SOCIAL SECURITY

- **CALENDAR 2013 EARNINGS LIMITS**
  - UNDER FULL RETIREMENT AGE -- $15,120. BENEFITS REDUCED $1 FOR EVERY $2 OVER THE LIMIT.
  - YEAR YOU REACH FULL RETIREMENT AGE -- $40,080. BENEFITS REDUCED $1 FOR EVERY $3 OVER THE LIMIT UNTIL THE MONTH YOU REACH FULL RETIREMENT AGE.
  - AT FULL RETIREMENT AGE OR OLDER -- NO LIMIT ON EARNINGS.
  - SPECIAL MONTHLY RULE (1ST YEAR OF RETIREMENT ONLY).

- **ESTIMATING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT (IF BORN IN 1951 OR LATER)**
  - HIGHEST 35 YEARS OF EARNINGS (UP TO MAXIMUM EACH YEAR) FROM 1951 TO THE YEAR YOU TURN 62.
  - INDEX EACH YEAR OF EARNINGS FOR INFLATION.
  - DIVIDE BY 420 (NUMBER OF MONTHS IN 35 YEARS) TO DETERMINE AVERAGE INDEXED MONTHLY EARNINGS.
  - MULTIPLY FIRST $791 BY 90%; MULTIPLY THE NEXT $3,977 BY 32%; AND MULTIPLY ANY AMOUNT OVER $4,768 BY 15%. TOTAL TO DETERMINE MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT.
  - MAXIMUM MONTHLY BENEFIT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL FOR CALENDAR 2013--$2,550 (AVERAGE OF $1,261).

- **HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR BENEFITS? INFORMATION NEEDED.**
  - SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER;
  - BIRTH CERTIFICATE;
  - W-2 FORMS OR SELF-EMPLOYMENT TAX RETURN FOR LAST YEAR;
  - MILITARY DISCHARGE PAPERS IF YOU HAD MILITARY SERVICE;
  - YOUR SPOUSE’S BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER IF HE/SHE IS APPLYING FOR BENEFITS;
  - CHILDREN’S BIRTH CERTIFICATES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, IF APPLYING FOR CHILDREN’S BENEFITS;
  - PROOF OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP OR LAWFUL ALIEN STATUS IF YOU (OR A SPOUSE OR CHILD IS APPLYING FOR BENEFITS) WERE NOT BORN IN THE U.S.;
  - THE NAME OF YOUR BANK AND YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER SO YOUR BENEFITS CAN BE DIRECTLY DEPOSITED INTO YOUR ACCOUNT.