



# ED SLOTT'S IRA ADVISOR

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## TAX & ESTATE PLANNING FOR YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS

### When Should Boomers Begin Collecting Social Security Benefits?

See pages 6-8

*"The banks are too big to fail and the man in the street is too small to bail"*

*-John C. Bogle,  
Founder of Vanguard Funds*

The banking and mortgage mess has people worried about the safety of their savings, including their retirement accounts. Your clients may be moving IRA funds to make sure their money is insured either through FDIC limits or through other insurance carried by brokerage firms. But you must be careful to monitor all transfers of IRA funds because of the rollover rules that could trigger taxation and penalties on the distribution. Our feature article *"Safeguarding IRAs in Turbulent Times - FDIC and SIPC Protection for IRA Funds"* shows you how to keep IRAs insured without causing the loss of the IRA funds to premature taxation.

The Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax (HEART) Act of 2008 was signed into law by the President on June 17, 2008. Among a host of other provisions designed to help our soldiers, the new tax law also contains a few retirement provisions that could

benefit your clients in the military. Our article *"Retirement Tax Benefits for Members of the Military"* includes the provisions you should know about.

*We are proud to announce....*

**Marvin R. Rotenberg has joined our company!**

Some of you long time readers might recognize that Marvin, a seasoned IRA expert, was the very first "Guest IRA Expert" to be featured in our newsletter over 10 years ago. Some of the very first IRA seminars I ever did were with Marvin. Marvin was the former Director of Individual Retirement Services at Bank of America's Personal Retirement Solutions group and now Marvin will be doing his IRA speaking, writing and consulting for us and we welcome him.

**How to keep IRAs insured without causing the loss of the IRA funds to premature taxation**

Once again Marvin Rotenberg is this month's Guest IRA Expert. His article *"When Should Boomers Begin Collecting Social Security Benefits?"* is one of the rare articles in this newsletter not about IRAs, but it addresses one of the essential retirement questions that every one of your Baby Boomer clients will be asking you.



For more IRA information, visit our website at [www.ira-help.com](http://www.ira-help.com).

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### WHAT'S INSIDE?

#### Feature Article

**Safeguarding IRAs in Turbulent Times**

**FDIC and SIPC Protection for IRA Funds**

- Fine Points of FDIC Coverage
- Caution When Moving IRA Funds
- Checks Can Qualify as Trustee-to-Trustee Transfers
- IRS Regulation Section 1.401(a)(31)-1, Q & A -4
- FDIC Protection is Not for Investments

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**Retirement Tax Benefits for Members of the Military**

- 10% Early Distribution Penalty Exception Made Permanent
- Tracking IRA Repayments
- Contributing Military Death Benefits to a Roth IRA
- Other Plan Provisions

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#### Guest IRA Expert

**Marvin R. Rotenberg  
IRA Consultant/Speaker  
Ed Slott and Company, LLC**

**When Should Boomers Begin Collecting Social Security Benefits?**

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