

Update: Evansville company raided by FBI

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Update: The man behind Liberty Dollar, the Evansville-based company raided last week by the FBI for printing its own form of currency, says he anticipates being arrested, and possibly charged with money laundering.

The FBI raided the world headquarters of Liberty Dollar on Stockwell Road Wednesday morning.

Liberty Dollar prints and issues its own form of paper and coin currency.

Bernard Von Nothaus says in a statement on the company's website, he was told the raid was related to a warning from the US Mint, and that this is the beginning of a criminal investigation against his company.

He urges anyone with currency from Liberty Dollar to join a class action lawsuit, in hopes of getting their money back.

Von Nothaus also says he plans to establish a legal defense fund, with the purpose of winning the criminal case.

The statement from the company says there are currently \$20 million Liberty Dollars in circulation.

Previously: An Evansville company is closed after being raided by the FBI.

It's believed agents seized documents and metals from The Liberty Dollar, which is headquartered in Evansville.

The raid allegedly took place Wednesday morning, at the Liberty Dollar headquarters on Stockwell Road. We say allegedly because government officials are not talking about this case.

Liberty Dollar is a private company producing what they call "barter currency." An e-mail from the company says that the FBI raided the company Wednesday morning.

14 News has learned that in March of this year the US Mint issued a warning to Liberty Dollar that the use and mere possession of this currency is illegal.

Bernard von NotHaus, the man behind Liberty Dollar and an advocate for the free market said in a statement, "People have the right to collect any kind of medallion and can use anything they choose as barter."

The company issues both coins and paper currency. Liberty Dollar claims that one of its dollars is backed by one ounce of silver.