

Local company takes on the U.S. Mint

By: Louis La Plante
Evansville Business Magazine
March 22nd, 2007

The Evansville-based Liberty Dollar issued a press release this week saying it has filed a lawsuit in federal court, claiming the U.S. Mint has no right to have a monopoly over the issuing of currency.

The company claims it has more than 100,000 customers who are using their product "the Liberty Dollar" as currency.

The U.S. Mint referred to the Liberty Dollar as a federal crime on its Web site, www.usmint.gov. Officials with the U.S. Mint have advised consumers "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."

In its press release Liberty Dollar argues every U.S. citizen has the right to voluntarily barter or use any "money" two parties deem fit. The U.S. Mint, according to its Web site, cited the Liberty Dollar used confusing language in advertisements for its currency. In the advertisement, the Liberty Dollar was referred to as "real money" and "currency," and the dollar itself was engraved with confusing language with inscriptions like "Liberty," "Dollars," and "Trust in God," which is similar to what appears on U.S. currency "In God We Trust."