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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 from 02/01/1973 to 12/31/2012 every month starting at \$100.00 and increasing by \$10.00, every twelve months, 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	1,310	103	124	0	430	1,991
12/31/1975	1,430	165	288	24	700	4,166
12/31/1976	1,550	200	489	107	956	7,020
12/31/1977	1,670	269	758	170	1,249	8,448
12/31/1978	1,790	365	1,123	0	1,532	11,473
12/31/1979	1,910	533	1,656	140	1,842	15,658
12/31/1980	2,030	784	2,440	372	2,195	21,178
12/31/1981	2,150	1,088	3,529	1,459	2,705	23,373
12/31/1982	2,270	1,485	5,013	1,499	3,336	33,991
12/31/1983	2,390	1,606	6,619	1,509	3,843	43,274
12/31/1984	2,510	1,858	8,478	1,969	4,431	48,746
12/31/1985	2,630	2,129	10,607	2,180	5,033	67,999
12/31/1986	2,750	2,577	13,184	13,278	6,487	85,569
12/31/1987	2,870	3,483	16,667	5,096	7,355	92,748
12/31/1988	2,990	4,277	20,943	5,898	8,359	108,162
12/31/1989	3,110	5,108	26,051	7,449	9,404	143,323
12/31/1990	3,230	5,721	31,772	2,158	10,159	147,505
12/31/1991	3,350	4,595	36,367	3,991	10,885	190,273
12/31/1992	3,470	5,227	41,594	3,612	11,577	207,105
12/31/1993	3,590	5,560	47,154	8,983	12,546	234,852
12/31/1994	3,710	6,141	53,295	7,778	13,515	238,802
12/31/1995	3,830	6,883	60,178	12,697	14,634	316,232
12/31/1996	3,950	7,430	67,608	15,485	15,753	381,687
12/31/1997	4,070	7,978	75,586	41,867	17,698	499,960
12/31/1998	4,190	9,206	84,792	53,483	19,932	619,297
12/31/1999	4,310	10,342	95,135	62,083	22,380	726,456
12/31/2000	4,430	11,866	107,000	47,685	24,429	758,775
12/31/2001	4,550	12,910	119,910	14,658	25,530	728,368

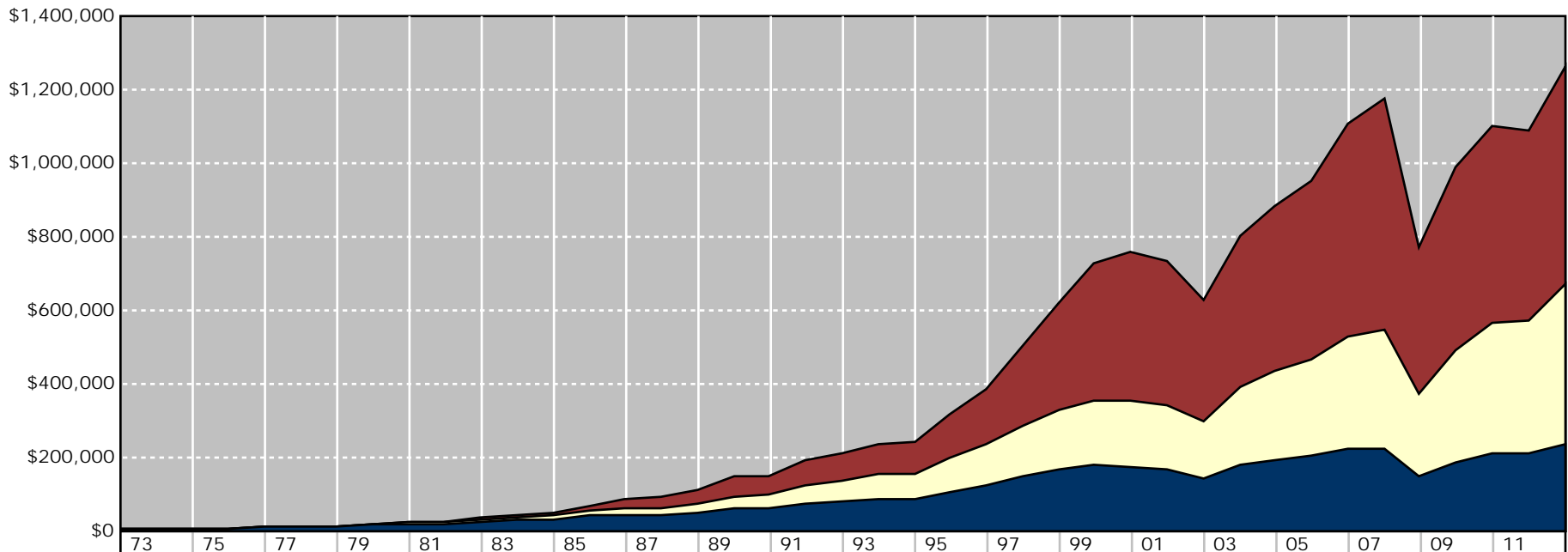
Date	Investment(s)	Dividend Income	Cumulative Dividend Income	Capital Gains	Shares Held	Total Value
12/31/2002	4,670	13,464	133,374	11,976	26,712	627,189
12/31/2003	4,790	14,067	147,441	5,739	27,661	797,748
12/31/2004	4,910	14,534	161,975	10,011	28,650	880,998
12/31/2005	5,030	19,713	181,689	23,667	30,189	946,738
12/31/2006	5,150	22,601	204,290	63,424	32,922	1,103,211
12/31/2007	5,270	21,947	226,237	62,318	35,632	1,174,073
12/31/2008	5,390	24,518	250,755	0	36,754	770,365
12/31/2009	5,510	21,278	272,032	0	38,009	986,324
12/31/2010	5,630	21,540	293,572	0	39,049	1,099,621
12/31/2011	5,750	22,900	316,472	0	40,087	1,085,953
12/31/2012	5,870	29,212	345,685	17,142	41,831	1,261,626
Total	141,210	345,685	345,685	509,935	41,831	1,261,626

Average annual return on the investment for the period 01/01/1973 - 12/31/2012 : 10.70%

1/1/1973 - 12/31/2012

Total Ending Amount: \$1,261,626

The Investment Company of America A : \$100 initial investment on 01/01/1973. Dividends and capital gains are reinvested. Subsequent investments from 02/01/1973 to 12/31/2012 every month starting at \$100.00 and increasing by \$10.00, every twelve months, 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: \$594,535)
- From Income (Ending value: \$432,232)
- From Principal (Ending value: \$234,859)

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