

MEG & GREEN *Associates*

FINANCIAL PLANNING • INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

October 13, 2008

Dear Client and Friend,

Although we've spoken to so many of you these last couple of weeks, I wanted to personally reach out to each of you to share my thoughts and perhaps hold your hand a little bit. These are frightening times for everyone, as uncertainty breeds fear, and fear, like it's counterpart greed, can motivate the best of us to make decisions we may one day regret. Or fear can keep us frozen. Either way, it doesn't feel good.

This may go down as The Era of Comeuppance. The easy, cheap money is gone for now, and this credit crisis is creating a massive and necessary deflation of bloated assets. As debt became the worldwide "currency", and governments, corporations and many individual consumers spent way above their means, new "investments" based on mortgage backed securities were derived by the financial institutions to continue the charade. Well, we've come to our time of reckoning. These derivatives are coming unglued, and the house of cards has crumbled. With no available credit, the economy can't function, which is causing panic for many, as they wonder where the bottom is. There always is a bottom, you know. And great bull markets historically have risen time and again out of what we always thought were the lowest of the lows. It's just the timing no one knows.

Interestingly, according to The Wall Street Journal this weekend, almost one in 10 companies in the S&P has more cash per share than the current value of that share on Friday. Think about that. Out of this rubble may come potential promise. The world monetary systems are working together to do what must be done to stop the bleeding by rushing cash into the system, in one way or another. I believe once the election is behind us and much dust has settled, a clearer picture will emerge, and there's a lot to embrace as we move forward. I'm hopeful for energy independence and the jobs that come with it, as well as repairing our neglected infrastructure, healthcare and educational systems. Perhaps a kinder, more humble nation might emerge. It's all about being able to wait it out, financially and emotionally. This will take time and much change. To quote a semantics professor I once had, "Change demands a temporary surrender of security." We're all feeling it. Know that you're not alone.

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Right now the world is taking a deep breath, as we all are, looking to see what each day will bring. Last Friday the Dow swung 1000 points; as of this writing, the market is flying. We expect these wild swings to continue for a while. Don't let these gyrations throw you, if you can help it. Don't let your sense of humor go. That's what keeps us healthy. Do your best to breathe. Take walks, watch silly movies and turn off CNBC for a day or two. Remember, you cannot control events. You can only control your response to them. Don't hesitate to call us anytime, even if we just spoke yesterday. Although we don't have all the answers, we can certainly talk through all your questions and help you come to a thoughtful, personal plan of action, if necessary.

Have faith, be positive and stay well. We'll get through this together.

With my warmest regards,

Meg Green, CFP®

*Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Investing involves risk including the potential loss of principal.