PLAN YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDEBOOK TO GROWING YOUR NET WORTH

SECOND EDITION

Keith R. Fevurly

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Plan Your Financial Future: A Comprehensive Guidebook to Growing Your Net Worth

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Printed on acid-free paper

This book is dedicated to Vivian Louise,
my own personal reason for wealth management
and accumulation.

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About the Author

Keith R. Fevurly is an investment advisor with Integra Financial and a senior lecturer in finance at Metropolitan State University of Denver. He also conducts a private practice in estate planning in Centennial, Colorado. Previously he served as the vice president of education at the College for Financial Planning in Denver, Colorado and served as the executive director of Kaplan Financial's financial-planning program. Dr. Fevurly has assisted in the financial education of approximately 50,000 financial planners and authored more than 20 refereed articles on financial planning. For more than 20 years, he was a member of the Editorial Review Board of the *Journal of Financial Planning*, the major academic and professional journal for personal financial planners; and he has written proprietary textbooks on investment planning, income-tax planning, and estate planning for Kaplan University. He is a licensed attorney in Colorado and Kansas and has been a CFP certificant since 1986.

Foreword to the First Edition

It is my pleasure to write this foreword to *Plan Your Financial Future* by my friend and associate Keith Fevurly, MBA, JD, Esq., LLM (Taxation), CFP. I have my own successful financial-planning firm, Integra Financial, in Greenwood Village, Colorado, and have $40 million of assets under management [editor note: now over $50 million as of March 2018]. Every day, Integra Financial addresses and solves the financial-planning issues discussed by Keith in this book for a roster of upper-middle-class and upper-class families. From his ability to teach financial planning in CFP classes to his prowess at analyzing complex investment, retirement, and estate-tax issues, Keith's expertise is unsurpassed. He boils down complex issues and explains them in terms that both our clients and you can understand.

In this book, Keith describes a novel way of analyzing and putting into place the personal financial-planning process, which he entitles the PADD process. The first step in this process is protecting yourself, your family, and your property. Next comes accumulating wealth, a section that will likely be of the most interest to a broad range of consumers and those who are engaged in financial planning in order to achieve financial independence. Third, Keith looks at the defense of accumulated wealth, notably discussing income-tax planning, with taxes being one of the two great "usurpers" of wealth (the other being the impact of inflation). Finally, Keith takes up the "fun" part of the financial-planning process: the distribution of accumulated wealth during an individual's lifetime, notably retirement, as well as at death, which is the date of focus for most estate-planning techniques. Keith also provides a glossary of financial-planning terms at the conclusion of the book and cross-references these terms in each chapter by boldfacing them. Although there are no guarantees in life, particularly in today's volatile economic marketplace, if you follow the process outlined in this book, you will have a more-likely-than-not chance of accumulating and preserving wealth during your lifetime.

It is our hope that this book will give you a level of comfort about your financial future. I like to say that my retired and debt-free clients live not only in different neighborhoods than those who are struggling financially but on different planets. Using the strategies presented in this book, with or without a good financial advisor, can help you to live on a different planet with the few others who actually achieve financial success. That is a rare feat in today's marketplace!

Willis G. Ashby, CFP
Integra Financial, Inc.
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Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Willis G. Ashby, CFP, for writing the foreword to the original edition of this book. I also would like to thank all the financial planners and wealth managers I have taught over the years. To be an effective teacher, the instructor should learn at least as much from his students as he teaches them. I can honestly say that has been my experience!

Thank you also to the Apress Business team, particularly Morgan Ertel and Rita Fernando. You folks are the best!

Preface

A number of events have occurred since the publishing of the first edition of *Plan Your Financial Future: a Comprehensive Guidebook to Growing Your Net Worth* in 2013, most notably the election of a new President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, in 2016. In that vein, major new tax legislation was passed and signed into law by President Trump on December 22, 2017: the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, identified in this edition by the abbreviation *TCJA of 2017* or *2017 TCJA*. The second edition fully updates the content to reflect relevant changes made by the TCJA of 2017 as well as experience to date with the implementation of another piece of major legislation, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPA), commonly known as *Obamacare*.

As before, this book is intended for the educated consumer as well as the financial-planning or services professional. If you are engaged in your own personal financial planning (the "educated consumer"), you will find the contents of the book invaluable as you seek to establish and grow your wealth. Alternatively, if you are a financial planner or advisor (the "financial-planning or services professional"), you will find the content to be helpful in assisting clients whom you are advising. You may even see the need to have your client purchase the book in the planning and advising process! If so, the book can be purchased online at the Apress web site, www.apress.com, or at the Amazon web site.

Also, as in the original edition, I provide a glossary of financial-planning terms at the conclusion of the book and cross-reference these terms in each chapter by boldfacing the applicable term.

Finally, I have attempted diligently to catch and remove any technical and grammatical errors in this (and the original) edition. However, I bear sole responsibility for any errors that may still be present in this edition. To that end, I beg your indulgence!

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Centennial, Colorado
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