



Thrift Savings Plan

P.O. Box 385021

Birmingham, AL 35238

Dear Participant:

I'm writing to you today about your Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account.

According to our records, you are one of about 400,000 FERS participants not currently contributing your own money to the TSP. This concerns me because it means that you are not receiving the valuable Agency Matching Contributions that, over time, could significantly boost your financial security in retirement.

As an employee covered by the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS), you should be aware that the TSP is an essential component of your Federal retirement benefit, along with the FERS Basic Annuity and Social Security. This is why your agency opened a TSP account for you and contributes an amount to it each pay period equal to 1% of your basic pay. But there's more! Your agency kicks in another 4% if you contribute 5% of your own pay. If that seems like too much, you can contribute less than 5%—even as little as \$1 per pay period—and still get an agency match.

Maybe you contributed to your TSP account at one time and stopped your contributions for financial reasons. That's understandable. Or maybe you have never contributed to your account because you didn't see the importance of it or thought you were too young to think about retirement. I encourage you to consider that the sooner you get started, the more dramatically your account can grow. What's more, the longer you wait, the more matching money you're letting slip away. It's a good idea to reassess your financial situation and try to contribute some amount to your TSP account in order to claim at least a portion of the agency matching money.

As a final thought, all Federal employees hired since August 1, 2010, are now automatically enrolled in the TSP to contribute 3% of basic pay each pay period. Congress was so convinced of the importance of the TSP to the long-term financial security of Federal employees that it built this provision into a law signed last year. Don't find yourself left behind and struggling when you retire. I encourage you to read the enclosed leaflet to learn more about contributing to the TSP. If you are as convinced as I am that the TSP and matching contributions are too good to pass up, sign up today. It may be the best financial decision you will ever make.

To begin your contributions, use your agency's self-service benefits system (such as Employee Express, PostalEase, EBIS, myPay, or the NFC PPS), **or** use the enclosed Form TSP-1. (Check with your agency to see which sign-up method it requires.) It's up to you to act, so don't delay.

Sincerely,

Greg Long
Executive Director

Enclosures