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*“Someone’s sitting in the shade today
because someone planted a tree a long time ago.”*
Warren Buffett

Dear _____

I hope this letter and your quarterly statement find you doing well and enjoying the cooler, fall weather. Summer has gone quickly, and it’s hard to believe that we will be preparing for winter next! Please make sure you take time to enjoy the cool nights and colorful leaves that we get to enjoy this time of year. I just want to express my thanks and my appreciation for how each of you have welcomed me to the Tucker Financial family! I sincerely enjoyed our Client Appreciation Dinner in September, and seeing you all again. My wife, Amy, loved having the chance to meet some of you for the first time! We are blown away by how warm and kind everyone has been to us in every way! I really mean what I said at the dinner: “With the best team in the world and the best clients in the world, things are great!” I thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

Economic and Market Update

The US Economy continues to operate on very solid footing, despite all the negativity coming out of Washington DC. The economy is growing nicely at about 2.5-3% per quarter, inflation remains low, and jobs continue to be created at a healthy pace. On top of that positive picture, corporate earnings in the US are growing faster than over the past 2 years, and earnings for the S&P 500 companies have set another record this year. If you can ignore the noise, I might be tempted to describe the current economy as a “Goldilocks Economy”; not too hot, not too cold, but “just right”. The stock market has been performing well in this environment and added some gains this quarter on top of solid performance in the first half of the year. The bond markets have also continued to be stable, even though we know that returns for bonds are likely to be low over the next few years. We also know that this smooth ride cannot continue forever, and that dips and pullbacks are a normal part of investing for the long-term. Always has been and always will be! While we are overdue for a normal correction or dip of 7-15%, no one can predict when those may happen or how much longer it could be before one happens. So, we stay the course, have the correct asset allocation, keep fees low, and have broad diversification in high quality funds and companies. With this formula, in the long-run, we know that peaks and valleys will happen along the way, but in the end, we will recover from these and reach our goals if we stay on track!

What could go right; what could go wrong?

One of the major worries in the markets, and in the country really, is all the sharp rhetoric between the US and North Korea. Thus far, leaders have kept this growing conflict to a “war of words” and the markets have had little lasting reaction to this situation which bears continued monitoring. Our hearts also go out to the millions of people suffering from the hurricanes that ravaged Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the surrounding areas. Many there are still suffering and it will take years to fully recover. We are also very heartbroken over the recent tragedy in Las Vegas. Please keep the families of all those affected in your hearts and in your prayers. As far as it relates to your investments, always remember that while these events have a major impact on those directly affected, the markets have a long history of taking world events, conflicts, and natural disasters in stride and recovering fairly quickly as we keep focused on the long-term and stay the course.

One major area that could bring real positives is in regards to proposals to cut tax for corporations and individuals. This would provide further justification for the rally that the stock market has experienced since last November. If passed, corporate earnings would rise as companies would pay less in taxes. This in turn should lead to even stronger economic growth as companies hire, increase dividends, and undertake projects to grow their companies. So, with a mix of things that could go wrong and could go right, we remain steadfastly positive on the long-term for the markets overall.

Our Continued Focus

Some of the ways we are working to add value for you, our client, include things like emphasizing dividends even more than usual during this time of low Bond/Fixed Income returns. We also work to add value by monitoring your investment holdings and your allocation between stocks, bonds, and alternatives to make sure your portfolio matches well with both your long-term goals and your risk tolerance. This should help ensure you aren't tempted to panic when we have unavoidable volatility in the markets. Maybe the biggest way we strive to add value is by constantly working hard to put you first! We hope that overriding principal comes through loud and clear to each one of you. We truly value each of you as clients, and are here to serve you in any way we can. Please don't hesitate to call anytime or schedule an appointment to discuss any concerns or questions you have. Have a wonderful Fall season!

All the Best,

Chris Jackson, AFIM
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Other News & Notes:

Tom & Kathy welcomed Noah, their new Golden Retriever, to the family on September 23rd and are working on training him and acclimating him to his new home. In the new year, hopefully you can stop by to meet him in person!



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As many of you know, Tom has been struggling with back and leg issues, and had outpatient back surgery for Spinal Stenosis on October 5th. Thank you for your concerns and prayers as we are hopeful for relief from pain and a speedy and full recovery and rehab for Tom!