



East Bay Council News

September 2010

President's Message

Welcome to the 2010-2011 year for the East Bay Estate Planning Council! I hope that you had a delightful summer.

2011 is around the corner, so we will have tax law change, whether or not Congress acts. The question is - will we revert to the old law, see an extension of the existing law, or something else. Only time will tell. Thus, it is as important as ever to stay up to date on the law and to learn how it may impact our respective practices. The East Bay Estate Planning Council offers a venue and professional network to stay well informed.

Jesse Walden, our Vice President and Program Chair, has been diligently working on the upcoming programs all summer. He is putting together a great lineup. However, if you have an idea for a wonderful topic and speaker, please let Jesse or me know. The Council is here for its members, and we welcome your input.

In addition to our monthly speaker programs, we will again offer a January networking event. Planning is in the works and details will follow.

We will kick off the year with a Market Update from Brian Pretti of The Mechanics Bank. Mr. Pretti is an insightful and entertaining speaker, so invite a colleague and plan on attending our meeting on September 13th. I hope to see you there.

-Margaret Zywicz

"Market Update - A Dose of Realism"

The market goes up the market goes down. Besides hating that last part, it can also raise havoc with our client's estate and life style plans. This month's speaker, besides a market update, will look beyond the headlines and volatility at two of the root causes.

We are pleased to have **Brian Pretti** from Mechanics Bank with us for the September meeting. Brian is a Senior Vice President and heads

the investment management group at the bank. Prior to that, Brian ran an institutional asset management firm. He holds an MBA, CFA and CFP designations.

As part of his market update he will focus on two areas which he calls "The Tale of Two Economies" and "The Death of Socialism". The tale of two economies will explore the relationship between large S&P 500 companies, the small business community, jobs, personal income, and housing. If that was not enough, the death of socialism looks at entitlements, government social benefits, state and local pensions and paying for all of the above.

These two issues have both immediate and long term planning consequences. They will be drivers of into future legislation and taxation. These in turn will have a profound effect on retirement and estate transfers as the "new normal" kicks in. As Brian has mentioned, not bright and cheery but very important.

Monday, September 13, 2010

Scott's Seafood Restaurant

Jack London Square
Oakland

6:00 PM Wine Reception
6:30 PM Dinner Meeting

\$35.00 paid in advance
\$40.00 at the door

Please make your **check** payable to "EBEPC" and mail to:
781 McKean Place
Concord 94518

Or for **credit cards**:

<https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebepec>

Or call 925.686.4819
before 1 PM on
Thursday, Sept. 9th

Meeting Sponsored By:

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