

The Bulletin

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Wealth Management
of
RAYMOND JAMES®



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From the Desk



Planning a Financial Legacy

Planning your legacy can be a tough topic, but it's a necessary one. Ensure you and your family are prepared by following these five steps:

- 1. Prioritize Your Goals**

Do you want to leave money for your children or spouse? Perhaps you'd like to donate a portion of your estate to charity. Identifying your priorities will help align your financial legacy with your vision and values.

- 2. Keep Your Will Up-to-Date**

Life happens. Save your heirs from probate by ensuring your will reflects major events like marriages, divorces, or the birth of grandchildren.

- 3. Plan for the Unpredictable**

Incorporate a living will and health care directives into your estate plan to designate someone you trust to make health decisions if you no longer can.

- 4. Choose the Right People**

Select trustworthy individuals for key roles, such as executors, trustees, or guardians for minor children. Be sure to name backups as well.

5. Minimize the Tax Burden

Consider trusts or joint ownership arrangements to reduce taxes on your estate and simplify asset transfers.

By following these steps, you'll be on the right track for effective estate planning. Regularly review your plan to ensure it reflects your wishes and adapts to changing laws or circumstances.

January Raymond James Longevity Planning Partner Feature:

EverSafe – Fraud Monitoring



Tailored identity theft protection
for your most important asset.

Raymond James is proud to be working with EverSafe® to help you protect your money, credit and identity.

Raymond James is proud to be working with EverSafe® to help you protect your money, credit and identity. EverSafe® can help keep you safe by monitoring your bank and investment accounts, credit cards and credit reports for signs of suspicious activity. On guard 24/7, EverSafe® uses comprehensive data analytics to build a personal profile based on your historical financial activity and detect activity that deviates from those patterns. In case of suspicious activity, EverSafe® will send you a personalized alert to address the issue immediately.



IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION AND MUCH MORE

EverSafe® offers a suite of essential services.

- Identity theft protection
- Financial account monitoring
- Trusted family/professional support
- Personalized alerts
- Specialized protection for seniors
- Fraud resolution/identity theft restoration

To learn more about the services EverSafe® proudly provides Raymond James clients, talk to your advisor.

CONSOLIDATED FAMILY DASHBOARD

EverSafe helps you stay on top of your family finances. All accounts. All institutions. All family members. All in one place. Extra bonus – notices about unpaid bills, changes in interest rates and more.

AN “EXTRA SET OF EYES” FEATURE

According to experts, monitoring is the most critical tool for detecting scams, fraud and identity theft. EverSafe enables you to designate family members, caregivers or trusted professionals to receive alerts and assist in monitoring.

SPECIALIZED PROTECTION FOR SENIORS

Developed by experienced professionals in aging and fraud, EverSafe’s enhanced algorithms provide deeper identity theft protection for seniors. Our age-friendly software supports powers of attorney, guardians, conservators and trusts.

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In the Spotlight



Over the holidays, Casey and his family spent some time soaking up the sun in Orlando with old friends and their kids while Jesse traveled to the great white north for some outdoor adventure with his family.



Articles



What you need to know about freezing your credit

As careful as you are with passwords, personal information, and privacy online, it's still possible to fall victim to identity theft. In the event of a data breach, you can fight back by freezing your credit to prevent criminal activity such as fraudulent credit card applications - even if your Social Security number or date of birth have been compromised.

Four Free and Easy Steps to Protect Yourself



2025 investing outlook

The year ahead may present challenges as markets and the economy look to maintain momentum.

With markets setting new records and the economy growing at a healthy pace, the question arises: Can 2024's positive momentum continue into 2025? Raymond James Chief Investment Officer Larry Adam shares 10 key themes to watch in the coming year. He anticipates challenges and volatility spikes, requiring careful portfolio decisions, but believes that the momentum will ultimately continue.

10 Key Themes To Watch



Financial resolutions for 2025

Start the new year right by reviewing and revamping your financial plan.

Instead of hauling out those familiar New Year's resolutions about keeping a journal or drinking more water, how about focusing on your financial well-being? Here's a set of resolutions that can help ensure your long-term financial confidence.

9 Resolutions for Financial Confidence



You've inherited a business. Now what?

It's a financial and emotional journey. Here's where to start.

Inheriting a business is an honor. But it can also weigh heavily on you. There's pressure to continue the legacy established before you and feel like you're doing right by your loved one. There's also the chance you inherited the business unexpectedly, which can be overwhelming. Hopefully, there were succession plans in place, you know the ins and outs of the business, and the team is familiar with your leadership.

Plan Your Next Move



Tax-efficient strategies for investment properties

Capital gains tax deferral on investment property sales

One of the benefits of purchasing property as an investment is the tax benefits that can come with it – both while you own it and after you sell. Applying tax-efficient strategies will help you make the most out of your investment property.

How to Defer Capital Gains Taxes



Don't Let Comfort Cost You: Status Quo Bias

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[Read More](#)

Market Recap

	12/29/23 Close	12/31/24* Close	Change Year to Date	% Gain/Loss Year to Date
DJIA	37,689.54	42,544.22	+4,854.68	+12.88%
NASDAQ	15,011.35	19,310.79	+4,299.44	+28.64%
S&P 500	4,769.83	5,881.63	+1,111.80	+23.31%
MSCI EAFE	2,241.21	2,259.60	+18.39	+0.82%
RUSSELL 2000	2,027.07	2,230.16	+203.09	+10.02%
BLOOMBERG AGGREGATE BOND	2,162.21	2,189.03	+26.82	+1.24%

*Performance reflects index values as of market close on December 31, 2024. Bloomberg Aggregate Bond and MSCI EAFE reflect December 30, 2024, closing values.

S&P 500 records its second straight year of 20% - plus gains

December's market activity highlights the need for caution in the near term.

Equity markets experienced a post-election rally with the S&P 500 crossing 6,000 for the first time on November 11 and finishing the month up 5.7%. The S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average each saw four all-time highs in November, driven by the market's belief that the incoming administration's economic agenda is pro-growth.

[See Full Market Update](#)

January Featured Cocktail



The Smoked Old Fashioned

- 2 ounces of your favorite bourbon
- 1 orange slice
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 Luxardo cherry
- 2 dashes Angostura bitters
- 1 gentlemen's cube of ice
- Smoking device such as the Smoking Gun

Muddle the orange slice, sugar, cherry and bitters. Add one gentlemen's cube of ice and 2 ounces high quality bourbon. Stir until sugar is dissolved. Add cherry chips to the Smoking Gun and fill the glass with smoke, then cover. Serve covered to allow smoke to settle. Cheers to a successful and memorable 2025!

Let's Connect!



Caring Relationships Begin Here

Let's Have a Conversation

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Keep in mind that individuals cannot invest directly in any index, and index performance does not include transaction costs or other fees, which will affect actual investment performance. Individual investor's results may vary.