

# MONEYLETTER

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## Hotline

### **Welcome to the Hotline for Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

Reports on retail sales and inflation helped push domestic stocks ahead again today. It was the seventh consecutive daily gain for the S&P 500, which is at an all-time high.

Retail sales increased 0.4% for January, well ahead of the estimate of 0.1%. This data point indicates the consumer is poised to support economic growth. The January single-month inflation increase was the largest since February 2013, and the 12-month increase was the largest since March 2012.

Global stocks have surged in the last week. Since the last Hotline on February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Euro STOXX 50 is up 2.8%. European stocks are at their highest level since December 2015. The S&P 500 was up 2.4% and Nikkei 225 was up 2.3% for the week.

More importantly, it's been a good week for our model portfolios. There are no changes in our asset allocation advice or model positions. As we mentioned last week and in the February MONEYLETTER issue, do not be unduly influenced by the political theater.

**New Fund Changes** – For domestic stock funds, there is one new Buy this week: Bridgeway Aggressive Investors 1 (ticker: BRAGX). There are two new Holds: Berwyn Fund (BERWX) and Fidelity Growth & Income Portfolio (FGRIX). There is one new Sell this week: Longleaf Partners (LLPFX).

For international stock funds, there is one new Buy this week: BLDRs Emerging Markets 50 ADR ETF (ADRE). There is one new Hold: VanEck Vectors Africa ETF (AFK). There are no new Sells this week.

Thank you for visiting the MONEYLETTER Hotline. The next Hotline will be available on our website in the Member Area at 11pm (EST) on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and it will be emailed on Thursday morning February 23<sup>rd</sup>.