

WEEKLY MARKET COMMENTARY

For the Week of October 5, 2015

THE MARKETS

Following a month of global market turbulence, Wall Street saw a sharp turnaround last week. A robust rally in energy and materials stocks caused stock indexes to jump over 1 percent on Friday. For the week, the Dow rose 0.99 percent to close at 16,472.37. The S&P gained 1.10 percent to finish at 1,951.36, and the NASDAQ climbed 0.45 percent to end the week at 4,707.78.

Returns Through 10/02/15	1 Week	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Dow Jones Industrials (TR)	0.99	-5.85	0.45	9.57	11.55
NASDAQ Composite (PR)	0.45	-0.60	6.27	14.70	14.71
S&P 500 (TR)	1.10	-3.72	2.36	12.88	13.61
Barclays US Agg Bond (TR)	0.68	1.46	2.89	1.78	3.16
MSCI EAFE (TR)	0.66	-3.86	-4.90	5.82	4.20

Source: Morningstar.com. *Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. Three- and five-year returns are annualized. The Dow Jones Industrials, MSCI EAFE, Barclays US Agg Bond and S&P, excluding "1 Week" returns, are based on total return, which is a reflection of return to an investor by reinvesting dividends after the deduction of withholding tax. The NASDAQ is based on price return, which is the capital appreciation of the portfolio, excluding income generated by the assets in the portfolio in the form of interest and dividends. (TR) indicates total return. (PR) indicates price return. MSCI EAFE returns stated in U.S. dollars.

Long-Term vs. Short-Term — The all-time closing high for the S&P 500 was 2,131 on May 21, 2015. The average return for the index for the three years ending May 31, 2015, was 19.7 percent per year (total return), twice as large as the 9.9 percent per year average for the index over the last 50 years (1965-2014) (Source: BTN Research).

Right Before It Turned — Before beginning a bull market run that started in March 2009, the S&P 500 closed at a bear market low of 677 on March 9, 2009. The average return for the index for the two years ending Feb. 28, 2009, (just nine days before the bottom) was a loss of 26.1 percent per year (total return) (source: BTN Research).

Huge — The U.S. stock market was worth \$24.7 trillion as of June 30, 2015. The S&P 500 made up 78 percent of the total U.S. stock market capitalization as of June 30, 2015, equal to \$19.2 trillion (source: BTN Research).

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WEEKLY FOCUS – Creating a Digital Estate Plan

As National Estate Planning Awareness Week (Oct. 19-25) approaches, it's a good time to ensure your estate plan is current and comprehensive. Although it is often overlooked, including a digital estate plan that addresses financial and social digital assets is becoming increasingly important.

To get started, compile a list of important files and photos you have on your phone, desktop, laptop or flash drives; in a cloud; or on backup CDs or DVDs. Sketch out the folders where they are kept. Then create an inventory of any bank, brokerage, retirement plan, credit card, loan or insurance accounts you access online. Include information on how to access any financial software you use. If you have any intellectual property, an online store or valuable domain names, remember to delineate what you want done with them.

Even though many states do not recognize digital executors, you can still name a trusted individual (perhaps a son or daughter who is particularly adept with technology) to follow your wishes or at least help your traditional executor. Make a comprehensive list of essential passwords and PIN numbers for that individual. For security sake, store the list in a safety deposit box or use an online storage service created for this purpose, such as Everplans. Do not include passwords in your will, since it will become a public document when you die.

Next, make a to-do list outlining how you want your online social assets handled. You may choose to have your Facebook profile deleted or memorialized after your death. If you prefer to keep it active, you can designate a "legacy contact" to manage it. Google's Inactive Account Manager lets you tell the company what to do with your Gmail, Blogger, YouTube and other accounts when you depart.

If you want to leave some sort of digital message after your death, you might ask someone to post a photo album chronicling your life on Flickr or a personal video to your YouTube channel. You can write final letters to family and friends on sites like Afterwords and My Goodbye Message. To Loved Ones allows users to schedule messages to be sent on birthdays, anniversaries or other special occasions.

We can work closely with your tax and estate professionals to make sure your estate plan addresses a changing landscape. Call our office to schedule a meeting of your advisor team.



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* The Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted index of 30 actively traded blue-chip stocks. NASDAQ Composite Index is an unmanaged, market-weighted index of all over-the-counter common stocks traded on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System. The Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australia and Far East Index (MSCI EAFE Index) is a widely recognized benchmark of non-U.S. stock markets. It is an unmanaged index composed of a sample of companies representative of the market structure of 20 European and Pacific Basin countries and includes reinvestment of all dividends. Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index is an unmanaged index comprised of U.S. investment-grade, fixed-rate bond market securities, including government, government agency, corporate and mortgage-backed securities between one and 10 years. Written by Securities America. SAI#1317140.1