This month's Guest IRA Expert is Martin James, CPA/PFS, President of Martin James, CPA, P.C., located in Mooresville, Indiana, and his article "Planning for Payments of IRA Wrap

Fees" follows up on the recent IRS Private Letter Ruling allowing IRA wrap fees to be paid from non-IRA funds. This can present an advantage for IRA owners.

Martin's article details the factors that you should consider in deciding whether IRA

wrap fees should be paid from your IRA funds or from non-IRA funds.

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For more IRA information, visit our website at www.irahelp.com.

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Martin James, CPA/PFS

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