

Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee

801 Ninth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20220



July 26, 2011

The Honorable Timothy F. Geithner
Secretary of the Treasury
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Geithner:

A public meeting of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (Committee) was held on Monday, July 26, 2011, at United States Mint Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Committee reviewed proposed obverse and reverse designs for the 2012 Star Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Program, inclusive of a \$1 silver coin and a \$5 dollar gold coin.

The Committee dedicated extensive consideration to recommending obverse and reverse designs that would compliment each other, that would produce well for the relative sizes of the \$1 silver coin and the \$5 gold coin and which would give appropriate deference to the subject matter of the Star Spangled Banner. To those ends, the Committee reviewed sixteen (16) obverse candidate designs and seventeen (17) reverse designs for both the silver and gold coins, and identified designs for each coin, respectively.

For the \$1 silver coin the Committee recommended design SSB-G-O-08. The design garnered 17 of the possible 24 possible points through the Committee's scoring process. The design shows Lady Liberty waving a large-size American Flag in an inspiring and dramatic pose. In the background a profile image of Fort McHenry is shown. The Committee felt the design provides an allegorical image of a 15-star American Flag shown in the context of the Battle for Baltimore where Francis Scot Key penned the words to the song that would become the United States national anthem, the Star Spangled Banner. For the reverse of the \$1 silver coin, the Committee recommended design SSB-S-R-06 with 13 of 21 possible scoring points. This selection shows a modern 50-star American Flag rendered in an innovative modern design. Members commented that the pairing of the above referenced designs for the \$1 silver coin would convey a message about the endurance of the Republic and of the flag from the time of the War of 1812 (as shown on the obverse) to the present (as shown on the reverse).

Earning 15 of a possible 24 evaluation points, design SSB-S-O-05 won the Committee's recommendation for the obverse of the \$5 gold coin. This design shows a depiction of a naval battle scene from the War of 1812. The bow of an American sailing ship is shown in the foreground with a damaged and fleeing British ship in the background. The Committee recommended design SSB-S-R-03 for the reverse of the \$5 gold coin with 13 of a possible 21 evaluation points. This design depicts both a 15-star and a 50-star American flag together with

the inscription “Long May It Wave”. The Committee felt this design complimented the theme of the flag “then and now” and the endurance of the Republic envisioned by the Committee through its design selections for the \$1 silver coin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary B. Marks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Marks".

Gary B. Marks
Chair