***Presentation:***
Estate Planning for IRAs

*Presenter:*
*Jeffrey Levine, CPA/PFS, CFP*®, CWS®, BFA®, MSA is the Lead Financial Planning Nerd for [Kitces.com](https://www.kitces.com/) and the Chief Planning Officer at [Focus Wealth Partners](https://wealth.focuspartners.com/). In 2020, Mr. Levine was named by Investment Advisor Magazine as one of the top 25 voices to turn to during uncertain times, and was named to the IA25 again in 2021. Jeff is a past recipient of the [Standing Ovation award](https://www.aicpa.org/press/pressreleases/2017/aicpa-announces-standing-ovation-honors-in-personal-financial-planning.html), presented by the AICPA Financial Planning Division, was named to the [2017 class of 40 Under 40](http://www.investmentnews.com/section/40-under-40/2017/profile/24/Jeffrey-Levine) by InvestmentNews, and as a Young Advisor to Watch by Financial Advisor Magazine in 2020. Previously, Jeffrey served as Ed Slott and Company’s Chief Retirement Strategist, where his ability to simplify the complex laws that govern individual retirement accounts, combined with his unique blend of humor and tax planning, was first recognized. You can follow Jeff on Twitter [@CPAPlanner](https://twitter.com/CPAPlanner), where he is known to break down the latest tax updates in GIF-filled tweets storms, and via his personal website, [www.FullyVestedAdvice.com](http://www.fullyvestedadvice.com/).

***Session Description:***

Despite the fact that Americans hold more than $30 trillion in retirement assets, and that those assets often make up a substantial portion of an individual’s net worth, IRAs and other retirement accounts continue to be ignored or insufficiently addressed within many estate plans. Left unaddressed, this planning gap can result in unnecessary taxation, the loss of valuable tax deferral, exposure of assets to “angry” creditors, and other harmful, wealth-sapping effects. The flip side of that coin, however, is that advisors who take proactive steps now to address the unique estate planning issues retirement accounts present can add substantial value for clients, and can effectively position themselves for the veritable tsunami of retirement assets that will be transitioning between generations in the coming years.

***Learning Objectives:***

- LO #1: Gain an understanding of post-death payout rules and analyze the planning strategies beneficiaries can use to make the most of their inheritance

- LO #2: Learn the key rules that apply when naming a trust as the beneficiary of an IRA

- LO #3: Understand how to choose the “best” way for a surviving spouse to handle retirement assets

- LO #4: Explore the surprisingly complex interaction of state and Federal laws governing retirement account property rights

***Level of Complexity:***

- < Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced>

***Topic Area(s):***

- < General Principles of Financial Planning / Insurance Planning / Investment Planning / Income Tax Planning / Retirement Planning / Estate Planning / Client Trust & Communication >

***Hour(s) of CE:***

- < 1 hour / 1.5 hours / 2 hours >

***Outline:***

* The IRA Beneficiary “Family Tree” and the “Basic” Post-Death Payout Rules...….....10 minutes
* Spousal Beneficiary Planning……………………………………………………..…...10 minutes
* Naming a Trust as an IRA Beneficiary…………………………………….…….….....20 minutes
* The Intersection of State and Federal Laws Governing Retirement Accounts……........ 10 minutes

  ***Total: 50 minutes***