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October 30, 2008

FROM: Robert J. Stientjes, attorney

TO: Shelter Systems, LLC, Bernard von NotHaus, Mary Nothhouse, Jeff Kotchounian, Matt Pitagora, Dave Gillie, Dan Morrow, Gerhart Reile, Karl Reile, Alan McConnell, Tom Olmsted, William H. Wesson, Dan Priest, and Vernon L. Robinson

Re: Status Report for Case No. 1:08cv230 (W.D.N.C.)

The purpose of this letter is to inform you—the named claimants opposing the government’s civil forfeiture petition in the above referenced case—of the most recent events, which have an impact on our case.

As you are aware, the government is attempting to obtain ownership over approximately US\$3,000,000 in silver, which the government seized from the Sunshine Mint in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho on November 14, 2007. This silver backs the warehouse receipts issued to each of you and is rightfully your property. The government erroneously argues that the silver is subject to forfeiture because, among other reasons, the Liberty Dollar competes with U.S. currency.

During the past few months, I have worked diligently to secure your rights to challenge the civil forfeiture instigated by the government. I have filed Claims for each of you in the Federal District Court contesting the government’s action. In addition, I have filed court pleadings in the form of an Answer espousing numerous legal arguments for why the government is not entitled to retain your property in this case. In addition, I have filed various Motions in an attempt to force the Court to immediately hear our arguments and to decide the issues. The government, meanwhile, has unscrupulously caused the Court to delay the case.

Recently, the government filed an *ex parte* Motion, under seal, which requests that the judge continue to delay further action on this case until June 2009. The government filed this Motion in secret without providing me with Notice. I had anticipated this move, and I put our arguments--opposing further delay--before the court. Nevertheless, the judge issued an order claiming that he was required by law to continue the seal and stay until June 2009. Although I will continue to search for ways to compel the court to take immediate action, it now appears that we will have to wait until at least June 2009 before we may seek justice.

The government's success in further delaying this case has not changed my legal opinion that we should prevail on the merits of our case. I strongly believe that the government is violating the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution in attempting to cause your property to be forfeited. In addition, it is my legal opinion that I can prove to the court that the Liberty Dollar does not violate the statutes—as claimed by the government. The government has merely succeeded in delaying the return of your property. The Order of the court, which further delays this case until June 2009, has no bearing on how the court will ultimately resolve the merits of this case.

Therefore, while we wait for our opportunity to stand before the court and present our arguments, I would greatly appreciate it if each of you would continue to show the patience and understanding exhibited thus far. I am extremely frustrated by the government's attempts to delay this case; but I am confident that your property will be returned in the end.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Stientjes
Principle
Stientjes & Pliske, LLC