



Office of the Mayor Savannah, Georgia

Edna Branch Jackson
Mayor

April 13, 2015

Insured Retirement Institute
1101 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 825
Washington, DC 20005

Dear IRI Members:

On behalf of the Savannah City Council, I extend greetings to the members of the Insured Retirement Institute (IRI) in acknowledgement of your 2015 National Retirement Planning Week observance.

I commend the IRI for raising awareness about the importance of planning for retirement. It is estimated that 10,000 Baby Boomers are about to enter their retirement year, yet many are not sure about their financial future. Many people today rely on their own savings to provide for their financial security in retirement. With a unique set of challenges emerging including changes in employee benefits, longer life spans as well as the rising cost of health care, preparing for retirement has become increasingly more difficult. A countless number of consumers are unaware of the financial challenges ahead and are unprepared for their retirement years.

The latest research findings from the IRI have showed that the confidence of Baby Boomers in their financial preparations for retirement is steadily dripping – with barely a quarter optimistic about their situation in 2015. I feel there is a growing need to educate citizens about retirement planning. Carving some time out on a routine basis to review one's finances and assess one's financial preparedness for retirement is an achievable first step.

Being proactive about retirement planning and seeking professional guidance when necessary can help individuals achieve financial freedom. Crafting a holistic financial plan for retirement can restore confidence and build savings for those post-working years. Developing a comprehensive retirement plan is an important step that will lead many individuals to save more and ultimately achieve a financially secure future.

As Mayor of Savannah, I urge local citizens to use this time to develop, review and/or revise their retirement plans with the tools and help available at www.RetireOnYourTerms.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edna Branch Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Edna Branch Jackson
Mayor