

Monday, December 4, 2017

Good Morning, Patriots!

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Happy markets

Despite polling nonsense, the “Trump Effect” moves forward. Since the market close on 11/8/2016, one year later the gains are phenomenal, adding \$6.1 trillion in market value.

The DOW leapt from 18,000 to 24,000, UP 31.88%; the S&P went UP 23.15%; and the NASDAQ shot UP 31.39%! And the revised Third Quarter, 2017 GDP gained 3.3%.

“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas” for 401Ks...

Shakedown

Steadily losing its fan base, the National Football League remains oblivious to its purpose.

The NFL recently committed \$89 million as a payoff to their *kneelers* – the money marked for “social justice” causes, i.e., the Democrat Party and coffers of its many “community organizer” surrogate organizations.

Forty NFL players negotiated the deal with NFL management. “The league will create an environment acceptable to players” over a period of ten years, said the NFL players’ union.

How about making the NFL “acceptable” to the *spectators* who pay to experience their favorite pastime and concentrate on your core purpose – **football**.

Wouldn’t that be better than caving to a progressive Jesse Jackson-style shakedown?

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Another week of frustration...

Two quick takes

Two items stand out from last week’s flurry of news and events; the first moves President Trump’s tax cut agenda forward and the second poses a threat to citizens’ safety and our nation’s security.

Senate Tax Plan Passes, 51-43

Settling on seven tax rate “brackets” instead of four as in the House version, here are some highlights of the Senate’s tax plan, benefiting some and not others:

- The Standard Deduction is set at \$12,000 for single filers and \$24,000 for joint filers
- It ends the Obamacare Individual Mandate Penalty (not in the House version); an oppressive tax on Obamacare non-participants
- The AMT (Alternative Minimum Tax) is removed
- Top marginal rate drops to 38.5% (versus the House at the current 39.6%)
- The corporate tax rate drops to 20%
- Repatriation of corporate cash at 10%; repatriation of investments at 5%

Passed just after 2:00 a.m. on December 1st, the Senate tax plan now moves to the House for conference committee discussion and reconciliation of the two bills.

It’s not “tax reform” but a massage of rates and compromises in an attempt to make every donor and every lobbyist happy. Most taxpayers get a little, but not much; some get an increase. The “flat tax” and “fair tax” ideas were brushed aside again in favor of the status quo. As long as the myth of “revenue neutral” persists, substantial redesign from the progressive tax nightmare will remain elusive.

Criminal aliens & border security

The acquittal of criminal illegal alien Jose Garcia Zarate on three felony counts in a San Francisco courtroom last Friday sent waves of anger across the nation.

Zarate killed Kate Steinle in 2015 and is the reason for the existence of a congress-

sional bill named “Kate’s Law.” One count he *was* convicted of, firearm possession by a felon, carries a penalty roughly matching his “time served.” This seven-time felon and five-time deportee is one screaming example for the abolition of sanctuary cities. The sheriff in San Francisco (“I’m the first... to say ‘No’ to ICE!”) put him back on the streets and Kate Steinle died.

This criminal alien said he favored San Francisco because it was a *sanctuary city*. Steinle died due to that city’s policy passed in 1989. During the Obama Regime, 80% of illegal aliens crossing the border were put “out of bounds” for deportation. Aside from Zarate’s five deports, how many other times could he have been given a pass to continue adding to his seven felonies?

It’s not just the miscarriage of justice that has many Americans outraged. Veteran ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) agents are also in an uproar.

According to the National ICE Council website, “While officers view the president’s position on enforcement as courageous, the Trump administration has left all of the Obama managers and leadership in place... tensions are on the rise between Trump’s army and the Obama holdovers.” This is a serious problem; the new rules are in place (*enforce the laws*) but the “shadow government” will not allow them to be carried out. Detainees are once more set free.

ICE agents killed in the line of duty now numbers 162, but when ICE agents were entering a neighborhood in Philadelphia known for illegals they were told by management to remove their bullet-proof vests. Why? Because presence of the vests “might raise tensions in the community.” Or a *community organizer* said “No.”

We Be People



ABC shed tears of disappointment at a failed “fake news” attempt on the significance of the Flynn plea of lying to the FBI. The network even had to suspend correspondent Brian Ross for four weeks without pay due to his misreporting on Flynn. Yet Robert Mueller’s progressive witch hunt grinds on in its desperate attempt to take down President Donald Trump.

Desperation causes devastating effects, however, when a crime *must* be found. A retired U.S. Army general has had his life destroyed and his family abused due to the progressives’ frustration with failure. If Donald Trump cannot be found guilty of an impeachable offense to nullify his election to the presidency, then his surrogates must be sacrificed. They’re guilty of *something* that touched President Trump’s “collusion” plot.

Lt. General Michael Flynn gave up from frustration, beaten down by the special counsel’s harassment and crushing expense for defense attorneys, and pled guilty of speaking untruth to the FBI. There is no crime in the national security advisor of an elected president speaking to any foreign dignitary, *even a Russian*, during the presidential “transition” period. Barack Obama’s surrogates did it, as have other president-elects’ advisors. But there was no reason for Flynn to lie to the FBI if he met with foreign officials during transition.

Every avenue possible has been used to separate Donald Trump from the presidency and down every alley progressives find a dead end. A special prosecutor has come up empty handed and is resorting to prosecuting former Trump associates for “process crimes.” When one cannot find evidence of a criminal nature, the only option is accusing the supposed perpetrator for uncrossed “Ts” and undotted “Is.” A memory misstep is cause for prosecution and media frenzy.

Nothing has been found, even on recorded surveillance tapes during the monitoring of the Trump transition team by the Obama Regime intelligence agencies. Lt. Gen. Flynn will be tried on the “Martha Stewart offense” but, otherwise, there’s no “there” there... no collusion.

Now stop wasting taxpayers’ money.



Another progressive money-laundering operation?

CFPB exposed

This last summer, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, or CFPB, came under scrutiny by the Trump Treasury Department for “regulatory abuses and excesses.” The CFPB was created by the Obama Regime under the Dodd-Frank Act, designed by radical Senator Elizabeth Warren when she was an advisor to Barack Obama. It’s been used as a political weapon to intimidate businesses ideologically opposed by the hard Left. It has little to do with “consumer protection.”

Trump’s treasury claimed the bureau had “...hindered consumer choice and access to credit, limited innovation, and imposed undue compliance burdens, particularly on small institutions.” It has been devastatingly effective in its strangulation of small business start-ups through restrictions and compliance regulations.

On November 26, the editorial board of the *Wall Street Journal* printed this, under the title of “Richard Cordray’s Political Stunt”: “The episode shows that the hostility to Mr. Trump is causing his opponents to violate the rule of law themselves. Democrats created an executive branch agency insulated from Congressional appropriations and presidential control, and now they claim to be able to run it like a branch of government unto itself with a self-sustaining directorship. This is a perversion of constitutional government that the President is right to resist and the courts should reject.”

And “perversion” is the correct description. The director of the CFPB, Richard Cordray, was unanswerable to a board and could not be removed. He had the power to designate his own successor and, in effect, could determine a line of succession. CFPB’s very existence is improper, since it’s funded through the Federal Reserve, not Congress. Therefore, it is beyond the reach of congressional budgetary or regulatory control. It’s creation in 2010 under Dodd-Frank was radically unconstitutional.

When Cordray announced his resignation the day after Thanksgiving, leaving eight months early, he named his chief of

staff, Leandra English, as the agency’s deputy director, so she could be his successor under Dodd-Frank.

President Trump exercised his authority under law and appointed OMB Director Mick Mulvaney as interim director of the CFPB. Democrats went ballistic to keep Obama’s policies intact, so Leandra English filed a lawsuit challenging President Trump. Last Tuesday U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly denied her request for a restraining order on Mick Mulvaney.

Leandra English lost her bid to assume the position of director of the CFPB. Mick Mulvaney will be interim director of the CFPB until President Trump selects a new candidate for director. Even the general counsel of the CFPB says the president is correct and the lawsuit against Mulvaney was frivolous.

Once Mick Mulvaney dives into the records at the CFPB he will likely need oxygen to ward off shock at the depth of money laundering by the “unaccountable” agency. As with the Obama Regime’s \$800 billion “Stimulus” Act, and the fines collected by his DOJ, money gathered by the CFPB didn’t exactly make it back to the U.S. Treasury. Mulvaney will discover it went to progressive activist groups and leftist organizations, just as labor unions benefited from the 2009 stimulus (slush) funds.

The CFPB repeatedly oversteps its bounds. Prohibited from collecting data on consumers, it does so anyway. It has been exposed as a rogue agency, responsible to no one, and an unaccountable agency has no place in our republic. Its existence undermines both executive and congressional powers and it needs to be terminated, not, as Trump stated, “...brought back to life.”

Don’t resurrect the CFPB President Trump; let interim director Mulvaney build the case and lay it out for you.

Then abolish it and repair the damage.

Enough!
READ THE CONSTITUTION