



# ED SLOTT'S IRA ADVISOR

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## TAX & ESTATE PLANNING FOR YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS

### 2009 Retirement Plan Contribution Limits Chart

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*"My father expressly did not want my mother to have another red cent after their divorce was final. There's no doubt in my mind that he wanted me to have everything he had."*

*-Kari Kennedy (the disinherited daughter)*

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that Kari Kennedy gets nothing. Her deceased father's \$402,000 company plan balance goes to his ex-spouse because she was named on the beneficiary form and he never changed it after the divorce. Our feature article *"Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Ex-Spouse"* makes it clear that checking beneficiary forms is essential since the beneficiary named on the beneficiary form is who will get paid after death. Check beneficiary forms NOW!

2009 required minimum distributions have been suspended, but there is still much confusion on exactly how these rules apply. In our article *"2009 RMD Suspension Q & A"* we provide answers to the questions we have received the most on the new provision. Chances are that you have been receiving these same questions from your clients, so now you have the answers.

Even though there are no RMDs for 2009, they will resume. When they do, IRS wants to step up compliance to make sure that the distributions are being made properly and timely. IRS has issued a memo titled *"Employee Plans Compliance Unit Looks at IRA Minimum Distribution Compliance"* which we have reproduced. One striking fact is that over 90% of the IRA Project cases to date have required correction.

This month's Guest IRA Expert is Leo K. Casper, CPA/PFS, owner of Leo K. Casper, CPA and Comprehensive Financial Planning Services, LLC located in Moorestown, New Jersey. Leo's article *"401(k) Rollover Mistakes - How a Bad Situation Becomes Worse"* is as timely as ever because these mistakes are rampant and devastating. Layoffs are massive and layoffs mean rollovers. The only thing worse than losing a job though, is losing chunks of the retirement plan money to totally avoidable mistakes. Leo's article is a must read for every financial advisor, so you can ensure that your clients' rollovers are handled correctly, just when they need the money the most.

**Layoffs mean rollovers... and costly rollover mistakes.**

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

Ed Slott, CPA  
100 Merrick Road, Suite 200E  
Rockville Centre, NY 11570

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#### Guest IRA Expert

Leo K. Casper, CPA/PFS  
Owner, Leo K. Casper, CPA and Comprehensive Financial Planning Services, LLC  
Moorestown, New Jersey

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