

December 2005

CBS Update

We are very pleased to provide you with our bi-monthly newsletter, *Benefits Insights*. Each one features an article relating to a topic specific to qualified retirement plan legislative and administrative issues. We hope you find these articles informative and we welcome your feedback. Past issues of the newsletter have been posted on our website. We invite you to visit our website at www.creben.com. The newsletters can be found under "News and Updates".

2006 Retirement Plan Limits

	2006	2005
Wage Limit	\$ 220,000	\$ 210,000
401(k) / 403(b) Deferrals	15,000	14,000
401(k) / 403(b) Catch-up Deferrals	5,000	4,000
Defined Contribution Limit (plus catch-up deferrals)	44,000	42,000
Defined Benefit Limit	175,000	170,000
Highly Compensated Employee	100,000	95,000
Key Employee	140,000	135,000
Simple IRA Deferrals	10,000	10,000
Simple IRA Catch-up Deferrals	2,500	2,000
Social Security Wage Base	94,200	90,000

Congratulations to:

Steve Persons on receiving the designation of Fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries (FCA).

Brian Secrest on passing the Administrative Issues-Advanced Topics (DC-3) test sponsored by the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries.

Marylis Wozniacki will be attending the 2006 Business Management Conference from January 14-16 in Scottsdale, AZ. The conference is sponsored by the National Institute of Pension Administrators (NIPA) and is geared towards business owners and managers in the pension field.

GET TO KNOW CBS JENNIFER BUFE

Since beginning with us in 1993, Jennifer has worked in nearly every position of our company. Currently, she is the manager of our Defined Contribution Department as well as the office manager for our Ohio headquarters. Her responsibilities include valuation review, pension administration and staff management. In addition, she also lends her assistance to our investment advisory team by overseeing trade processing, new account activation, and account monitoring. In 1999, she earned her Qualified Pension Administrator (QPA) designation through the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA). She hopes to soon obtain her Series 65 Securities license, so she can further develop her investment skills.

Outside the office, Jennifer enjoys reading, visiting tea parlors with her sister, card making (rubber stamping) and playing cards, as well as spending time with her family. When their schedules permit, she and her husband Eric visit his family in Petoskey, MI. An active alumna member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, Jennifer has served as its Cleveland West Side Alumnae Chapter President for the past two years and counting. In July 2006, she will represent her alumnae chapter at the sorority's national convention in Hollywood, CA. While in Tinseltown, she hopes to get the autographs of Penny Marshall and Cindy Williams. Why? Her husband Eric is an avid home brewer, and he claims that she is the better beer bottler than either Laverne or Shirley – eat your heart out, Shotz Brewery!

A LESSON TO BE LEARNED

Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there.

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**Referring a friend or business associate to our Firm is a compliment at the highest level.
We sincerely appreciate your referrals.**

If you know someone who might benefit from receiving our newsletter, please provide us with their name and address so we can add them to our mailing list.