Stient iske ccc attorneys at law

www.taxdefensefirm.com

1120 Olivette Executive Parkway Suite 220 St. Louis, MO 63132

> phone (314) 872-3988 fax (314) 872-7374

COPY

June 9, 2008

Via Facsimile & U.S. Mail

Special Agent William Long Federal Bureau of Investigations 250 Northwest Blvd., Ste. 200 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

re: Return of property seized pursuant to Case No. MS-07-6337-MHW from the District of Idaho

Dear Mr. Long:

By way of introduction, I have been retained by Shelter Systems, LLC a/k/a Shelter System Warehouse (hereinafter, "Systems"), in both its capacity as a legal entity and in its capacity as warehouseman for holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts for property held at 750 West Canfield Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815; and Robert Fondry, Janet Meisinger, Jeff Kotchounian, Matt Pitagora, Dave Gillie, Dan Morrow, Karl Reile, Alan McConnell, Tom Olmsted, William H. Wesson, Dan Priest, and Vernon L. Robinson-individual holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts for property at the above address. The purpose of this letter is to respectfully demand that you return property seized by you or by other agents conducting searches and seizures pursuant to warrants issued in the above referenced case. Furthermore, my clients respectfully demand that you return all property included in, but not limited to, the attached inventory list, prepared by the FBI at the time of or shortly after the searches and seizures were conducted. In addition, my clients respectfully request that you provide, as soon as possible, a copy of any additional affidavits submitted to the District Court in the case set-forth above, which were used by the FBI to secure the warrants. In writing this letter, it is my understanding that you are the Special Agent who was in charge of conducting the searches and seizures pursuant to the warrants in the case at hand attached hereto as Exhibit A.

With respect to property seized by the FBI on November 14, 2007 from the address: 750 West Canfield Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815—all property seized must be returned to Systems in its capacity as warehouseman because the property seized was not property described in the warrants issued in the above referenced cases. These warrants clearly state that the FBI is authorized by the Courts to only seize property of "Mary S. Nothhouse and Bernard von NotHaus" and "Sunshine Mint; Clark, Anderson, McNelis & Co.; Anderson Brothers CPAs; NORFED; the Liberty Dollar, Inc.; Liberty Dollar Services, Inc.; and any entity related to the Liberty Dollar or the Hawaii Dala...and yet unknown co-conspirators to the criminal acts described in the attached affidavit...." The alleged "criminal acts" are presumed to be 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956, 1957 ("Money Laundering"), 18 U.S.C. § 1341 ("Mail Fraud"), and 18 U.S.C. § 1343 ("Wire Fraud").

The property that was seized and described in Exhibit B is the property of holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts for property being held by Shelter Systems LLC at the storage facility owned by Sunshine Minting, Inc. Such property, seized by the FBI, was not property as described in the warrants. Under the forfeiture laws, if an individual can prove that he or she did not know of or consent to the illegal use of their property, such individuals are not subject to forfeiture and are entitled to an immediate return of property seized from them. The holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts are not described as targets whose property is subject to seizure pursuant to the warrants. The holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts are not specifically named, and they cannot be considered co-conspirators committing mail fraud and wire fraud. Pursuant to these alleged crimes, the holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts would be considered victims by the government rather than co-conspirators. In addition, money laundering is not applicable to these holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts. The holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts entered in to a commercial arrangement whereby they caused their personally-owned precious metals to be stored by Systems at the warehouse owned by Sunshine Minting, Inc. pursuant to Uniform Commercial Code § 7.201. Such commercial arrangement could never arise to the level of money laundering. Therefore, the property described in Exhibit B, and other property taken from the Idaho location during the raid by the FBI on November 14, 2007, must be returned to Systems in its capacity as warehouseman for the holders of bearer certificates of warehouse receipts.

The Liberty Dollar medallions that were seized are warehoused property, which back the paper warehouse receipts and digital warehouse receipts, which comply with the Uniform Commercial Code. Only the receipts are intended for circulation and not the underlying medallions, which back the receipts. As the receipts are not "coinage" they cannot violate 18 U.S.C. § 486, which only applies to coins. The medallions that were seized from the premises in Coeur d'Alene are not intended for circulation, were never circulated, and cannot violate 18 U.S.C. § 486.

In the affidavit, Exhibit C, as attached to the companion warrant from the Western District of North Carolina, the government announces that it is investigating several targets for alleged violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 486, 489 ("Counterfeiting"). However, these alleged violations are not the basis for the search warrant and seizure. Pursuant to 200 Atty. Gen. 210 (1891), the Department of Justice has acknowledged that it does not have authority to seize property for alleged violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 486, 489. Instead, the warrants in the cases set forth above purport to be conducted pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1) ("Criminal Forfeiture"), which only allows for forfeiture in cases of conviction for violations of Money Laundering, Mail Fraud, and Wire Fraud.

The allegations in the affidavit do not constitute *prima facia* allegations of probable cause to support a search and seizure for alleged violations of Money Laundering, Mail Fraud, and Wire Fraud. Pursuant to the plain language of the affidavit, Exhibit C, there was no deception on the part of anyone in marketing and distributing either the Liberty Dollar or the Hawaii Dala. The affidavit acknowledges that the FBI metallurgy lab has tested the medallions, and they contain the weight and quality of silver as represented to customers. In addition, the affidavit indirectly acknowledges that full disclosure was made to customers and agents of how the face value of the medallion is calculated based upon the spot price of silver, minting costs, and profit margins. Thus, because full disclosure is made to customers and agents before any sale occurs, the government's allegation that Mail Fraud or Wire Fraud has occurred is without merit. No representative or agent of the Liberty Dollar organization has represented that the Liberty Dollar is legal tender or current money. Liberty Dollar has encouraged persons who utilize the barter currency to offer it to merchants as barter payment for goods and services but not as legal tender, coin, or current money. Thus, the use of the mail system or wire communications system to

market and distribute gold or silver Liberty "medallions" as a "private voluntary barter currency" cannot constitute Mail Fraud or Wire Fraud. The affidavit, Exhibit C, provides no facts to support its claim that Money Laundering has been committed, which would support the search and seizure.

2

The Hawaii Dala does not contain any markings or symbol, which could suggest that it is a product of the U.S. Mint or other foreign government. A medallion representing a depiction from the Hawaii kingdom cannot fall under the counterfeiting statues because Hawaii does not constitute a foreign government and such depiction cannot suggest that it is a product of the U.S. Mint.

The affidavit, Exhibit C, does not assert that the "fair market value" of the minted Liberty Dollar or Hawaii Dala in U.S. dollars, is less than the face amount on each medallion. In the affidavit, Exhibit C, the government arbitrarily asserts that the face amount of each medallion is less than the spot market price of the precious metal contained in each coin. In valuing each medallion, the government fails to take into account the collector value of the medallions and the premium that the market commands for the ability to barter with silver and gold medallions.

The affidavit, Exhibit C, alleges that an unsuspecting individual may unwittingly accept the Liberty Dollar or Hawaii Dala as change, believing that they are receiving U.S. currency. As a comparison, the affidavit compares a \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion to the U.S. dime, a U.S. platinum eagle coin, and a \$1 U.S. presidential coin. As the U.S. platinum eagle coin is not a medium of exchange in commerce, there is no realistic threat that an unsuspecting individual will accept a Liberty Dollar in its place. In addition, because the \$1 U.S. presidential coin is the largest denomination of coinage, which is a medium of exchange in commerce, there is no realistic threat that a \$20 Liberty Dollar will be inadvertently received in place of a \$20 U.S. currency piece.

In an attempt to show that the medallions at issue are "easily confused with U.S. currency," the government, in the affidavit, Exhibit C, compares photocopied images of a \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion to images of the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin. However, a \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion is sufficiently discernable and different from the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin in size, color and content to ensure that it will not be inadvertently received in their place. The affidavit of the government, Exhibit C, is materially and intentionally misleading. The photocopy of the \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion is resized to match the size of the photocopies of the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin. In addition, the black and white photocopies hide the distinguishing color difference between the \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin. The photocopies are intentionally and deceptively designed to mislead the Court into believing that the medallion is similar in size, weight, and color to the U.S. coins.

In reality, the Liberty Dollar is too large in size, too large in weight, and too distinctive in color to be easily confused with the 1946 Roosevelt Dime or the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin. The \$20 Liberty Dollar medallion is 1 1/2 inches in diameter, while the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin are 11/16 inch and 1 1/16 inches in diameter, respectively. A 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin is golden in color, while the \$20 Liberty Dollar is silver.

Had the government presented an accurate description of the size, weight, and color of the medallion in comparison to the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin, there could be no argument that the medallions are "easily confused with U.S. currency." Without the misleading depictions of the size, weight, and color of the medallion in comparison to the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin, there is no probable cause for the issuance of

the warrants. The misleading depictions in the affidavit, Exhibit C, of the size, weight, and color of the medallion in comparison to the 1946 Roosevelt Dime and the 2007 U.S. Mint Presidential Coin violate the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

The warrant is overbroad because it fails the particularity requirement of the Fourth Amendment where it authorizes seizure of "American Liberty Dollar and/or Hawaii Dala currency and or precious metals of gold, silver, copper, platinum, or other substance and/or United States currency holdings". Such items are not contraband or dangerous instrumentality.

Even if the search and seizure were lawful and legal, the government no longer has a need to use the property that was seized as evidence, and such property should be returned to my clients, who are its rightful owners. The government has the ability to photocopy items, retain only a sample of the property, or to condition the return of property on the government's access to the property at a future time.

My clients respectfully demand that you return all of the items seized from them to Systems. The search and seizure in this case was unlawful and illegal. In the event that the property is not immediately returned, my clients are prepared to file Motions for Return of Property pursuant to Rule 41(g) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

In addition to the demands above, we request that you provide a full description of the seizures pursuant to the above referenced case. The inventory provided by the FBI at Exhibit B does not contain all of the property seized on November 14, 2007. In addition to a complete summary, my clients request that you provide a more detailed description including each and every medallion documented by year and design because all the material is numismatic and its price is based on "current market valuation." Because the medallions are numismatic and include a collector value, my clients request that you refrain from further handling the material as mishandling numismatic material can negatively impact value.

I would like to arrange for a meeting with you in the near future to discuss this matter. Thank you for immediate attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely. Robert/L/Stienties

Stientjes & Pliske LLC

Enclosures

а,

cc: Special Agent Andrew F. Ronagnuolo Assistant U.S. Attorney Jill Rose

Exhibit A

om :	208 772 9739	12/14/	2007 11:14	#325 P.001/
	· .			
		·	•	. •
•				
AO 93 (Rev. 12/03) Search Warrant				
E E	JNITED STATES DI	STRICT COUR	RT	
JUDICIAL	District of		•	
······································				
In the Matter of the So (Name, address or brief description of person o		FILED		EAL
Sunshine Mint		SEARC	H WARRAN	T
aka Sunshine Minting, Inc. 150 West Canfield Avenue				
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815				١
•	C	ase Number: MS-07	-6337-M	HW
,				
TO; Special Agent William Long	1 and ann Asset		od States	
		orized Officer of the Uni	icu dinics	
	special Agent William	m Lana	who has no	ason to believe
Affidentit(a) having been made hafe			who has to	ason to believe
Affidavit(s) having been made befor that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto.	on the premises known as (name, c		idaho 83815. Se	e Attachment A
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto.	/ on the premises known as (name, c inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A ていたいかん	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene,	idaho 83815. Se	
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial	on the premises known as (name, c inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A てついドレノル イッ District of IC	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene,) daho	Idaho 83815. Se	e Attachment A
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial	on the premises known as (name, c inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A てついドレノル イッ District of IC	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene,) daho	Idaho 83815. Se	
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an	on the premises known as (name, d inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A رکان کالال کار District of <u>اد</u> rty, namely (describe the person or prope eto d any record testimony establish pro	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho nty)	at the person or pro	there is now
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial conceated a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now conceated on the person or p	d any record testimony establish pro-	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho htty) bbable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua	at the person or pro	there is now
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY COM	d any record testimony establish pro- dinings by the second establish pro- ding the presence of the person of property (describe the person of property (described and establish pro- premises above-described and establish pro- dimensional pro- dimensional pro- dimensional pro- dimensional pro- dimensional pro- premises above-described and establish pro- premises above-described above-described above-described above-described above-described above-described ab	description and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho nty) bobable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua	at the person or pro- nce of this warrant $\frac{192}{2}$	there is now
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of	d any record testimony establish pro- provide and estable described and estable describe	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho nty) bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua NGV	t the person or pro ace of this warrant してし、2 Date rving this warrant	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial conceated a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now conceated on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop	on the premises known as (name, d inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A <u>T</u> SO WEL/MAW District of <u>IC</u> District of <u>IC</u> Try, namely (describe the person or prope ato d any record testimony establish pro- premises above-described and estable MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M: <u> </u> at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,]	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho nty) bbable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua <u>Nav</u> n or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war	t the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L CL</u> , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a write	d any record testimony establish pro- provide and establish pro- provide and establish pro- provide and establish pro- premises above-described and establish MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M. at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,] itten inventory of the person or prop	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri	d any record testimony establish pro- provide and establish pro- provide and establish pro- provide and establish pro- premises above-described and establish MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M. at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,] itten inventory of the person or prop	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho nty) bbable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua <u>Nav</u> n or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri	d any record testimony establish pro- premises above-described and estables MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M: at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,] itten inventory of the person or prop	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri	d any record testimony establish pro- premises above-described and estables MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M: at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,] itten inventory of the person or prop	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri	d any record testimony establish pro- premises above-described and estables MMANDED to search on or before or place named above for the person 00 AM to 10:00 P.M: at.anyti perty be found there to seize same,] itten inventory of the person or prop	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wi U.S.	A on the premises known as (name, d inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A District of IC District of IC 	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri	A on the premises known as (name, d inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A COWEL/ALAW District of IC District of	isseription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho inty) bobable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua <u>NGV</u> n or property specified, see inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly <u>SMN</u>	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person or search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wi U.S.	A on the premises known as (name, of inting, inc., 159 West Canfield A Canfield A Configuration of the person of the person of property of the person of property be found there to seize same, is inten inventory of the person or property (as and the person of the pe	tascription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V h or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this war perty seized and promptly	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person or search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri U.S.	Image: Second	isseription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V n or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this was perty seized and promptly for the set of the set	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described
that on the person of, or v Sunshine Mint, aka Sunshine Mi attached hereto. in the Judicial concealed a certain person or prope See Attachment B attached here I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) an is now concealed on the person or p YOU ARE HEREBY CON (not to exceed 10 days) the person of search in the daytime — 6: established and if the person or prop or property taken, and prepare a wri U.S.	Image: Second	isseription and/or location) venue, Coeur d'Alene, daho http: bable cause to believe the lish grounds for the issua N d V n or property specified, se inte-in the day or night as leaving a copy of this was perty seized and promptly for the set of the set	the person or pro- nce of this warrant <u>L</u> ^{CL} , <u>Z</u> Date rving this warrant I find reasonable of rant and receipt for return this warran	there is now perty so described

•

and the second second

•

÷

.

.

h

Sunshine Mint

Attachment B

List of Items to be seized

1. Records including Certified and Registered mail receipts, written records or printed matter of any kind, receipts, bank statements and records, financial statements, loan applications and records, wills, real estate records, money drafts, letters of credit, money orders, cashier's checks, safe deposit box keys, records and agreements, correspondence, memoranda, notes, diaries, statistics, letters, telephone toll records, contracts, reports, checks, cancelled checks, copies of checks, ledgers, journals, registers, vouchers, slips, bills, calendars, day planners, address books, books, pads, notebooks, files, logs, lists, bulletins, credit materials, data bases, teletypes, telefaxes, facsimile, email, invoices, notes from the RCO Congress, worksheets, work papers, graphic records or representations, photographs, slides, drawings, designs, graphs, charts, pictures, sketches, images, films, videotapes, oral records or representations, tapes, disks, telephone messages in any media, and other documents evidencing the obtaining, secreting, transfer, and/or concealment of assets, and the obtaining and/or secreting currency equivalents, Federal Express (FEDEX), United Parcel Service (UPS), Airborne express and other courier company receipts, letters, notary receipts, stamps, notary records, drafts, documents with modifications which may have been created or stored, including, but not limited to, any handmade form (such as writing, drawing, painting, with any implement on any surface, directly or indirectly); any photographic form (such as microfiche, prints, slides, negatives, videotapes, motion pictures, photocopies); and any mechanical form (such as phonograph records, printing, or typing) related to the Sunshine Mint; Verified First Technologies, Inc.; ProDocument Solutions; Clark, Anderson, McNelis & Co.; Anderson Brothers CPAs; NORFED; the Liberty Dollar, Inc.; Liberty Dollar Services, Inc.; and any other entity related to the Liberty Dollar or the Hawaii Dala.

2. Records which associate as yet unknown coconspirators to the criminal acts described or related to those described in the attached affidavit including contact lists, internet website lists, documents related to marketing

From:

* ** ..

From:

and/or distribution and/or creating of the Liberty Dollar or the Hawaii Dala coinage, eDollars, warehouse receipts; mail fraud; conspiracy; or other criminal violations; and items utilized to commit the described criminal activity.

3. Computer related items to include, software, and instructions, computer storage devices including hard disks, diskettes, tapes, CD-ROMS, laser disks, optical discs, printer buffers, smart cards, memory calculators, electronic dialers, Bernoulli drives, zip drives, Personal Digital Assistants(PDA), electronic notebooks, USB drives, and others, as well as printouts or readouts from any magnetic storage device.

4. Items used to create the Liberty Dollar or Hawaii Dala coinage, eDollars, warehouse receipts, including, but not Limited to presses; lasers; micrometers; ingots; coins; silver, gold, platinum, or copper in any form; eDollar supplies; art work; scales; marking devices; plates; molds; numismatic striking equipment; and programming software used in the manufacturing process.

5. Items used to market the Liberty Dollar or Hawaii Dala coinage, eDollars, warehouse receipts, including, but not limited to t-shirts, mouse pads, counter top mats, signs, pamphlets, flyers, bumper stickers, window stickers, decals, trinkets, props that look like Liberty Dollar or Hawaii Dala currency, books, software, compact discs, tapes, news clips, and media productions.

6. Financial information including credit card information; checks; bank statements/records; wire transfer records; records of commodity purchases from the New York Commodity Exchange; on-line purchasing information, including PayPal; records of delivery of precious metals; shipping and receiving invoices; records of auditing procedures and results; inventories of precious metals; Sunshine Mint Safekeeping Account records; and correspondence between the Sunshine Mint; Verified First Technologies, Inc.; Clark, Anderson, McNelis & Co.; Anderson Brothers CPAs; NORFED; the Liberty Dollar, Inc.; Liberty Dollar Services, Inc.; and any other entity related to the Liberty Dollar or the Hawaii Dala.

7. Membership lists including lists of Regional Currency Officers, Liberty Dollar Associates, merchant lists, contact information for individuals, businesses, or organizations that have purchased Liberty Dollar currency, and other documents that identify participants and associates of Liberty Dollar Services, Inc./NORFED.

8. Liberty Dollar and/or Hawaii Dala currency.

From:	208 772	9739	12/14/2007 11:1	0 #324 P.001/004
NUV-10-2007 18:20	FBI ASHEVILLE RA			P.01/02
-	T	TNP . ! .	<u>^</u>	
	Jnited States			
Western	DISTRICT	OFN	lorth Carolina	
In the Matter of the	Sala wa mf			
(Address or brief description of property	or premises to be seized)			
Sunshine Minting, inc., 750 West Car	nfield Avenue, Coeur d		RE WARRANT	
Precious metal holdings, Safekeeping Acc	ount holdings, and United States Cur	rency related to Mary S	Nothhouse and Bernard	von Notheue,
		c	ASE NUMBER:	
				• • • • • • •
TO: <u>SA Stuart M. Kelley, FBI</u>		<u>ала</u> рда (any Authorized Office	r of the United States
Affidavit(s) having been made bef	ore me by <u>SA Stuart M. Kell</u>	ey. FBI		who has reason to
believe that in the <u>Western</u> certain property which is sub		rict of <u>North Carol</u> United States,		there is now property to be setzed)
Sunshine Minting, Inc., 750 We	est Canfield Avenue, Co	beur d'Alene,	Idaho 83915	
Previous metal holdings, Safekeeping According are forfeitable to the United States laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C receipts and proceeds obtained, d in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343. A	a under 18 U.S.C. § 982 (a)(1) C. § 1956 and 1957; under 18 lirectly or indirectly, as a result	because it is prop U.S.C. § 982 (a)(3 t of mail fraud, in vi	erty involved in, or tri) because it is, or is i iolation of 18 U.S.C.	aceable to, money raceable to, gross § 1341, and wire fraud,
·		· · ·	• •	
I am satisfied that the affid described is subject to seizure and	avit(s) and any recorded testin that grounds exist for the issu			that the property so
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED (in the daytime - 6:00 A.M. to 10:0 leaving a copy of this warrant and r seized and promptly return this war	<u>IO P.M.</u>) (at any time in the day receipt for the property seized,	or night as I find r	essonable cause has Iten inventory of the p	been established),
as required by law.		U.S. Judge or Magistr		
5:480m November 15 Time and Date Issued	i <u>, 2007</u> at	Asheville, Norti City and		
	•	\frown		
Dennis L. Howell, U.S. Magistr Name and Title of Judicial Officer	rate Judge	<u>Ulennis</u>	Judicial Officer	
annen minde finde all annendielt Affiliert		₩121 (DIT) Q ÅI	a a Alan a shine ye	
• • •				

ŝ

i

.: :

And the state of the second second

.....

. . .

.

From:	208 772 97	39 12/14/20	11:11	#324 P.002/
NÖV-15-2007 18:23	FBI ASHEVILLE RA RETURN	· •	,	P.02/02
DATE WARRANT RECEIVED	DATE AND TIME WARRANT EXECUTED	COPY OF WARRANT AND RE	CEIPT FOR ITEM	S LEFT WITH
WENTORY MADE IN THE PRE	ISENCE OF			
VENTORY OF PERSON OR P	ROPERTY TAKEN PURSUANT TO THE WAR	RANT		
		• • •		

· .				
:				
• •	. [.]			
· .	· · ·		•	
		•		
, ,	CERTIFICATIO			
l swear that this inventory is	a irue and detailed account of the person of	and a second	anant.	
		·,		
Subscribed, sworn to, a	and returned before me this date.			
	,			
	U.S. Judge or Magistrate		Date	

#324 P.003/004 AO 109 (2/90) Seizure Warrant @ United States District Court North Carolina Western DISTRICT OF In the Matter of the Seizure of (Address or brief description of property or premises to be selzed) SEIZURE WARRANT American Liberty Dollar and/or Hawaii Dala currency and/or precious metals of gold, silver, copper, platinum or other substance, Safekeeping Account holdings, and United States currency holdings for The National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve and Internal Revenue Code (NORFED) dba, Liberty Services, Inc. located at Sunshine Minting, Inc., 750 West Canfield Avenue. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815. CASE NUMBER: 1:07 m; 121 and any Authorized Officer of the United TO: SA Andrew F. Romagnuolo, FBI States Affidavit(s) having been made before me by SA Andrew F. Romagnuolo, FBI who has reason to believe that in the <u>Western</u> District of North Carolina there is now certain property which is subject to forfeiture to the United States, namely (describe the property to be seized) American Liberty Dollar and/or Hawaii Dala currency and/or precious metals of gold, silver, copper, platinum or other substance are forfeitable to the United States under 18 U.S.C. § 982 (a)(1) because it is property involved in, or traceable to, money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956 and 1957; under 18 U.S.C. § 982 (a)(3) because it is, or is traceable to, gross receipts and proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of mail fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341, and wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343. Authority for this warrant is provided by 18 U.S.C. § 981(b) and 21 U.S.C. § 853(f). I am satisfied that the affidavit(s) and any recorded testimony establish probable cause to believe that the property so described is subject to seizure and that grounds exist for the issuance of this seizure warrant. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to seize within 10 days the property specified, serving this warrant and making the seizure (in the daytime -- 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.) (at any time in the day or night as I find reasonable cause has been established). leaving a copy of this warrant and receipt for the property selzed, and prepare a written inventory of the property seized and promptly return this warrant to any U.S. Magistrate Judge as required by law. U.S. Judge or Magistrate 90 November 9, 2007 Asheville, North Carolina at me and Date Issued City and State Q Dennis L. Howell, U.S. Magistrate Judge Name and Title of Judicial Officer Signature of Judicial Officer

208 772 9739

12/14/2007 11:12

From:

From:

AO 109 (2/90) Seizure Warrant

208 772 9739

.

12/14/2007 11:13

#324 P.004/004

		RETURN			····
ATE WARRANT RECEIVED	DATE AND TIME	E WARRANT EXECUTED	COPY OF WARRANT	AND RECEIPT FOR ITE	MS LEFT WITH
VENTORY MADE IN THE PR	ESENCE OF		<u></u>	•	
VENTORY OF PERSON OR		V PURSUANT TO THE WAI	RANT		
Ν,			·		
	•				
· · ·					
	*				
					•
• •		<u></u>			
		CERTIFICAT	ICN .		

Exhibit B

.

TOTAL COIN INVENTORY			DAY 1				·	υ	AY 2			
-	Coins	Multiplier	Total		Coins	Multiplier	Total	Inv. Page	Coins	Multiplier	Total	
7	500	1	500.00	10	960	6	5,760.00	· 7	500	. 1	500.00	
7	2	0.5	1.00	11	960		20,160.00	8	213	1	213.00	
8	213	1	213.00	12 ·	960		20,160.00	18	960	11	10,560.00	
10	960	6	5,760.00	13	960		20,160.00	18	958	· 2	1,916.00	
11	960	21	20,160.00	14	960		20,160.00	18	. 320	1	320.00	-
12	960	. 21	20,160.00	15	960	21	20,160.00	19	320	6	1,920.00	
13	960	21	20,160.00	16	960	21	20,160.00	[.] 19	110	1	110.00	
14	960	21	20,160.00	17	960	21	20,160.00	19	67	1	67.00	
15	960	21	20,160.00	18	960	7	6,720.00	19	39	1	39.00	
16	960	21	20,160.00	Total			153,600.00	19	27	1	27.00	
17	960	21	20,160.00					26	36		36.00	
18	960	18	17,280.00					0	· 2	1	2.00	
18	958	2	1,916.00					Ō	2		2.00	
18	320	1	320.00						2	0.5	1.00	
19	320	6	1,920.00			-		5 19	410	0.5 .	205.00	
19	110	1	110.00					19	300	0.5	150.00	
19	67	1	67.00					Total	000	<u></u>	16,068.00	-
19	39	1	39.00			•					10,000,00	
19	27	1	27.00					Silver Bars			10,720.59	
26	36	1	36.00	•						•	1011 20100	
	2	1	2.00					Grand Total		-	180,388.59	-
	2	1	2.00					orana rota		-	100,000.00	=
19			•	Devid L Devid	,		169,668.00	City and Dama			10 000 00	
	410	0.5	205.00	Day 1 + Day 2	2		109,008.00	Silver Bars			16,000.05	
19	300	. 0.5	150.00	T (10)	•				< 1	1001		
	. .			Total Silver I	Jars		26,720.64	Total	21		196,388.64	OHNOS
Total Silver (Coins		169,668.00									
•									G	(1)	101	Ounce
								1 6	$n \odot$	sige /	1.Johod	o Office
.1 1								NOK T	י א א	(3
12907	۱	,000	, C 07	Pener	e do	llaci	Λ	AINTO -	1200			
		,						MM 3	8/1 x- 1			
1/29/07 1/26/07	. 1		5 02	D	>	milan	VH M		•			
12010-1	1	1000	·5 04	peace			VAYY/					
						1	.1					
						1 an	1º X					
						Ń	$\sqrt{2}$					•
•	•					V	1	$\overline{}$				
				Day 1 + Day 2 Total Silver I Peace				/	•			
								/				
		-										

208 772 9739

From:

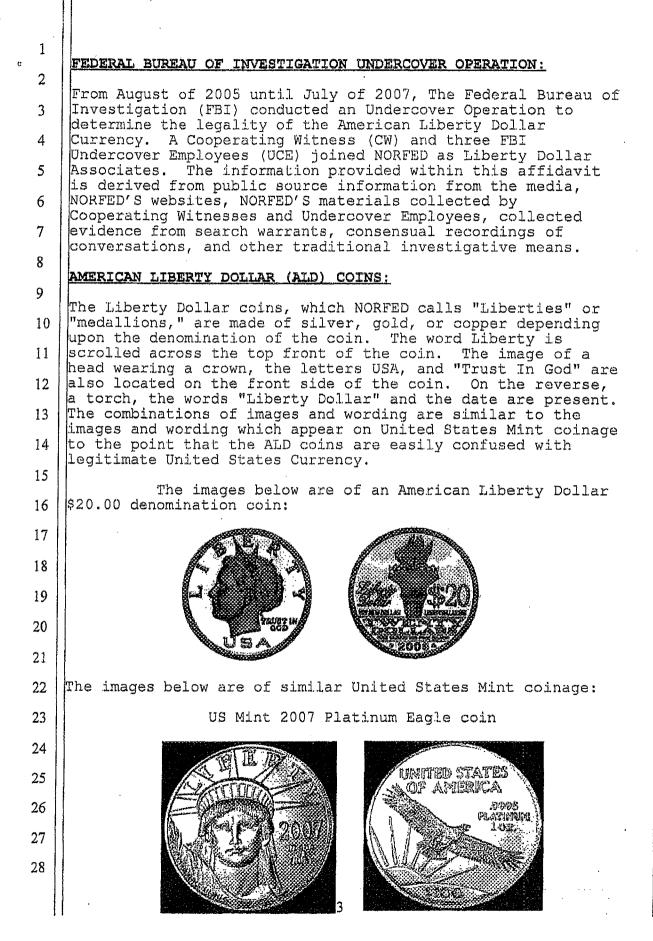
Exhibit C

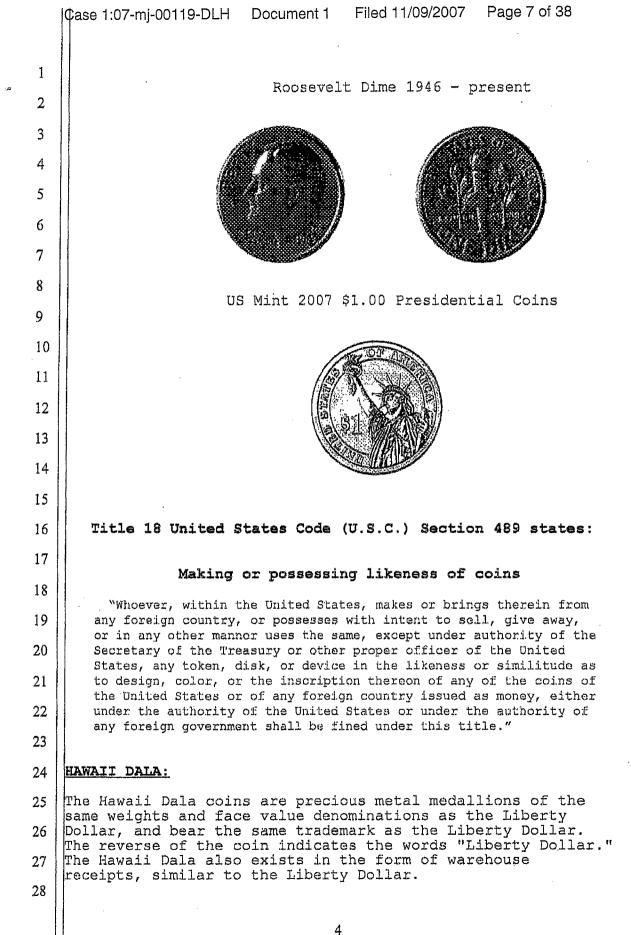
¢

	Case 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 4 of 38
1	NDV - 9 2007
2	WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA W. DIST. OF N.C.
3	ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
4	AFFIDAVIT Nos: 1:09mj 119, 120 121+122
5	121 + 122
6	This affiant, Andrew F. Romagnuolo, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, being duly sworn, states the
7	following:
8	I am a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation(FBI), Charlotte Division, Asheville, North
9	Carolina Resident Agency. This affiant has been employed as a Special Agent of the FBI for approximately nine years and
10	ten months.
11	I am presently investigating violations of Federal Laws, specifically violations of Title 18 United States Code,
12	Section 486, Uttering coins of gold, silver or other metal, Title 18 United States Code, Section 489, making or
13	possessing likeness of coins, Title 18 United States Code, Section 1341, Mail Fraud, Title 18 United States Code, Section 1343, Wire Fraud, Title 18 United States Code,
14	Sections 1956 and 1957, Money Laundering, and Title 18 United
15 16	States Code, Section 371, Conspiracy. As a result of personal participation in the investigative
10	matters referred to in this affidavit, and based upon reports made to me by other law enforcement officers and private
18	citizens, I am familiar with the facts and circumstances of this investigation. On the basis of that familiarity, I state the following:
19	NORFED AND THE AMERICAN LIBERTY DOLLAR:
20	The National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal
21 22	Reserve and Internal Revenue Codes (NORFED) creates and issues a monetary currency called the American Liberty Dollar. As the organization's name implies, the goal of
22	NORFED is to undermine the United States government's financial systems by the issuance of a non-governmental
23 24	competing currency for the purpose of repealing the Federal Reserve and the Internal Revenue Code. The currency
24	violations cited above support the additional federal violations including mail fraud, wire fraud, and conspiracy.
26	NORFED was recently renamed Liberty Services, Inc., also
27	known as The Liberty Dollar. The name change came following a United States Mint warning that prosecutors with the
28	Department of Justice had determined that the Liberty Dollar currency creation and usage violated federal law. The
	1

Case 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 5 of 38

purpose of the name change ostensibly was the removal of the 1 political goals and language inherent in the name "National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve and 2 Internal Revenue Code" (NORFED). However, the name NORFED is located on the minted Liberty Dollar coin. For the purpose 3 of this affidavit the company will be referred to as NORFED. 4 The currency, called the American Liberty Dollar a.k.a. Liberty Dollar (ALD), exists in three forms; paper currency 5 called warehouse receipts, coins, and Digital or eDollars. б NORFED claims to have approximately \$21,000,000.00 in ALD 7 currency in circulation to date. NORFED LEADERSHIP: 8 BERNARD VON NOTHAUS is the founder of the American Liberty 9 Dollar currency, the founder of NORFED, the self-described monetary architect and Executive Director of Liberty Dollar 10 Services, Inc., and is also the Regional Currency Officer, Evansville, Indiana. Von Nothaus is also a member of the 11 NORFED Executive Committee. 12 WILLIAM KEVIN INNES is the Asheville, NC, Regional Currency Officer for the Liberty Dollar organization and one of three 13 members of the NORFED Executive Committee. 14 SARAH BLEDSOE is the NORFED Fulfillment Office Manager in Evansville, Indiana. 15 MICHAEL JOHNSON was chosen by von Nothaus as his successor as 16 the Executive Director of NORFED. Johnson's position was announced on 08/29/06. However, shortly after the US Mint press release which notified NORFED that prosecutors with the 17 Department of Justice had determined that their currency was 18 a violation of the Federal law, Johnson resigned. Johnson's resignation was announced on 11/28/06, at which time, von 19 Nothaus resumed duties as the Executive Director. 20 On 11/28/06, Von Nothaus sent an email "LIBERTY DOLLAR NEWS: November 2006 Vol. 8 No. 11," which contained twelve notes. 21 The second note in the newsletter indicated, 22 "It is with shock and disappointment that I must inform you that Mike Johnson has resigned, telling 23 me he was too "concerned" to be the Executive Director. So now I have to add "courage" to my 24 list of requirements for an Executive Director. Of. course this experience cost us a lot of money as we 25 invested in Mike with the idea that he would generate more volume, but that was not the case. 26 In fact, we have very little for his 2-1/2 months on the job. We wish Mike well and are now 27 accepting applications for a new "courageous" Executive Director, please." 28





and a second second

 According to the website, the Hawaii Dala is marketed in the same way as the Liberty Dollar, as a voluntary local
 currency.

On 12/18/06, Coin World magazine released an article
 entitled, <u>Husband, wife lease Royal Hawaiian Mint NORFED</u>
 founder issues RHM piece. A portion of the article reads as
 follows:

"... New silver issues under the RHM hallmark, along with the recent Hawaii Dala medal, are being produced by the Sunshine Mint in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, although the pieces will carry the RHM hallmark.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Since von Nothaus was responsible for the new silver release under the RHM banner, the reverse is struck with his personal registered hallmark, which has the letters rhm followed by a triangle with a circle and the letter b inside. All other future RHM issues will likely carry just the RHM hallmark without von Nothaus' personal mark."

12 On 08/29/07 a website search for the Hawaii Dala indicated that the destination website was <u>www.norfed.org.</u> Once in the 13 www.norfed.org website, a user may choose the link "Money & Currency" which will send the user to a menu whereby the 14 Hawaii Dala is listed. The caption indicates, "The Hawaii Dala - first officially issued in January 2007 - explodes the evolving Liberty Dollar concept." The link sends the user to 15 www.hawaiidala.com, which indicates that payments may be made . 16 to "Royal Hawaiian Mint" and mailed to the Royal Hawaiian Mint Fulfillment Office, 225 N. Stockwell Road, Evansville, 17 IN 47715, the same address as the Liberty Dollar Fulfillment Office. 18

19 On 3/24/07, during a consensually recorded meeting with a UCE of the FBI, von Nothaus spoke of the Hawaii Dala. Regarding 20 the five dollar (\$5.00) Hawaii Dala, von Nothaus stated, "the Princess Kailani piece is undoubtedly one of the most 21 beautiful pieces that I've ever done."

22 Based upon the information collected regarding the Hawaii Dala, and other variations of coinage created and marketed by 23 von Nothaus and NORFED, including Liberty Dollars/Libertads from Panama and Ecuador, it is clear that they are part of 24 the same scheme and violate the same statutes as the Liberty Dollar. 25

CURRENCY BACKED BY PRECIOUS METAL:

26 NORFED markets the warehouse receipts and eDollars as "100% backed by silver." Audits and the NORFED website at <u>www.libertydollar.org</u> indicate that each edollar and 28 warehouse receipt are backed by one troy ounce of .999 fine Case 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 9 of 38

silver. A \$20.00 ALD warehouse receipt backed by one troy 1 ounce of .999 fine silver is valued at the daily spot price of silver. As of 11/08/07, according to www.kitco.com, the 2 New York Spot Price of silver is \$15.34, which would be a \$4.66 value shortfall for every eDollar and warehouse receipt 3 issued in the \$20.00 ALD denomination. Even under NORFED's own auditing standards, the ALD currency is not "100% backed 4 by silver" as advertised. A one troy ounce coin of the ALD currency is currently minted as a \$20.00 denomination coin. 5 The actual value of the ounce of silver is also the daily spot price of silver. As of 11/08/07, the shortfall for the 6 coins would be the same as the eDollar or warehouse receipt, 7 \$4.66. 8 The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory conducted metallurgy testing on a ten dollar base, \$10.00 9 denomination American Liberty Dollar (ALD) coin and confirmed that the coin consisted of one troy ounce of .999% fine silver. 10 The NORFED Headquarters, which the organization refers to as the Fulfillment Office, is the contact to purchase ALD 11 currency and to manage the recruitment of new members. 12 NORFED sells the ALD currency at different prices dependant upon the level of membership of a participant. 13 There are three basic levels of membership. The first is a 14 regional marketer called a Regional Currency Officer (RCO). The RCO pays an annual fee to obtain a region where they are 15 responsible for the marketing of the ALD and for recruiting Liberty Dollar Associates. 16 Page 43 of a pamphlet distributed in the Liberty Dollar 17 Associate membership package indicated: 18 Guidelines for Regional Currency Offices 1. Requirements for Establishment of a Regional 19 Currency Office a. An Applicant for RCO status must have a 20 personal Net Worth in excess of \$50,000 USD. b. An Applicant for RCO status must be a 21 Liberty Associate for a minimum of one year prior to making application, unless approved by Executive 22. Committee. c. An Applicant for RCO status must agree to 23 abide by the RCO Code of Ethics. d. An Applicant for RCO status must agree to 24 support local Liberty Merchants by offering conversion of excess Liberty Dollars to FRNs when 25 necessary. (Note: FRN is an abbreviation for Federal Reserve 26 Note) e. An Applicant for RCO status must agree to 27 maintain a minimum reserve fund of \$2,500.00 in FRN's to facilitate convertibility. 28

f. An Applicant for RCO status must agree to support local Liberty Associates by providing LA discounts on Liberty Dollars in accordance with current NORFED pricing structures. (Note: LA is an abbreviation for Liberty Associate)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

On 10/26/06, during a consensually recorded conversation with an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Von Nothaus stated that in order to become an RCO, people had to be approved by the Executive Committee, which consisted of Von Nothaus; William Kevin Innes, RCO, Asheville, NC; and Ron Goodger, RCO, Fort Wayne, IN.

8 The next level of membership below the RCO is the Liberty 9 Dollar Associate. A Liberty Dollar Associate (Associate) pays \$250.00 for membership. The Associate receives \$100.00 in ALD currency and a packet of information for the membership fee. The referring person, normally another 11 Associate or RCO, also receives \$100.00 in ALD currency. NORFED keeps \$50.00 of the membership fee for administrative costs. The Associate can then purchase ALD currency at a discounted rate from their RCO or from the NORFED website.

A Cooperating Witness (CW) paid \$250.00 to become a Liberty
Dollar Associate. The Regional Currency Officer for
Asheville, North Carolina, William Kevin Innes, placed a
telephone call to the NORFED Fulfillment Office in
Evansville, Indiana and purchased the Liberty Dollar
Associate membership for the CW utilizing his credit card.

The CW received a box with the Book, <u>The Liberty Dollar</u> <u>Solution To the Federal Reserve</u>, other materials and American Liberty Dollar coins, Warehouse Receipts and eDollars.

A Cooperating Witness (CW) referred an Undercover Employee
(UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for membership as a Liberty Dollar Associate and received a check
for \$100.00 in United States currency, known by NORFED as Federal Reserve Notes (FRN) as a referral fee.

21 Two UCEs of the FBI joined NORFED as Liberty Dollar 22 Associates and one received a check for \$100.00 in United States currency, known by NORFED as Federal Reserve Notes 23 (FRN) as a referral fee for the other.

The marketing system NORFED operates to sell the currency 24 into circulation is a multi-level marketing scheme. The scheme gives NORFED, RCOs, and Associates a profit for 25 selling the ALDs into circulation. When the ALD reached the point of being unprofitable, NORFED conducted a "move up" of 26 the currency. In 1998, the ALD currency was minted using a \$10.00 base, meaning that a \$10.00 ALD coin, eDollar, or 27 warehouse receipt was backed by one troy ounce of silver. In November of 2005, the thirty (30) day moving average of the 28

spot price of silver reached the "move up point" set by 1 NORFED. NORFED recalled all of the \$10.00 base coins and warehouse receipts and "re-minted" the currency as a \$20.00 2 base currency. This change made what the day prior had been a \$10.00 denomination ALD coin, warehouse receipt, or eDollar 3 backed by one troy ounce of silver, a re-minted re-issued 4 \$20.00 denomination coin. This instantly doubled the value of the currency. The "move up" left the silver and gold holdings at the same level as they were at the ten dollar 5 base. Thus the face value of the entire currency was doubled 6 without changing the holdings at all. The other effect of the "move up" was a tremendous increase in profits for NORFED, RCOs and Associates. 7

8 The third level of membership is the member Merchant. These 9 Merchants accept American Liberty Dollar currency as payment 9 for goods and/or services at the face value of the ALD currency or at a dollar to dollar value with Federal Reserve 10 Notes (FRN). The Merchant can also purchase the ALD currency at a discount and pass it as change to make a profit. 11

The use of bank accounts and negotiable instruments which convert to United States currency demonstrates NORFED's willingness to use and profit from United States currency which NORFED describes as worthless. Additionally, NORFED uses bank accounts to facilitate the distribution, sale, and circulation of the American Liberty Dollar currency. The following banks and accounts have been utilized by NORFED to

15 do so:

16 BANK ACCOUNTS:

17 NORFED has maintained several bank accounts in which transactions were conducted since the inception of the Liberty Dollar in 1998. One such bank account is the Integra Bank, Account #7800025301. The name indicated on the checks
19 was NORFED. The address indicated on the checks was 3819 E. Morgan Ave., Evansville, IN 47715, until approximately July, 20 2004, when the address was changed to 225 N. Stockwell Rd, Evansville, IN 47715.
21

An analysis of account #7800025301 records dated from 22 October of 2002 to September of 2005 indicated that checks were written to Sunshine Minting, Inc., in excess of \$140,000.00; Bernard von Nothaus, in excess of \$114,000.00; 23 Cash, endorsed by Bernard von Nothaus and other known employees in excess of \$92,500.00; Random von Nothaus, for 24 \$150.00; Suzy Nothouse and/or Suzy Nothhouse in excess of \$11,500.00; Kevin Innes for \$1,700.00; Michelle Jones in 25 excess of \$37,500; Raylene Callis in excess of \$5,300.00; Sarah Bledsoe in excess of \$56,800.00; Telle Presley in excess of \$5,700.00; United Parcel Service in excess of 26 \$64,000.00; UPS in excess of \$2,500.00; Post Office and 27 Postmaster for approximately \$2,500.00; Clark, Anderson, McNelis & Co., P.A. in excess of \$4,400.00; Coin World for 28

\$1,500.00; CPU (Computers, Parts & Upgrades) for \$120.00; and 1 several known Regional Currency Officers. Additionally, there was a check written to Integra Bank, "Bernard von 2 Nothaus" was written on the memo line, and appeared to be signed by Bernard von Nothaus for \$13,000.00. The check 3 appears to have been transacted for cash. 4 An analysis of wire transfers from this NORFED account at Integra Bank indicated that for the year 2005, independent of 5 the checking account transactions, an excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) was transferred by wire to Bernard б von Nothaus and the Sunshine Minting, Inc. 7 NORFED, as Liberty Services, Inc. of 527 N. Green River 8 Rd. #158, Evansville, IN 47715, currently maintains an active account, **#7801142980**, with Integra Bank. The current account balance as of 09/27/2007 was \$106,734.73. Review of this 9 account for the period from December 2006 to August 2007 identified the following disbursements, all issued by Sarah 10 Bledsoe: 11 1. Five checks issued to William Kevin Innes for a total of approximately \$800.00. 12 13 2. Three checks issued to ANDERSON BROTHERS CPA for a total of approximately \$1500.00. 14 3. Numerous checks issued to Sarah Bledsoe for a total of approximately \$27,300.00. 15 4. Numerous checks issued to Bernard von Nothaus for a 16 total of approximately \$65,250.00. 17 5. Numerous checks issued to Sunshine Minting, Inc. for a total of approximately \$997,800.00 18 19 6. Eight checks issued to the Royal Hawaiian Mint for a total of approximately \$5,128.00. 20 7. One check issued to an UCE for the cash value of the UCE's eDollar account upon cash out. 21 22 Opening documentation for the account show the account holders as Bernard von Nothaus and Sarah Bledsoe. 23 William Kevin Innes utilized a bank account, First Citizens Bank, Account #005617167436. Opening documentation shows the 24 account holder as W. Kevin Innes. The account is currently 25 closed due to an overdrawn balance. An analysis of First Citizens Bank, Account #005617167436 26 records dated from January 2005 to July 2007, indicated the following relate to Liberty Dollars: 27 1. Approximately \$26,370.00 was disbursed from the 28

9

A STATE FOR THE FOR THE FOR THE PARTY PROPERTY AND THE PARTY AND THE PARTY

Dase 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 13 of 38

đ

account to NORFED through checks and Visa debit card. 1 Additionally, approximately \$5,300.00 in wire transfers were disbursed to NORFED. 2 2. The records indicate deposits from purchases of 3 currency, membership fees, and deposits received from NORFED for approximately \$24,450.00. 4 3. An UCE of the FBI wrote two checks to Innes during 5 the course of this investigation. Bank records indicate that both of those checks were deposited into this account. 6 7 FULFILIMENT OFFICE, a.k.a. NORFED HEADQUARTERS: 8 The NORFED Fulfillment Office is located at 225 N. Stockwell 9 Road, Evansville, Indiana 47715. A Cooperating Witness and two undercover employees (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have been to the office. 10 Von Nothaus and several RCO's referred to the "Fulfillment 11 Office, " "front office, " and "NORFED Headquarters" interchangeably during several meetings attended by 12 undercover employees (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as well as in correspondence. 13 Additionally, the book included in each Associate packet, The Liberty Dollar Solution To The Federal Reserve, Edited by 14 Bernard von Nothaus indicates under the "Acknowledgments" section that Sarah Bledsoe, Michelle Jones, Raylene Callis, 15 and Telle Presley are staff at the Liberty Dollar National Fulfillment Office. 16 On 10/20/05, during a Liberty Dollar University training 17 session, von Nothaus mentioned that there were three (3) women who worked at the fulfillment office in Evansville, IN. 18 von Nothaus received unsolicited positive feedback as to the RCO's experience in dealing with the Liberty Dollar employees 19 in the Fulfillment Office. During the class, von Nothaus and other RCO's explained that the NORFED Headquarters was where 20 the RCO's place orders for ALDs. The ALD coins were shipped out to the RCO's from the NORFED Headquarters. 21 22 Von Nothaus and Innes regularly spoke of placing an order for ALD's "with the front office" during conversations with UCEs of the FBI. 23 UCEs of the FBI received their Liberty Dollar Associate 24 currency purchases and Liberty Dollar Associate membership 25 materials at the Fulfillment Office from Sarah Bledsoe during their attendance at Liberty Dollar University in April of 2007. 26 UCEs placed telephone calls to the Fulfillment Office to 27 purchase memberships and to make arrangements for attendance at Liberty Dollar Universities and related social functions. 28 10

TO PROVIDE A CONTRACTOR OF THE REAL OF T

THE NORFED PROFIT SCHEME:

1

. 4

186

2 3 4	The "formula" used to determine the different prices of silver begins with the "spot silver price" of one ounce of silver on the stock market. NORFED uses the website www.kitko.com as their official marker for the spot price.
5 6 7 8	Once the spot silver price is determined, a "minting fee" is added; a "shipping fee" is added; and NORFED's profit is added. These fees and profit are referred to by NORFED as "Fabrication & Overhead." This new price is called the "RCO rate." This is the rate for which the RCO may purchase Liberty Dollars from NORFED.
9 10 11	Because the RCO has purchased his/her franchise, the RCO may then sell the Liberty Dollar for whatever amount/price he/she deems appropriate. NORFED recommends, and the general practice of the RCO's, is to then split the difference between the RCO rate and the "face value" of the coin. This price is the "Associate rate."
12 13 14	Some RCOs set their Merchant rate at the Associate rate. This is the rate at which the coin is marketed to merchants willing to accept and circulate the currency. However, some RCOs sell to their Merchants by splitting the difference between the Associate rate and the "face value" of the coin. This rate is the "Merchant rate."
15 16	A person not affiliated with the Liberty Dollar must pay the "face value" which is minted on the coins.
17	LIBERTY DOLLAR UNIVERSITY:
18 19 20	NORFED provides training information in the Associate membership packet and also trains RCOs and Associates at regional training events called Liberty Dollar University (LDU). An Associate or RCO may attend Liberty Dollar University for the price of two-hundred United States dollars (\$200.00 USD) per attendee. Within the membership training
21	materials and as a part of the LDU training, the organization provides a sales method called "The Drop." Using "The Drop,"
22	the NORFED member approaches a business person to attempt to persuade them to utilize the ALD currency. The NORFED member
23 24	holds out an ALD coin and drops the coin in the person's hand so that they can feel the weight of the silver. The NORFED member then asks, "Do you take silver?" They do not describe
24 25	or offer any explanation that the ALD is an alternative currency. Additionally, if the person is reluctant to take
26	the ALD coin, the NORFED member is instructed to provide United States currency instead. NORFED describes United
27	States currency as Federal Reserve Notes (FRN) of Fiat Currency.
28	In NORFED's training material provided to all Liberty Dollar
	11

members who attend Liberty Dollar University, a training 1 session for the Liberty Dollar, it is clearly written that: 2 "*NOTE: Due to mfg and overhead there is a period when the formula does not work. This period is 3 called "no man's land" because nobody wants to be there. But to get to the new \$20 Silver Base, we 4 must go through it to "Crossover." During this 5 time the RCOs create their own pricing. When spot silver is over \$8.50 NORFED uses an intern pricing for the later period of the 30 days required to 6 Crossover." 7 The RCO quote for the one ounce coin at the \$10 Silver Base is provided in the LDU training material as follows: 8 9 Spot Silver Price = \$6.00RCO Rate = \$6.00 (Spot price) + \$1.50 (Fabrication. & Overhead) = \$7.50 (Shipping costs are not 10 included in these calculations.) Associate Rate = \$7.50 + \$1.25 (Half the difference 11 between \$10 and \$7.50) = \$8.7512 The minimum order requirement for an RCO is 1,000 ounces in any combination of denominations. 13 14 The material then illustrates the math whereby the RCO enters "no man's land." 15 Spot Silver Price = \$8.50 RCO Rate = \$8.50 (Spot price) + \$1.50 (Fabrication 16 & Overhead) = \$10.00 (Shipping costs are not included in these calculations.) 17 Associate Rate = \$10.00 + \$0.00 (There is no difference between the RCO rate and the market 18 value) = \$10.0019 Because of this void in profit, NORFED determined that it would conduct the "Crossover," later dubbed the "Move Up," 20 when the thirty (30) day moving average of the Spot Silver Price reached \$7.50 for a period of thirty (30) consecutive 21 days. 22 The training material further indicated that future "Crossovers" would occur at the following Spot Silver Prices: 23 Crossover point from the \$10 to the \$20 Silver Base 24 is \$7.50 30DMA (30 Day Moving Average) Crossover point from the \$20 to the \$50 Silver Base 25 is \$16.00 30DMA Crossover point from the \$50 to the \$100 Silver 26 Base is \$41.50 30DMA Crossover point from the \$100 to the \$250 Silver 27 Base is \$84.00 30DMA Crossover point from the \$250 to the \$500 Silver 28

Base is \$211.50 30DMA

a.

1 These "Crossover" points create a period referred to in the training material as a "windfall." This "windfall" can be 2 illustrated simply by comparing the profits reaped at the 3 final stage of the \$10 Silver Base to the profits reaped at the initial stage of the \$20 Silver Base for the one ounce 4 coin: 5 \$10 Silver Base (previously explained for \$6 Spot Price) RCO Rate = \$7.506 Associate Rate = \$8.75 Face Value = \$10.007 8 \$20 Silver Base 9 Spot Silver Price = \$8.00 RCO Rate = \$8.00 (Spot price) + \$3.00 (Fabrication & Overhead) = \$11.00 (Shipping costs are not included in these 10 calculations.) 11 Associate Rate = \$11.00 + \$4.50 (Half the difference between \$11 and \$20) = \$15.50*Face Value = \$20.0012 * When discussing the "Crossover" and rates for the Liberty 13 Dollar at the \$20 Silver Base, the training material indicated: 14 "Our earlier experience has taught us to set the 15 maximum Associate discount at 20% from face value; therefore the Associate Quote at \$8 silver would be 16 \$16, not \$15.50. We anticipate this period to be very brief but any windfall would help compensate 17 the RCOs for their losses during the period in "no man's land" just prior to the Crossover." 18 A coin, for which the spot silver sold for \$6.00 provided the 19 RCOs with a \$1.25 profit per coin. That same coin, for which the spot silver sold for \$8.00 provided the RCOs with a \$5.00 20 profit per coin. The difference in spot price is two dollars (\$2) but the difference in profit margin is three dollars and 21 seventy-five cents (\$3.75). 22 This disparity in spot price and profit margin is dramatically inflated as the Silver Base rises. Based on the 23 calculations for the \$500 Silver Base, the RCOs will profit \$114.50 per coin (assuming fabrication and overhead stays the 24 same and the maximum Associate discount remains 20%). 25 On 3/24/07, during a consensually recorded conversation with an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of 26 Investigation (FBI) Bernard von Nothaus, the Monetary Architect of the Liberty Dollar, stated that the "move up" or 27 "Crossover" to the \$50 Silver Base would occur when the 45 day moving average of the spot price of silver reached 28

1 \$16.50.

n:

10

On 3/28/07, during a consensually recorded conversation with an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of
Investigation (FBI), William Kevin Innes, the Regional
Currency Officer (RCO) for Asheville, North Carolina,
indicated that the "Fabrication and Overhead" costs would increase as the Silver Base increased. However, the base
coins will continue to be one ounce.

6 On 3/24/07, during a consensually recorded conversation with an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of 7 Investigation (FBI), von Nothaus showed a group of Asheville Liberty Dollar Associates a coin minted for the \$50 Silver 8 Base. The one ounce coin was a Liberty Dollar with the face value of \$50. Von Nothaus stated that the coins minted with the \$50 symbol on them were used to support the eDollars and silver certificates currently issued by NORFED.

BERNARD VON NOTHAUS:

Bernard von Nothaus is the founder of the American Liberty
Dollar currency, the founder of NORFED, the self-described monetary architect and Executive Director of Liberty Dollar
Services, Inc., and Regional Currency Officer, Evansville, Indiana. Von Nothaus is also a member of the NORFED
Executive Committee.

15 On 10/20/05, during a consensually recorded session of a Liberty Dollar University, von Nothaus spoke about the Board
16 of Directors for NORFED. He stated that they chose not to be identified. However, von Nothaus identified himself as the
17 Chairman of the Board. Von Nothaus also identified himself as the President of the RCO Congress.

18 In each Associate packet, NORFED sends a book entitled <u>The</u>
19 Liberty Dollar Solution To The Federal Reserve, Edited by
20 Bernard von Nothaus. An excerpt of the biography on the back
20 cover of this book describes von Nothaus as the designer and
20 developer of the Liberty Dollar and the "Monetary Architect"
21 at NORFED, a non-profit, free enterprise corporation that
21 distributes the Liberty Dollar since 1998.

On 03/24/07, during a consensually recorded meeting with an UCE, von Nothaus acknowledged that he had a team of attorneys working for him when he introduced the Liberty Dollar. They created the disclaimer for the Liberty Dollar. Von Nothaus stated that they discussed Title 18, Section 486, a long time ago. Von Nothaus referred to Title 18, Section 486, and advised the UCE that was the section of the law which prohibited the use of the word "utter." Von Nothaus stated that the Liberty Dollar Certificates were not illegal. Title 18, Section 486 only addressed specie.

28

During the same consensually recorded meeting von Nothaus

stated that he postponed any further interviews of his 1 potential successors until the conclusion of his legal filings with the US Government. Von Nothaus felt that if he 2 lost his lawsuit he would have to serve five (5) years in prison, as the Liberty Dollar would be ruled illegal, and he 3 had clearly founded and grew the Liberty Dollar Organization. Von Nothaus also felt that if he won his lawsuit he would not 4 have to worry about his successor because the legality issue would not be pertinent and the organization would grow. Von 5 Nothaus stated that he was running a multi-million dollar company and needed a business person with twenty (20) years 6 of marketing experience. Von Nothaus stated that he could not convert a Patriot to be someone with twenty (20) years of 7 experience, but he could convert a business person into a Patriot. 8

- www.geocities.com describes the Patriot Movement as a 9 "loosely organized group whose members believe that the federal government has become tyrannical in its attempts to 10 control citizen's lives in areas such as taxation, 11 environmental regulation, gun ownership, and constitutional liberties."
- 12 At Liberty Dollar University #7, held from 10/19/05 through 13 10/22/05 and at Liberty Dollar University #11, held from 10/25/06 through 10/28/06, Innes and von Nothaus were the 14 primary instructors for the entirety of the training events. Innes primarily taught marketing techniques. Von Nothaus primarily taught the business profit margin methodology. 15
- On 04/12/07, during a consensually recorded session of 16 Liberty Dollar University #13, von Nothaus stated that he was the only person to attend every Liberty Dollar University. 17 He also identified himself and Innes as the instructors for the Liberty Dollar Universities. 18
- On 08/28/07, during a search of <u>www.allwhois.com</u> for the 19 domain ownership of www.libertvdollar.org, it was determined that the domain registrant is Sarah Bledsoe, von Nothaus' 20 assistant. The organization listed is the Liberty Dollar at 225 N. Stockwell Rd, Evansville, IN 47715. 21 The administrative organization for the website is NORFED at 225
- N. Stockwell Rd, Evansville, IN 47715. 22
- 23 BERNARD VON NOTHAUS ' VEHICLE:

The vehicle is described by an undercover employee (UCE) of 24 the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a luxury vehicle. On 3/24/07, in a recorded meeting between the UCE 25 and von Nothaus, von Nothaus stated that the government 26 couldn't have him driving around in a silver Cadillac. On 08/28/07, a Department of Motor Vehicles check indicated that von Nothaus and Mary von Nothouse are associated by listing 27 themselves as insured drivers for the same vehicle, which was registered in the state of Florida, license plate number 28

Þ

J69FEP, Vehicle Identification Number (VIN): 1 1G6KD54Y0XU758775 which is a 1999 Cadillac Deville, four door, aluminum silver in color. On 8/28/07, a Lexis Nexis 2 check of Bernard von Nothaus indicated the title holders for the 1999 Cadillac Deville are Mary S. von Nothouse and 3 Bernard von Nothaus. Additionally, the Lexis Nexis check indicated von Nothaus' personal information as follows: date 4 of birth 03/19/1944, Social Security Account Number 492-46-7355, and home address 527 N Green River Road, Apt A158, 5 Evansville, IN 47715-2472. 6 On 10/27/06, while in attendance at a Liberty Dollar 7 University, von Nothaus sold the UCE a Liberty Dollar tshirt. Von Nothaus stated that he brought the t-shirts to sell from the Fulfillment Office in Evansville, IN. Von 8 Nothaus traveled from the Fulfillment Office to the LDU via 9 his personal car. 10 On several occasions from October 2005 to May 2007, the UCE witnessed von Nothaus carrying a briefcase and other containers which were transported in his vehicle or the 11 vehicle in which von Nothaus was riding. The briefcase and other containers transported newly updated marketing material 12 for the Liberty Dollar, Liberty Dollars, proofs for newly minted or soon-to-be minted Liberty Dollars and State 13 Monetary Initiative Liberty Dollars, striking equipment for von Nothaus to specifically mark individual coins to add 14 value to the coins in the numismatic market, proofs for the Royal Hawaiian Mint silver coins, t-shirts, RCO supplies, and 15 other miscellaneous items which contribute to the distribution and marketing of the Liberty Dollar. It was the 16 UCE's understanding that the briefcase and other containers were designed for transport to speaking engagements, and were 17 regularly maintained in von Nothaus' vehicle. 18 On 3/24/07, the UCE and von Nothaus attended a Liberty Dollar 19 meeting in Asheville, NC. Von Nothaus provided everyone in the group with an updated version of the Liberty Dollar brochure. Additionally, von Nothaus passed Liberty Dollar 20 coins and coins from the Royal Hawaiian Mint around the table. The coins included the new California \$20 Liberty 21 Dollar; Liberty Dollars/Libertads from Panama and Ecuador; 22 the Hawaii Dala, in denominations of five dollars (\$5.00 ALD), ten dollars (\$10.00 ALD) and twenty dollars (\$20.00 23 ALD); and the fifty-dollar (\$50.00 ALD) Liberty Dollar. The brochures and the coins were all produced from the above mentioned containers which were transported to the meeting in 24 von Nothaus' vehicle. 25 METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION: 26

A Cooperating Witness (CW) and an Undercover Employee (UCE)
 of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) received
 mailings from the NORFED Fulfillment Office, 225 N. Stockwell
 Road, Evansville, Indiana 47715, which contained the NORFED

1 ي

2

6

Liberty Dollar Associate introductory packet of materials, silver Liberty Dollar coins, Warehouse Receipts, and information to access an on-line account for eDollars.

An Undercover Employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) also accessed the on-line eDollar account
with a forty-dollar (\$40.00) purchase of the initial Associate package. The UCE cashed out of the eDollars and received a check for thirty dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$30.38).

METHODS OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION:

7 An UCE of the FBI also joined NORFED'S egroup which
8 distributes marketing information via the internet. The UCE documented and maintained all egroup communications conducted
9 with the NORFED egroup. The communications include information on the "move ups", information regarding NORFED'S decision to continue to market and distribute the currency after the US Mint warning, and other information related to
11 the operation and usage of the currency.

Bernard von Nothaus, the "Monetary Architect" of the Liberty Dollar, is currently asking for donations for his "Legal
Defense Fund" based upon the United States Mint warning. He is asking that the donations be provided in Federal Reserve
Notes (FRN). Solicitation of donations has appeared in the egroup communications, as a letter in the Liberty Dollar
Associate welcome package, and at the 3/24/07 Liberty Dollar Associate meeting with von Nothaus in Asheville, NC.

16 In <u>The Liberty Dollar Solution To The Federal Reserve</u> part 17 IV, The Liberty Dollar, Chapter 30, Competition Comes to the Fed, on page 260 states, "The Liberty Dollar, which is 100% backed and \$100% redeemable in gold and silver, provides a simple solution: "Stop using Federal Reserve money and start using the Liberty Dollar to return America to value - one dollar at a time." The paragraph ends and is followed by a quote from Edmund Burke, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

21
21
22 The chapter continues by comparing the Liberty Dollar's
22 competition with the currency of United States to the United
23 States Postal Service's competition with FedEx. These
23 statements highlight the intent of NORFED - The National
24 Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve and
24 Internal Revenue Codes, to replace and/or compete with the
25 undermine the existing economic system.

At the Merchant level of membership the member merchant signs an agreement with the RCO and receives a discounted rate on the purchase of ALD currency. The focus of the RCOs and the Associates is to sign up as many Merchants as possible in their region. The Merchants then purchase the ALD currency

from the RCO or the Associate. The RCO and Associate make a 1 profit for each sale to a lower echelon member of the scheme. The ALD currency is marketed to the Merchant as a way to make 2 a profit by making change. Due to the similarity in appearance between the ALD coins and other legitimate United 3 States coinage, the ALD coins can be given as change and the recipient may not notice that the ALD is not United States 4 coinage or may assume that it is United States coinage. The end user receiving the ALD currency as change or a merchant 5 that accepts the ALD currency unwittingly is receiving a nongovernment issued currency that cannot be deposited in a б bank, is not universally accepted, and, though advertised as 100% backed by precious metal, is valued significantly less 7 than the marked face value of the currency. 8 The NORFED website, <u>www.libertydollar.org</u>, provides 9 informative materials regarding the silver Liberty Dollar coins, Warehouse Receipts, and on-line eDollars; records of the silver and gold holdings at the Sunshine Mint; search 10 tools for a person to locate their nearest Regional Currency Officer, and previously a national directory of Liberty 11 Dollar Associates; the organization's financial ideology, including it's theories on the Federal Reserve and material 12 covered in the book, The Liberty Dollar Solution To The 13 Federal Reserve; media productions; and links to each of the Regional Currency Officer's individual websites. 14 In addition to the information and marketing on the website, 15 www.libertydollar.org offers the purchase of the ALD currency on-line. 16 Purchases made on the Liberty Dollar website are similar to 17 those made on any other website. Pictures and descriptions of the items for sale are shown. A purchaser may click on an item to read additional information. Once a purchaser 18 decides to buy an item, the purchaser may click on an icon "Add to Cart." At the end of the transaction, a purchaser 19

may view their items selected in a "shopping cart" by
clicking on the words "Cart Contents" and can make any
changes before the final transaction. The purchaser may then
click on the word "Checkout," and is asked to enter his/her
method of payment. The website only accepts credit card
payments for these electronic purchases. The goods include,
but are not limited to, a Liberty Dollar Associate Package,
educational material, clothing, digital Liberty Dollars, and
coins. These goods are then shipped via a US Mail or like
carrier to the purchaser's provided address.

NORFED's purpose in the minting, distribution, sale, and circulation of the American Liberty Dollar coins is to make
money through the use of this alternative currency by merchants, Regional Currency Officers, Liberty Dollar
Associates, and the public. The use of the silver, gold and copper coins in this manner is a violation of Title 18 United
States Code (U.S.C.) Section 486 which states:

Uttering coins of gold, silver or other metal

"Whoever, except as authorized by law, makes or utters or passes, or attempts to utter or pass, any coins of gold or silver or other metal, or alloys of metals, intended for use as current money, whether in the resemblance of coins of the United States or of foreign countries, or of original design, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."

SUNSHINE MINT:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

18

 $21 \cdot$

The Sunshine Mint, or Sunshine Minting, Inc., located at 750 West Canfield Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815, is the mint that NORFED uses to create the ALD coinage and to store the organization's gold and silver holdings. The mint's website at <u>www.sunshinemint.com</u> lists the address under the heading 10 'Company Profile.'

11 The physical precious metal holdings are located at the Sunshine mint. Based upon the information on the mint
12 website, the holdings are divided between the mint's Safekeeping Account system and any ALD coinage that has been
13 created and not yet shipped by the Sunshine Mint.

14 The Sunshine Mint operates a Safekeeping Account for the storage of precious metals. The mint's website at 15 www.sunshinemint.com describes the account;

16 "Our Safekeeping Account is known in the industry as an unallocated storage account. It can be referred to as a non-segregated account or simply a pool account."

19 "This account is, in effect, a precious metal account in which a client owns a defined, unsegmented interest or portion in a pool of precious metal held in storage and insured by SMI at their secure facility."

Clark, Anderson, McNelis & Co., 560 West Canfield Avenue,
Suite 100, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815, is the auditor that
NORFED used to conduct monthly audits of the holdings at
Sunshine Mint compared to the reported issued currency by
NORFED. Statements documenting the fact that audits have
been conducted and the results of monthly audits through
August of 2006 are located on NORFED's website,
www.libertydollar.org.

26 Using the 11/08/2007 spot price of silver at \$15.34 and the spot price of gold for the same date at \$846.50, applying the New York Spot Prices from <u>www.kitco.com</u>, the NORFED audit dated July 31, 2007 shows that NORFED stored net silver
28 holdings of 158,412.5 ounces of silver at the spot price of

1 \$15.34 are valued at \$2,430,047.70. The audit also lists 96 ounces of gold holdings at a spot price of \$846.50 valued at 2 \$81,264.00.

An Undercover Employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported that a portion of the silver
holdings located at the Sunshine Mint have been used to mint ALD coins at base \$50.00 value in preparation for the next
"move up". The information was obtained during a consensual recording of Bernard Von Nothaus on 3/24/07.

6 On 10/21/05 an Undercover Employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) attended a Liberty Dollar University in Asheville, North Carolina. During the training, the UCE participated in a consensually recorded conversation with RCO Dan Rose, of Mississippi who toured the Sunshine Mint. Rose described the tour as paraphrased by the UCE:

The RCO stated that the place was the most uptight, detailed, "got their ducks in order" organization he had ever seen. He had to remove as much metal from his body as possible (rings, change, etc).

13 The RCO described the mint as a pre-fab concrete building (warehouse) with all of the activity on one floor. The building had 30 foot ceilings and was basically a 30,000 square foot box. There were pallets of silver in the strong room. The strong room was a room inside the warehouse with concrete walls. In the corner of the strong room there were pallets that went from the floor to seven feet high with thousand pound ingots, which were chunks of silver about the size of a loaf of bread.

18
18 The RCO witnessed coins stacked on pallets waiting
19 to be shipped out. Also the silver that backed the eDollars. They had one of everything they had ever
20 made, including pieces that were not minted for the Liberty Dollar.

The Sunshine Mint maintained silver for the government's pieces. Regarding the melting, there was a big box that held all of the silver, they stuck electrodes in it and melted it down. Then hydraulic lines moved silver for a saw to cut slices of the silver. Then it went to a press, whereby the round cylinder was pressed into a long strip and was cut. Extra silver was recycled.

26 On several occasions including 10/20/05 and 10/26/06, von Nothaus advised the UCE that Tom Power ran the warehouse 27 where the ALD was minted.

28

21

10

11

12

On 11/3/05, the UCE reviewed the material sent in the ALD

Associate package. Included in the material was a compact 1 disc entitled The Liberty Dollar, DSI Presentation, December 2, 2002, which represented that NORFED bought and deposited 2 silver at the warehouse. The warehouse issued the receipts (silver certificates) to NORFED. Tom Power ran the warehouse. Von Nothaus was friendly with the Sunshine Mint, but he had a fiduciary responsibility to ensure the silver existed. An auditor certified the silver monthly.

WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS:

2.

3

4

5

6 Verified First Technologies, 1700 Commerce Way, Paso Robles, California 93446, is the company that created and 7 manufactures the American Liberty Dollar (ALD) Warehouse Receipts which are the ALD version of paper currency. NORFED 8 advertises the warehouse receipt as 100% backed by silver. Their contention is that the warehouse receipt represents the 9 appropriate amount of silver stored at the Sunshine Mint dependent upon the face value denomination of the warehouse 10 receipt. For example, at the \$20.00 base currency level, one \$20.00 Warehouse Receipt is backed by one troy ounce of 11 silver. The part of the fraudulent scheme NORFED portrays the ALD currency as a barter system instead of currency. 12 Therefore, the \$20.00 Warehouse receipt is circulated at a value of \$20.00 but the actual value of the silver is at the 13 daily spot price, which is significantly lower than the face 14 value. NORFED, the RCOs, Associates, and member merchants make money circulating the currency. The only parties in the 15 process who deal with the ALD currency at face value are the unwitting victims left holding the ALD currency after all the 16 co-conspirators have made their money. 17 The Sunshine Mint maintains \$50.00 base ALD coins and other

precious metal holdings that back the Warehouse receipts in addition to the Mint's Safekeeping account. The holdings at 18 the Sunshine Mint in all forms represent the circulated Warehouse Receipts and eDollars. Additionally, the silver 19 used to back the Warehouse Receipts and eDollars is used to perpetuate the uttering and circulation of the ALD coins in 20 violation of Title 18 USC Sections 486 and 489.

21 Review of Verified First Technologies website at www.ispvft.com identified American Liberty Dollar Warehouse receipt 22 depictions in a digital image on the company website homepage. The 'Contact Us' heading of the website provides 23 the following information regarding International Security Products: 24

International Security Products, Inc./Headquarters 25 1750 Commerce Way Paso Robles, CA 93446 26 USA

27

The website also includes patent information which shows ISP holding patents under the name Verified First Technologies. 28

Gase 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 25 of 38

1 r.

2

On website www.amgraf.com/pages/news.html Verified First Technologies, Inc. is described as:

About Verify First Technologies, Inc.

3 VFT provides advanced security solutions to 23 countries utilizing unique anti-copy and verification security 4 technologies. VFT develops, licenses, and provides patented security technologies for both the brand product and document 5 industries. VFT has been issued twelve U.S., Canada and European patents and has numerous patents pending for other 6 anti-fraud technologies. VFT's Corporate Office is located in Paso Robles, California USA and the company has an 7 additional sales & marketing office in Ithaca, New York USA. For additional information contact George Phillips at (805) 8 238-2503, David Huckle at (607) 266-9839 or go to VFT's website at www.verifyfirst.com. 9

NORFED's account #7801142980, with Integra Bank shows three 10 distributions to ProDocument Solutions for a total of approximately \$3,400.00. 11

www.naspo.info lists ProDocument Solutions, 90 West Poplar 12 Ave., Porterville, CA, 93257, website:

www.prodocumentsolitions.com and provided the following 13 description: 14

"ProDocumentSolutions offers a wide range of unique patented technologies that provide both covert and overt 15 protection for product fraud or diversion protection. We work closely with Verified First Technologies to provide the 16 very best, cost effective solutions for our customers." 17

- DIGITAL LIBERTY DOLLARS (eDollars): 18
- 19 The NORFED website at www.libertvdollar.org/elibertvdollars/learn_more.html 20 describes the eDollars (in bold) as: 21 "Introduction to the Digital Liberty Dollar (eLD)

22 What is a digital currency? And what's the big deal about a digital Liberty Dollar? 23

A digital currency is any currency that uses an electronic system (telecommunication, wire or the Internet) to move 24 money like the US dollar instead of the physical notes. A digital currency is simply money without paper. When you 25 write a check, use a credit/debit card or send a bank wire, there are no "paper" dollars used, counted, or moved. You are 26 simply directing a "unit of accounting," i.e. a "dollar" amount, to be moved from one account to another account, 27 between banks or around the world. Just as checks, 28 credit/debit cards, wires and EFTs don't move physical

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

14

16

dollars, the new, private silver based digital Liberty Dollar doesn't move the physical silver.

So when you go to www.eLibertyDollar.com and send some "digital Liberty Dollars," you are sending a message to the server to move some of your digital Liberty Dollars (eLD) to that person's account ... even if they don't have an account! And to make sure nobody is misusing your account and that the correct person receives your money, every transaction is confirmed via email with an automatic message.

All this is a big deal for the Liberty Dollar because over 98% of all transactions do not use notes. They use digital dollars. Just think of how many times you use a check or credit/debit card and you will begin to understand that the Liberty Dollar needed to be in digital form to be successful. Now America's inflation proof currency is available in 9 digital, physical, and paper certificate form. Now you can use the Liberty Dollar as easy as the US dollar. 10

Capitalizing on the steady growth of America's second most 11 popular currency the Liberty Dollar is now available to individuals and merchants who conduct business over the 12 Internet and via e-mail. Simply put, you can email Liberty 13 Dollars to anybody in the world and buy on the WorldWideWeb from any merchant who accepts Liberty Dollars.

Click HERE to open a free account in just two minutes.

15 Click HERE to become a Liberty Merchant today.

You can open a free Liberty Dollar account in a couple of 17 minutes. To fund your account simply exchange US Dollars into Liberty Dollars dollar-for-dollar using a credit card, wire, money order or check. But why exchange dollar-for-dollar when 18 you can get the Liberty Dollar at a discount and use it at a 19 profit when you become a Liberty Associate!

- Fees for using the digital Liberty Dollar are free for all 20 transactions under \$20. And only 41 cents for any payment of \$20 or more, paid by the payee. For the cost of a postage 21 stamp, you can now send silver backed Liberty Dollars
- anywhere in the world instantly and at a fraction of the cost 22 of typical banking fees. All digital Liberty Dollars are 100% redeemable in .999 fine Silver Libertys, Silver Certificates 23 or exchangeable into US dollar as specified.
- 24 "We created the digital Liberty Dollar to marry the strength of silver backed currency with the speed and convenience of 25 the Internet," said Bernard von Nothaus, Monetary Architect of the Liberty Dollar. "This e-currency is absolutely unique; 26 no other money offers 100% silver backing, paper certificates, physical redemption with one-ounce Silver 27
- Libertys, and digital convenience that rewards the people who use the currency with a profit. Our users have been asking 28

í ð

for a digital currency ever since we launched the Liberty 1 Dollar in 1998. Now, we're proud to say that after extensive research and development, we built a system that works, 2 technically and economically." 3 Click HERE to open a free account in just two minutes. 4 Click HERE to become a Liberty Merchant today. 5 The Liberty Dollar is distributed by Liberty Services through a network of Regional Currency Offices (RCO) and Liberty 6 Associates who operate nationwide in all fifty states. Founded to address the growing concern of many Americans 7 about the spiraling Federal debt, trade deficit, inflation, and their overall effect on the economic life of Americans, 8 Liberty Services offers a simple inflation proof solution to the depreciating US Dollar. For more information, please 9 visit www.LibertyDollar.org or call toll free: 888.LIB.DOLLAR or 888.421.6181 between 8:30 - 5:00 CST M-F." 10 11 WILLIAM KEVIN INNES: William Kevin Innes is the Asheville, NC, Regional Currency 12 Officer (RCO) for the Liberty Dollar organization and one of 13 three members of the NORFED Executive Committee. On 10/11/05, an Undercover Employee (UCE) of the FBI was 14 introduced to Innes by a Cooperating Witness (CW) who was enrolled as a Liberty Dollar Associate (Associate). Innes 15 explained to the UCE how to join NORFED as a Associate by purchasing the two-hundred and fifty dollar (\$250.00) 16 Associate package. Innes advised the UCE that there were seventy (70) businesses in the Asheville area which took the 17 Liberty Dollar. 18 On 10/20/05, while attending a Liberty Dollar University, von Nothaus and Innes told an UCE that the three largest 19 communities using the Liberty Dollar were, Austin, TX; Berryville, AR; and Asheville, NC. 20 On 12/21/05, 08/08/06, 10/28/06, 11/11/06, and 03/28/07, an 21 UCE and Innes exchanged money and or silver Liberty Dollar coins to facilitate the UCE's use of the currency. 22 On 10/27/06, while speaking at a Liberty Dollar University, 23 Innes spoke about how to market the Liberty Dollar in communities, and in particular, how he marketed in Asheville, 24 NC. Innes stated that there were eighty-five (85) to ninety (90) merchants in the Asheville, NC, area. 25 On 11/13/06, the Citizentimes.com released a story entitled 26 Liberty Dollars used in Asheville are not legal tender. The following are excerpts from the article: 27 Karen Griffin, owner of the Gourmet Perks 28

Restaurant in Asheville, started accepting payment in the dollars about a year ago as a way of promoting her business. She admitted, however, not many customers actually come in with them.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

())

"It gets my name out there in a different market," said Griffin, who has not used Liberty Dollars personally.

NORFED executive director Michael Johnson claims that more that \$20 million in Liberty medallions and paper certificates are in circulation. The head of the Evansville, Ind.-based non-profit, which promotes use of the alternative money, agrees it's against the law to use the Liberty Dollar if someone believes it is government money.

"The terms that they use are valid terms," Johnson said. "It just means that you can use the Liberty Dollar to purchase, to transact business between individuals who want to use it as private currency."

Kevin Innes is one of them. He's paid \$250 to become a Liberty Dollar "associate," which allows the music teacher to buy the private currency at a discounted price. He said he explains to businesses around town that the dollars are not official currency, and if they want to use them, they have to be willing to "accept it and actively give it as change."

17 "It hasn't been a part of people's consciousness to use another currency unless you're at the boarder of Canada or Mexico," said Innes, who leaves the coins as tips and uses them wherever he can in Asheville. "It builds a form of customer loyalty. It's like a community currency."

20 At Liberty Dollar University #7, held from 10/19/05 through 21 10/22/05 and at Liberty Dollar University #11, held from 10/25/06 through 10/28/06, Innes and von Nothaus were the 22 primary instructors for the entirety of the training events. Innes primarily taught marketing techniques. Von Nothaus 23 primarily taught the business profit margin methodology.

24 On 03/28/07, Innes met with two UCE's of the FBI. Innes discussed the philosophy behind using silver as currency.
25 Innes cautioned an UCE regarding proper terminology, including not using the terms "coin" or "current money." He
26 explained how merchants receive incentives for circulating Liberty Dollars through a business. These incentives
27 included making money by handing the Liberty Dollars out as change, receiving free advertising on the Merchant Directory, 28 and enticing repeat customers by the use of Liberty Dollars.

CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR OF A

On 04/12/07, during a recorded session of Liberty Dollar 1 University #13, von Nothaus stated that he and Innes were the 2 instructors for the Liberty Dollar Universities. WILLIAM KEVIN INNES' RESIDENCE: 3 On 8/28/07, a Lexis Nexis check of William Kevin Innes 4 indicated his home address as 7 ½ Green Oak Road, Asheville, NC 28804. 5 On 8/8/06, following a PATRIOT NETWORK MEETING in Asheville, 6 NC, William Kevin Innes requested that the UCE assist him in driving to his house because his car headlights were not 7 working. Additionally, while at Innes' house in the vicinity of the Elk Mountain Road exit of Highway 19/23, Innes. 8 provided the UCE with seventeen (17) ounces of silver ALD

1 19

0

coins which had been maintained inside Innes' home. 9 While inside Innes' home, Innes gave the UCE silver at a 10 Liberty Dollar Associate rate of seventeen dollars and twenty-five cents (\$17.25). Seventeen (17) ounces were 11 provided in denominations of twenty dollars (\$20.00 ALD) and ten dollars (\$10.00 ALD). Approximately six dollars and 12 seventy-five cents (\$6.75) remained. The UCE told Innes to keep the six dollars and seventy-five cents (\$6.75) for the 13 purchase of three DVD's that the UCE purchased that evening. The UCE provided check #1027 on or about 5/10/06 for this 14 silver purchase and DVD payment. 15

Innes and the UCE explained to a prospective Associate how to sign up to become a Liberty Dollar Associate, and how to receive the incentive to sign other ASSOCIATES into the program at the residence on 08/08/06.

18 Innes stated that he added merchants to his Asheville list without speaking to the store owner because he was told while he was in the business that they would take the Liberty Dollar.

20 The Innes residence is described by an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a 21 single family residence located near the Elk Mountain Exit 22 off the Highway 19/23. The UCE further described the residence by a driveway and parking section located on the side of the house with the front door located in the center 23 of the home. The kitchen, living room, and bathroom are located on the ground floor. The UCE believed there may be 24 another level of the home where Innes maintained reserve Liberty Dollars because Innes requested that the UCE remain 25 on the entry level while he went to retrieve the Liberty 26 Dollars that the UCE purchased on 08/08/06.

27 A drive by of the residence was conducted by the FBI on 10/11/07. The residence is described as a white, single 28 family dwelling with a gable roof, the second residence to 4 1

3

the left beyond a green mail box marked with the number 7 3. 1 Innes has regularly received checks from NORFED sent to Post 2 Office Box 441, Asheville, North Carolina 28802. The most recent identified check was dated 7/27/2007 for \$100.00 3 signed by Sarah Bledsoe. The signature card for the Post Office Box shows Innes as the applicant and lists a former 4 Liberty Dollar of Asheville business address of 20 Battery Park Avenue #410, Asheville, North Carolina 28801. Innes 5 closed the business location and has worked out of his residence since prior to the Undercover Operation, in late 6 2004 or early 2005. 7 Since closing the business location Innes has been known to use his residence as his business location. The UCE purchase 8 of Liberty Dollar coins at the residence on 8/08/06 confirms that he uses his residence to market the currency. Credit 9 searches identify the prior business location but do not show any other business locations since Innes operated out of the 10 20 Battery Park Avenue #410, Asheville, North Carolina 11 location. On 11/04/2007, an Agent of the FBI attended a gun show at the 12 Civic Center in Asheville, North Carolina. The Agent was told that he could purchase Liberty Dollars from Kevin Innes 13 and that Innes was present at the Civic Center. 14 On 11/08/2007 a search of <u>www.libertydollar.org</u> under the Contact Us link, RCO search was conducted on zip code 28803. 15 the website lists a contact for Kevin Innes, Liberty Dollar of Asheville at telephone number (828)275-5360. 16 17 Telephone number (828) 275-5360 is the telephone number related to William Kevin Innes through a Lexus Nexus credit report check. The report documents 7 ½ Green Oak Road as 18 William Kevin Innes' current residence. The report associates the telephone number to the 7 ½ Green Oak Road 19 address and Post Office Box 441. 20 The United States Postal Service (USPS) reported on 11/08/2007 that Innes currently receives mail at the 7 3/2 21 Green Oak Road address. 22 www.buncombetax.org lists two properties located on the 23 parcel with the physical address of 7 Green Oak Rd., Asheville, NC 28804. The second building is located on the map in the position of the residence observed by the FBI. 24 The online tax records indicate that the building in a single story conventional building with a gable roof. 25 On 11/08/2007, Agents of the FBI observed lights in the top 26 story windows and the lower story rear window of the 7 4 Green Oak Road residence after dark, indicating that the 27 residence is currently occupied. 28

dase 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 31 of 38

Innes' business is ongoing and includes business records, training materials, marketing materials, shipping information, computers, and the Liberty Dollar currency. Innes carries those materials with him to visit member Merchants, Associates, and to market the Liberty Dollar currency to prospective members. Without a business location, any accounting, updating of websites, computer work, storage of all valuable currency, and email and telephone communications with NORFED are likely conducted from the residence.

WILLIAM KEVIN INNES' VEHICLE:

1

2

3

4

5

6

1 17

7 Innes' vehicle is described by an undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of investigation (FBI) as an older 8 model white Volvo. On 08/28/07, a Department of Motor Vehicles check indicated that Innes had a registered vehicle 9 in the state of North Carolina, license plate number PTK3005, which is a 1992, white, four door, Volvo sedan, Vehicle Identification Number (VIN): YV1AS8810N1475377. The Volvo is 10 registered to William Kevin Innes, date of birth 09/03/1955, 11 Social Security Account Number 237-75-2798, home address 7 1/2 12 Green Oak Road, Asheville, NC 28804. This address and vehicle were also verified by a 08/28/07 check for Innes on 13 Lexis Nexis. 14 On numerous occasions Innes offered to deliver or delivered Liberty Dollars in his personal vehicle. On occasions when his vehicle required maintenance, Innes indicated that he 15 used his wife's car for business. On 12/21/05 the UCE met with Innes in the parking lot of the TARGET store located on Airport Park Road, Arden, NC. Innes gave the UCE ten (10) 16 17 twenty Liberty Dollar (\$20 ALD) pieces which he transported to that location in his car. 18 Innes transported Liberty Dollars, Liberty Dollar marketing

19 material, and Liberty Dollar referral payments to numerous
19 material, and Liberty Dollar referral payments to numerous
10/11/05, 11/08/05, 11/16/05, 12/13/05, 8/8/06, and 10/10/06.
10/11/05, 11/08/05, 10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/10/06.
10/20/05, 10/21/05, 10/27/06 and

10/28/06; the ATLANTA FREEDOM CONFERENCE from 11/11/05
 through 11/13/05; Liberty Dollar meetings on 11/09/06 and 3/24/07; and several movie showings, including one at the
 French Broad Food Co-Op on 12/16/05.

25 **LEGALITY**:

26 NORFED has marketed the ALD currency as "perfectly legal" and uses quotes from inquiries to media representatives from 27 various government entities to legitimize the scheme. To clarify the violations, particularly Title 18, U.S.C. Section 28 486, the United States Attorney's Office, Western District of

Case 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1

Filed 11/09/2007 Page 32 of 38

ور (2 مار م

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

North Carolina requested a legal analysis from the Department of Treasury of the Liberty Dollar as it relates to Title 18 U.S.C. Sections 486.

Additionally, the United States Attorney's Office coordinated with the United States Mint. Based upon that coordination, a United States Mint media release was issued to put NORFED, NORFED members, and the general public on notice that prosecutors of the Department of Justice have reviewed the legality of the ALD currency and found that the coinage is in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 486. The release was prepared and issued to clear up any erroneous statements issued by government entities. The media release received national media coverage in newspapers including <u>USA Today</u>, The Washington Post, and The Asheville Citizen Times.

9 To ensure that NORFED and NORFED members were sufficiently notified, the United States Mint sent letters to each NORFED
10 RCO informing them that prosecutors with the Department of Justice had determined that utilizing the ALD coin as
11 currency was a violation of federal law.

12 On 11/28/06, von Nothaus sent an email LIBERTY DOLLAR NEWS: November 2006 Vcl. 8 No. 11, which contained twelve notes.
13 The third note in the newsletter indicated,

14 "The bank action and Mike's departure is not all ... "threatening" letters have been received via certified mail by all the RCOs and myself from 15 Daniel P. Shaver, chief counsel for the US Mint. The "Treasury Letter" re-hashed the Mint's warning 16 and informed all of us that the Department of Justice has determined that the Liberty Dollar is 17 illegal as per 18 USC 486. Of course, that is grossly erroneous as 486 only pertains to passing 18 or uttering an item of gold or silver as government "coin" "legal tender" or "current money." The 19 Liberty Dollar has never been passed or uttered as government money and they should know that, hence 20 the use of the propaganda machine to extinguish the Liberty Dollar. I think the government is afraid 21 to take the Liberty Dollar to court because they know the law and know that they cannot get a 22 conviction." 23

The text of the United States Mint Press Release is as 24 follows:

 ²⁵ WThe National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve Act and the Internal Revenue Code (NORFED) is producing and marketing gold and silver medallions that NORFED calls "Liberty Dollars." The United States Mint and the United States Department of Justice have received inquiries regarding the legality of these so-called "Liberty Dollar" medallions. The United States Mint urges consumers

29

, ·

 who are considering the purchase or use of these items to be aware that they are not genuine United States Mint bullion
 coins and they are not legal tender. These medallions are privately produced products and are not backed by, nor
 affiliated in any way with, the United States Government. Moreover, prosecutors with the Department of Justice have
 determined that the use of these gold and silver NORFED
 "Liberty Dollar" medallions as circulating money is a Federal

- 6 Consumers may find advertisements for these medallions confusing and should take note of several issues related to 7 them.
- First, the advertisements refer to the product as "real money" and "currency." These medallions might look like real money because they—
- Bear the inscriptions, "Liberty," "Dollars," "Trust in God" (similar to "In God We Trust"), and "USA" (similar to "United States of America"), and an inscription purporting to denote the year of production; and

12

13

14

15

16

18

 Depict images that are similar to United States coins, such as the torch on the reverses of the current dime coin, 1986 Statute of Liberty commemorative silver dollar and 1993 Bill of Rights commemorative halfdollar, and the Liberty Head designs on the obverses of United States gold coins from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s.

However, despite their misleading appearance, NORFED "Liberty
 Dollar" medallions are not genuine United States Mint coins
 and they are not legal tender.

Second, the advertisements confusingly refer to NORFED "Liberty Dollar" medallions as "legal" and "constitutional." 19 However, under the Constitution (Article I, section 8, clause 5), Congress has the exclusive power to coin money of 20 the United States and to regulate its value. By statute (31 21 <u>U.S.C. § 5112(a)</u>), Congress specifies the coins that the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to mint and issue and requires the Secretary to carry out these duties at the United States Mint (31 U.S.C. § 5131). Accordingly, the United States Mint is the only entity in the United States 22 23 with the lawful authority to mint and issue legal tender United States coins. 24

25 Under <u>18 U.S.C. § 486</u>, it is a Federal crime to utter or pass, or attempt to utter or pass, any coins of gold or
26 silver intended for use as current money except as authorized by law. According to the NORFED website, "Liberty merchants"
27 are encouraged to accept NORFED "Liberty Dollar" medallions and offer them as change in sales transactions of merchandise
28 or services. Further, NORFED tells "Liberty associates" that

m () 0

they can earn money by obtaining NORFED "Liberty Dollar" 1 medallions at a discount and then can "spend [them] into circulation." Therefore, NORFED''s "Liberty Dollar" 2 medallions are specifically intended to be used as current money in order to limit reliance on, and to compete with the 3 circulating coinage of the United States. Consequently, prosecutors with the United States Department of Justice have 4 concluded that the use of NORFED''s "Liberty Dollar" medallions violates 18 U.S.C. § 486." 5 6 NORFED continued to operate the American Liberty Dollar currency after the United States Mint notifications and 7 continues to portray and market the currency as legal. On 10/28/06, soon after the United States Mint warning, an 8 undercover employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) purchased a t-shirt at a Liberty Dollar University (LDU) with the caption "The US Mint can bite me." 9 Additionally, Bernard von Nothaus started a "Legal Defense 10 Fund" based upon the US Mint warning and filed a civil 11 lawsuit in Federal District Court in the District of Indiana against the United States Treasury, the United States Mint, and the Department of Justice. The lawsuit seeks an 12 injunction against these government entities from making 13 statements that the Liberty Dollar violates federal law. 14 ACCOUNTING FIRMS: Monthly and annual audits of NORFED's silver holdings used to 15 mint the Liberty Dollar are posted on their website, 16 www.libertydollar.org beginning in October 1998. Beginning in October 1998 the auditing firm was CLARK, ANDERSON, 17 MCNELIS & CO., Certified Public Accountants, 460 West Canfield Avenue, Suite 100, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815, 18 telephone 208-772-6460, facsimile 208-772-8272. 19 On 06/28/07, Von Nothaus sent an email Liberty Dollar NEWS: June 2007 Vol. 9 No. 6, which contained twelve notes. The 20 ninth note in the newsletter indicated, 21 "...But we have had a problem with the audits. In fact, I regret to report that no audits were 22 performed from September 2006 through January 2007. 23 I am embarrassed to report that the original 24 auditor abandoned ship without informing us, in spite of a signed contract. As I explain in the letter posted on our site, for these missing . 25 months, we tried repeatedly to get the Audit 26 Reports, then it took months to find a new Auditor and finally to get the audit program back on track. 27 28 I am very pleased to report that because we started 31

m 0 w

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

12

15

with a new auditor, it was necessary to review all the pervious audit reports, and ascertain that all facts and figures are correct. And they are. There is no missing information for any month."

According von Nothaus, no auditing procedures were conducted from September 2006 through January 2007. The auditing firm which confirmed the organization's silver holdings during that time and the auditing firm which has conducted monthly audits since January, 2007, was **ANDERSON BROTHERS CPA's, PA**, 1810 E. Schneidmiller Avenue, Ste 310, Post Falls, ID 83854, telephone 208-777-1099, facsimile 208-773-5108.

8 The 2006 annual audit posted on the Liberty Dollar website was signed by Tom Power, representing the Sunshine
9 Minting, Inc.; Dana Robson, CPA for CLARK, ANDERSON, MCNELIS & CO.; Bernard von Nothaus, for NORFED, Inc.; and Alfredo
10 Pacheco, RCO, Witness. Previous annual audits posted were generally signed by Tom Power, a representative of CLARK,
11 ANDERSON, MCNELIS & CO.; Bernard von Nothaus, and a witness, not necessarily a Regional Currency Officer.

COMPUTERS:

13 NORFED's website at www.libertydollar.org is utilized to 14 market, sell, and provide information on how to circulate the currency.

NORFED issues a news letter, operates a section of the
website to sell American Liberty Dollar coins, warehouse
receipts, and eDollars online, and manages the digital
edollar currency accounts online. Von Nothaus and NORFED
encouraged the RCO's to share ideas on the "RCO Only Chat
Room" online. RCO's also download art work, templates for

19 marketing material, and NORFED approved correspondence from 19 the website.

20 An Undercover Employee (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of
21 Associate obtained a password access to an edollar account
21 associated with membership. The UCE was able to access the
22 account and cash out of the account online.

23 Two Undercover employees (UCE) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation attended the Liberty Dollar University in Evansville, Indiana in April of 2007. The UCEs provided a description of the NORFED Fulfillment Office located at 225 North Stockwell Road, Evansville, Indiana 47715. The UCEs observed at least six computers in the main office area and one computer in Sarah Bledsoe's office. Bledsoe's office also contains two safes. Sarah Bledsoe is the manager of the 27 Fulfillment Office.

28 | Based upon the affiant's knowledge, training, and experience,

1 0' 07

I know that searches and seizures of evidence from computers 1 commonly require Agents to seize most or all computer items to include hardware, software, and instructions, to be 2 processed later by a gualified computer expert in a laboratory or other controlled environment. This is almost 3 always true because computer storage devices (like hard disks, diskettes, tapes, laser disks, Bernoulli drives, zip 4 drives, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA), USB drives, and others) can store the equivalent of thousands of pages of 5 information. When the user wants to conceal criminal evidence, he often stores it in random order with deceptive 6 file names. This requires searching authorities to examine all the stored data to determine whether it is included in 7 the warrant. This sorting process can take weeks or months, depending on the volume of data sorted. It would be 8 limpractical to attempt this kind of data search on site. Additionally, searching computer systems for criminal 9 evidence is a highly technical process requiring expert skill. and a properly controlled environment. The vast arrav of 10 computer hardware and software available requires even 11 computer experts to specialize in some systems and applications, so it is difficult to know before a search 12 which expert should analyze the system and its data. The search of a computer system is an exacting scientific 13 procedure which is designed to protect the integrity of the evidence and to recover even "hidden", erased, compressed, password-protected, or encrypted files. Since computer 14 evidence is extremely vulnerable to tampering and destruction both from external sources and from destructive codes 15 imbedded in the system as a "booby trap", the controlled environment of a laboratory is essential to its complete and 16 accurate analysis. 17 CONCLUSION: 18 19 NORFED has continued to operate the American Liberty Dollar (ALD) after notification by the United States Mint and the Department of Justice have reviewed the legal issues and have 20 found that the ALD currency violated federal law. 21 Bernard von Nothaus started a "Legal Defense Fund" based upon 22 the US Mint warning and filed a civil lawsuit in Federal District Court in the District of Indiana against the United 23 States Treasury, the United States Mint, and the Department of Justice. 24 NORFED uses Federal Reserve Notes (FRN) to conduct business. FRN's are used to buy Liberty Dollar currency. This reliance 25 upon FRN's by a group opposed to FRN's demonstrates that the American Liberty Dollar monetary system is simply a drain on 26 the United States Government's monetary system for financial

27 profit via fraudulent means.

28 The fact that NORFED and von Nothaus continue with the

¢ase 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 37 of 38

criminal activity after clear warning from the United States 1 0 0 government demonstrates that the Liberty Dollar monetary system is knowingly engaged in violating Title 18 United 2 States Code (U.S.C.) Sections 486 and 489. 3 On the basis of the above described facts, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that Bernard 4 von Nothaus, William Kevin Innes, Sarah Bledsoe, NORFED, Liberty Services, Inc., The Liberty Dollar, The Hawaii Dala, 5 Regional Currency Officers, Liberty Dollar Associates, and participating Merchants have conspired to create, market, 6 utter, pass, sell, and circulate The American Liberty Dollar currency in the form of coins, warehouse receipts, and eDollars in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 7 489, making or possessing likeness of coins, Title 18 United 8 States Code, Section 486, Uttering coins of gold, silver or other metal, Title 18 United States Code, Section 1341, Mail 9 Fraud, Title 18 United States Code, Section 1343, Wire Fraud and Title 18 United States Code, Sections 1956 and 1957, 10 Money Laundering. It is also believed that Bernard von Nothaus, Sarah Bledsoe, William Kevin Innes and others 11 lengaged in Conspiracy to further the described criminal 12 enterprise in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 371. 13 14 JURISDICTION TO ISSUE OUT-OF-DISTRICT WARRANT Section 981(b)(3) of Title 18, United States Code, as amended 15 by CAFRA, now explicitly provides jurisdiction for the issuance of seizure warrants for property located in other 16 districts. This statute provides as follows: 17 Notwithstanding the provisions of rule 41(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, a seizure warrant may be issued 18 pursuant to this subsection by a judicial officer in any district in which a forfeiture action against the property 19 may be filed under section 1355(b) of title 28, and may be executed in any district in which the property is fount. 20 Issuance of the seizure warrant in this district is 21 appropriate under the above stature, as this is the district "in which...the acts or omissions giving rise to the 22 forfeiture occurred," 28 U.S.C. Section 1355 (b)(1)(A). As provided in 18 U.S.C. Section 981(b)(3), the warrant may be 23 "executed in any district in which the property is found." 24 I therefore respectfully request that the Court issue a Seizure Warrant for American Liberty Dollar and Hawaii Dala 25 currency; precious metals of gold, silver, copper, platinum, or other substance; and United States currency which was 26 utilized in furtherance of the criminal activity described herein and also represents proceeds of the criminal activity. 27

34

¢ase 1:07-mj-00119-DLH Document 1 Filed 11/09/2007 Page 38 of 38 e. The CL equili Andrew F. Roma Special Agent Romachuo Federal Bureau of Investigation Asheville, North Carolina б Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 2007. Dennis L. Howell U.S. Magistrate Judge