

### President's Message

Estate planning in today's environment is complicated by the fact that we are not sure what to expect in the future. This is especially true when planning to minimize the estate tax. Will we ever see a \$5.12 estate and gift tax exemption again? How long will we have to live with the \$1 million exemption that starts in 2013? If they later increase the exemption will they make the increase retroactive? Will portability continue?

With all of these unknowns, October's topic - \$5.12M Lifetime Exemption: Too Good to Last! - is just what the doctor ordered. I've been told that our speaker Patrick A. Kohlmann is a popular and seasoned presenter, and so don't miss this! This is where your membership really pays off.

Speaking of membership, if you have not paid your dues for the current year, remember that the deadline for dues is soon. If you want to ensure that you are included in the annual membership directory we need to hear from you now!

Finally, a message for those of you who are Members At Large: Don't let your membership lapse! If you do, you may not be able to immediately rejoin. Our current bylaws limit "Members At Large" to 15% of our membership. And right now we have a waiting list for the "Member At Large" category. All of our other categories - lawyer, CPA, CFP, CLU, Trust Officers and Private Fiduciaries - are open. In fact if you know someone in one of these other categories, invite them as a guest and encourage them to join.  
*See you on October 18<sup>th</sup>!*

**Paula Leibovitz Goodwin, Esq.,**  
President 2012-2013

## "\$5.12M Life Exemption: Too Good to Last"

**Join us Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> for: "\$5.12M Lifetime Exemption: Too Good to Last!"**

The federal estate tax has had quite a history, first originating in 1797 and stabilizing in form in 1916. How did we get into this situation? How similar may 2013 be to 2010? What should you discuss with your clients before year end? Let's explore some not so obvious strategies to make gifts using seldom considered provisions within the California Probate Code.

**Patrick A. Kohlmann** JD, CPA specializes in the areas of trust and decedent's estate administration and related litigation, estate planning, business planning, and tax planning. Patrick is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), a Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law, and is licensed as a CPA by the California State Board of Accountancy. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the State Bar of California, Trusts and Estates Section, and is actively involved in the monitoring, drafting, and critiquing of legislation which affects trusts and estates practitioners. He is rated

**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Lafayette Park Hotel  
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette, CA

6:00 P.M. Wine and Registration

6:30 P.M. Dinner and Speaker

**Member Cost: \$45.00 dinner (preregister)  
\$50.00 (at the door)**

**Guest Cost: \$50.00 dinner (preregister)  
\$60.00 (at the door)**

*Reservations and cancellations must be received  
by Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.  
to be assured of a reservation.*

Please send your check today!

or

Pay with a credit card online

<https://www.123signup.com/event?id=syjfj>

Questions? Call Krysta at 925.935.9691

AV® Preeminent<sup>®</sup> by Martindale Hubbell. Patrick is a frequent lecturer at professional education programs for the State Bar of California, the California Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB), CalCPA, and many other professional organizations. He has published a variety of articles on estate planning, probate, and trust law, including "The Trust Creditors Claims Procedure: To Do or Not To Do, That Is The Question" published in the California Trusts and Estates Quarterly, Vol.17, Issue 1, Spring 2011, and "Carrying on in 2010: The Modified Carryover Basis Regime and Complying With Reporting Requirements" published in the California Trusts and Estates Quarterly, Vol.16, Issue 1, Spring 2010.