Liberty Services issues copper dollar to compete with U.S. \$1

By, Paul Gilkes Coin World May 25th, 2007

A pure copper version of the Liberty Dollar "private voluntary barter currency," denominated \$1, has been issued in direct competition with the U.S. Mint-produced manganese-brass clad Presidential dollar coins and in direct defiance of the Mint's warning against issuing Liberty Dollars for use in commercial transactions.

The Liberty Dollar's architect, Bernard von NotHaus, said May 3 more than 10,000 of the copper Liberty Dollar pieces were ordered during the first 24 hours they became available. The new copper Liberty Dollar medal is the latest effort to defend the consumer's right to use gold, silver or anything else of choice in commerce, according to von NotHaus.

The new dollar is silver dollar size and contains one ounce of pure copper. Each costs \$1. Each copper Liberty Dollar features the same Liberty head and torch designs as on its popular Liberty Dollar 1-ounce .999 fine silver \$20 denominated medals.

"The US Mint's warning that only using, not possession, was illegal has drawn an increasing number of people to the Liberty Dollar and its underdog's stance for individual liberty and real money," according to von NotHaus. The U.S. Mint issued a consumer warning on Sept. 13, 2006 on its Web site at www.usmint.gov claiming the use of the 1-ounce silver Liberty Dollar medals as money in commercial transactions constitutes a criminal offense.

Von NotHaus, individually and doing business as Liberty Dollar and as Liberty Services, filed suit March 20, 2007. against Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr., U.S. Mint Director Edmund C. Moy and U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, seeking a ruling that circulation of the Liberty Dollar medals does not represent a federal crime as claimed by the U.S. Mint.

Von NotHaus is also seeking a permanent injunction against the Mint requiring the removal of any claims on the Mint's Web site at www.usmint.gov stating that use of the Liberty Dollar medals constitutes a federal offense punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine.

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, Evansville Division. Liberty Services is based in Evansville, where the Liberty Dollar traces its genesis to 1998 under the umbrella of NORFED (National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve Act) - a nonprofit entity that was dissolved in early December.

Von NotHaus has started a legal defense fund to help support the legal fight that he claims has cost upward of \$100,000 to initiate.

The case and updates can be followed online at www.libertydollar.org/ld/legal/legaJissues.htm.

Responses to von NotHaus' complaint are due within 60 days of the filing of the complaint, or May 20. Mint officials have not commented on the complaint, and because of the complaint, also declined to comment on von NotHaus' issuance of the copper Liberty Dollar medal.

Von NotHaus claims the popularity of the new copper Liberty Dollar speaks for itself. "The Liberty Dollar is larger, heavier, more metal content and larger bullion value than the U.S. Mint dollar," von NotHaus said.

"Just compare the size, weight, color, material, face value and metal value of each. The Copper Liberty is 100 percent pure metal. Not an alloy from the U.S. Mint. The only thing lacking is government approval."

According to von NotHaus, money should be the domain of the people who use it and its value derived in the marketplace, not by the Federal Reserve.

"People have the right to collect any kind of medallion and use anything they mutually choose to use as barter," said von NotHaus.

The Liberty Dollar can be found online at www.LibertyDollar.org.

The organization can be reached by telephone at 888.421.6181 or by e-mail at info@LibertyDollar.org.