

## Retiring on More Than Just Benefits, Part One

### Retire on Assets, but Wait on Social Security

- The priority is to maximize lifetime income! Wait until age 70. The income is the most valuable asset you will have for retirement.
- Filing at age 70 assumes you will live a long life—into your 80s—in order for this to benefit you. Some of you will not, but some of you will live well past that.
- The safest thing is to assume a long life. I would rather assume this and be wrong, because for those for whom it is right, i.e., that they live a long life, it will be a life-changing decision. Having that higher income late in life is the priority.
- Claiming benefits at age 70 does not automatically mean you work to age 70. If you have enough assets to live on between retirement and age 70, while still having enough assets after age 70 to carry you through retirement, then you could retire before age 70. If this is not the case, then you are not ready to retire before age 70.