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A hypothetical illustration for: **BUS-123 Spring 2013**

Prepared by:
Frank Paiano

Private Portfolio of San Diego, Inc.
2320 Soto St
San Diego, CA 92107-1410

Phone: 619-248-0945
Email: frank@privateportfolio.com

This report is not complete unless all pages, as noted below, are included. Please read the information in the 'Important Disclosures' found at the beginning of this report.

Investments are not FDIC - insured, nor are they deposits of or guaranteed by a bank or any other entity, so they may lose value.

Important Disclosures

Figures shown are past results and are not predictive of results in future periods. Current and future results may be lower or higher than those shown. Share prices and returns will vary, so investors may lose money. Investing for short periods makes losses more likely. Investments are not FDIC-insured, nor are they deposits of or guaranteed by a bank or any other entity, so they may lose value. For more current information and month-end results, visit americanfunds.com.

Regular investing does not ensure a profit or protect against loss. Investors should consider their willingness to keep investing when share prices are declining. Indexes are unmanaged and, therefore, have no expenses. Results for the Lipper indexes do not reflect sales charges. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index. While it is not possible to invest directly in an index, you can invest in an index fund.

This illustration must be preceded or accompanied by the fund's current summary prospectus or prospectus, which details charges, expenses, investment objectives and operating policies. The American Funds are distributed by American Funds Distributors, Inc.

Investment results assume all distributions are reinvested and reflect applicable fees and expenses. The investment adviser for the Target Date Retirement Series is currently waiving its management fee of 0.10%. After December 31, 2012, the adviser may modify or terminate the waiver, but only with fund board approval. From September 1, 2004, through December 31, 2008, the investment adviser to the American Funds and the business manager for The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland, The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia and Washington Mutual Investors Fund waived a portion of their management fees. The investment adviser has also reimbursed expenses for some funds and share classes. Investment results shown reflect the waiver and reimbursements, without which the results would have been lower. The waiver may be adjusted or discontinued by the investment adviser, subject to any limitations in the funds prospectus. The expense ratios are as of each fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. The Target Date Retirement Series include the weighted average expenses of the underlying funds. Please see the funds most recent prospectus for details.

Standardized Average Annual Total Returns for Quarter Ended 12/31/2012 Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized

Security Name	Inception Date	Max. Initial Sales Charge/CDSC	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
The Investment Company of America A	1/1/1934	5.75% Front	8.96%	-0.30%	6.01%	11.93%

Gross Charges and Expenses

Fund Name	Sales Charge	Max CDSC	Max Redem Fee	Mgmt Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Gross Operating Expense
The Investment Company of America A	5.75%	1.00%	0.00%	0.24%	0.23%	0.14%	0.61%

The fund does not assess redemption fees. However, shareholders redeeming shares may be subject to the fund's Purchase Blocking Policy as described in the prospectus.

Investors should carefully consider investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses, summary prospectuses and CollegeAmerica Program Description, which can be obtained from a financial professional and should be read carefully before investing.

The illustration included herein does not reflect the effects of taxes in some or all of the investments.

If the results shown on the following pages do not reflect deduction of an initial sales charge (i.e. they are at net asset value), please note that they would have been lower if the sales charge had been deducted.

Class A shares are subject to an up-front maximum sales charge (5.75% for equity and target date funds, 3.75% for most bond funds, and 2.50% for Intermediate Bond Fund of America, Short-Term Bond Fund of America, American Funds Short-Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund, and Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America). The sales charge declines for accounts and aggregated investments (\$25,000 for equity and target date funds, \$100,000 for most bond funds, and \$500,000 for Intermediate Bond Fund of America, Short-Term Bond Fund of America, American Funds Short-Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund, and Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America). There is no initial sales charge on purchases of \$1 million or more. A 1% contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) may be assessed if a redemption occurs within one year of purchase. Results on the following pages reflect deduction of the CDSC if the investment is \$1 million or more and a withdrawal is selected within one year of purchase. Illustrations run after January 26, 2010 use data and calculations provided by Lipper; therefore, results may differ from previous illustrations. Certain withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to income tax and, if applicable, to a 10% federal penalty. For current information and month-end results, visit americanfunds.com.

- The A/529A share 1, 5, and 10-year return for each fund is based on the MOP value.
- The "Average annual return on the investment" is based on the initial investment and the breakpoint chosen.
- Cumulative Volume Discount Reflected Where Applicable in This Illustration.
- NOTE: Systematic Accumulation Plans cannot assure a profit or protect against loss in declining markets.

The Investment Company of America A

Date	Initial Investment	Initial Sales Charge	Net Amount Invested	Shares Purchased
01/01/1973	\$100.00	5.75%	\$94	12.315

\$100 initial investment on 01/01/1973. Dividends and capital gains are reinvested. Subsequent investments of \$100.00 from 02/01/1973 to 12/31/2012 every month, on the first day of the month. The initial investment is subject to a 5.75% sales charge. Subsequent investments are subject to a sales charge of up to 5.75%. The effects of income and capital gains taxes are not demonstrated.

Date	Investment(s)	Dividend Income	Cumulative Dividend Income	Capital Gains	Shares Held	Total Value
12/31/1973	1,200	20	20	28	178	1,066
12/31/1974	1,200	99	120	0	410	1,896
12/31/1975	1,200	152	272	22	639	3,804
12/31/1976	1,200	179	450	95	842	6,186
12/31/1977	1,200	232	682	144	1,062	7,182
12/31/1978	1,200	304	987	0	1,259	9,434
12/31/1979	1,200	430	1,416	114	1,469	12,490
12/31/1980	1,200	614	2,030	296	1,704	16,440
12/31/1981	1,200	833	2,863	1,131	2,049	17,706
12/31/1982	1,200	1,110	3,973	1,133	2,465	25,123
12/31/1983	1,200	1,176	5,149	1,114	2,789	31,409
12/31/1984	1,200	1,334	6,483	1,427	3,158	34,741
12/31/1985	1,200	1,503	7,985	1,552	3,530	47,693
12/31/1986	1,200	1,793	9,779	9,261	4,494	59,276
12/31/1987	1,200	2,396	12,175	3,497	5,040	63,551
12/31/1988	1,200	2,907	15,082	3,996	5,660	73,239
12/31/1989	1,200	3,433	18,515	4,995	6,303	96,058
12/31/1990	1,200	3,808	22,322	1,433	6,742	97,893
12/31/1991	1,200	3,033	25,355	2,631	7,161	125,171
12/31/1992	1,200	3,420	28,776	2,357	7,554	135,141
12/31/1993	1,200	3,610	32,385	5,819	8,124	152,073
12/31/1994	1,200	3,957	36,342	4,999	8,685	153,469
12/31/1995	1,200	4,404	40,746	8,103	9,339	201,805
12/31/1996	1,200	4,724	45,469	9,823	9,993	242,136
12/31/1997	1,200	5,045	50,514	26,431	11,173	315,634
12/31/1998	1,200	5,796	56,310	33,637	12,532	389,359
12/31/1999	1,200	6,487	62,798	38,903	14,020	455,102
12/31/2000	1,200	7,418	70,215	29,788	15,253	473,760
12/31/2001	1,200	8,044	78,259	9,130	15,884	453,176
12/31/2002	1,200	8,357	86,616	7,428	16,553	388,675

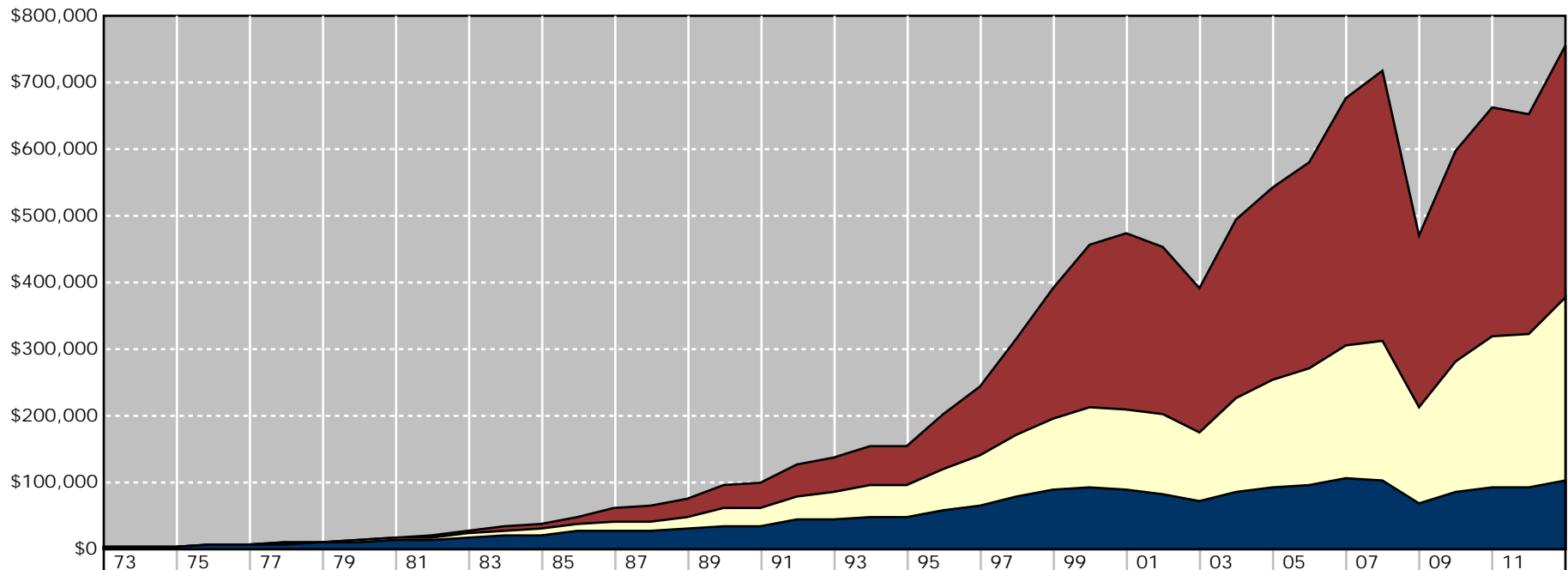
Date	Investment(s)	Dividend Income	Cumulative Dividend Income	Capital Gains	Shares Held	Total Value
12/31/2003	1,200	8,694	95,310	3,542	17,070	492,307
12/31/2004	1,200	8,949	104,259	6,156	17,617	541,730
12/31/2005	1,200	12,092	116,352	14,503	18,501	580,181
12/31/2006	1,200	13,821	130,172	38,745	20,112	673,937
12/31/2007	1,200	13,383	143,556	37,960	21,705	715,172
12/31/2008	1,200	14,904	158,460	0	22,312	467,658
12/31/2009	1,200	12,882	171,341	0	22,974	596,185
12/31/2010	1,200	12,988	184,330	0	23,516	662,224
12/31/2011	1,200	13,760	198,090	0	24,059	651,752
12/31/2012	1,200	17,490	215,580	10,255	25,023	754,706
Total	48,000	215,580	215,580	320,445	25,023	754,706

Average annual return on the investment for the period 01/01/1973 - 12/31/2012 : 11.07%

1/1/1973 - 12/31/2012

Total Ending Amount: \$754,706

The Investment Company of America A : \$100 initial investment on 01/01/1973. Dividends and capital gains are reinvested. Subsequent investments of \$100.00 from 02/01/1973 to 12/31/2012 every month, on the first day of the month. The initial investment is subject to a 5.75% sales charge. Subsequent investments are subject to a sales charge of up to 5.75%. The effects of income and capital gains taxes are not demonstrated.



- From Capital Gains (Ending value: \$379,396)
- From Income (Ending value: \$274,458)
- From Principal (Ending value: \$100,853)

This graph must be accompanied by the underlying Hypo illustration(s).