CCAC Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee

CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

801 9TH STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20220

June 23, 2022

The Honorable Janet Yellen Secretary of the Treasury Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20220

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting with ten of the 11 members participating in person and one via videoconferencing on June 14, 2022, during which the CCAC made several recommendations for future coin and medal programs that will be included in the CCAC's 2022 Annual Report.

In accordance with 31 U.S. Code § 5135, the CCAC is charged with (1) advising the Secretary of the Treasury on any theme or design proposals relating to circulating coinage, bullion coinage, Congressional Gold Medals, and national and other medals produced by the Secretary of the Treasury; (2) advising the Secretary of the Treasury with regard to the events, persons, or places to be commemorated by the issuance of commemorative coins in each of the five calendar years succeeding the year in which a commemorative coin designation is made; and (3) making recommendations with respect to the mintage level for any commemorative coin recommended.

The CCAC working group met for several months to consider what themes would draw broad general public interest, congressional interest, and interest of both national and international collectors. During the June 14, 2022, public meeting, the full Committee discussed and voted to recommend the follow recommendations. Some of these are recommendations are from past years that the CCAC feels still warrant consideration.

Commemorative Coin Program Recommendations:

- 1. The CCAC recommends a 2026 commemorative coin program in honor of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence (Semiquincentennial). Coins and medals celebrating the birth of our nation have been extremely popular in the past. This recommendation was included previously in the CCAC's 2021 Annual Report. This was passed via a voice vote to move the recommendation forward.
- 2. The CCAC recommends a 2028 Summer Olympics Commemorative Coin program. The 2028 Summer Olympics will be held in Los Angeles, California. Past Olympic-themed commemorative coin programs have been extremely popular among collectors as well as the general public. This recommendation was included previously in the CCAC's 2021 Annual Report. This was passed via a voice vote to move the recommendation forward.
- 3. The CCAC recommends a commemorative coin program related to American horses or American horse racing. Even though there are a number of upcoming anniversaries related to famous American horse racing, the CCAC makes no specific recommendation but that animal and sport themes are popular with collectors and public. This recommendation was included previously in the CCAC's 2021 Annual Report. This was passed via a voice vote to move the recommendation forward.

4. The CCAC recommends a commemorative coin program celebrating wildlife and the environment/animal related theme. This program could go in many directions, and some examples were provided in the CCAC's 2021 Annual Report. During the meeting, the CCAC was less specific in the direction of the program but feels that any theme related to wildlife, environment, animals, and conversation would be popular with the general public and collectors. The Committee passed this via voice vote to move the recommendation forward.

Medal Recommendations

- 1. The CCAC recommends an Arts Medal Program. This was recommended in past annual reports, including most recently in the CCAC's 2019 Annual Report. The objective is to showcase the talented United States Mint staff medallic artists, as well as designers for the Mint's Artistic Infusion Program. The CCAC voted via voice vote to recommend this concept.
- 2. The CCAC recommends a medallic program representing S.T.E.A.M. / "Birth of Modern America." The recommendation is for program medals and/or numismatic coin products focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (S.T.E.A.M.). This program could be considered as honoring the "Birth of Modern American," focusing on important developments of the 1920s and 1930s in such areas as technology, radio, film, Broadway music, etc. The CCAC felt that as we are entering the centennial of the era of these developments, providing a perfect opportunity to place a spotlight on those events and would be of interest to youth and older collectors and general public. The CCAC voted via voice vote to recommend this concept.

General Public Recommendations

The CCAC reviewed the several recommendations that were provided by the general public over the last year via mail or internet. These included:

- 400th Anniversary of New York City
- Roosevelt Island Set with Proof West Point Silver Roosevelt dime
- Collaboration with Royal Dutch Mint for a New Amsterdam set
- Three-Coin set with West Point Morgan Dollar, West Point Peace Dollar, and commemorative coin
- 50th Anniversary of the Bicentennial Coins
- Honoring Correction Officers
- Gold Ownership 50th Anniversary
- Hank Aaron commemorative coin or Congressional Gold Medal
- 5-ounce of 2023 Jovita Idar (design recommended by Committee)
- 5-ounce of drummer boy from Bicentennial Series

Of these, the CCAC voted via voice vote to recommend a national medal (e.g., Congressional Gold Medal) honoring Hank Aaron. Further recommendations will be forthcoming as the Committee considers more thoroughly these and other suggestions provided to it.

The Committee is again thankful for its opportunity to contribute to the design of coin and medal programs to continue the legacy of the United States in producing stellar designs for commemorative and circulating coins and medals.

Sincerely,

Lawrence S. Brown, Jr., MD, MPH, FACP, DFASAM

CCAC Chairperson

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Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting with ten of the 11 members participating in person and one via videoconferencing on June 14, 2022, during which the CCAC made reverse design recommendations for the 2024 American Innovation \$1 Coin Program. All coins in this program share a common obverse of the Statue of Liberty and are inscribed "\$1" and "In God We Trust."

Public Law 115-197, the American Innovation \$1 Coin Act (Act), requires the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue \$1 coins with a reverse design honoring innovation or innovators from each of the 50 states, the territories, and the District of Columbia. In accordance with the Act, the United States Mint (Mint) worked with the Governors of the states being honored in 2024 to develop design concepts for the coins. These concepts have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The CCAC was joined by Mr. Lee LoBue, Deputy Chief of Staff for Executive Appointments and Agency Personnel, Office of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, who is the liaison from the State of Illinois; and Ms. Lee Sellers, Director of Special Projects, Office of Alabama Governor Kay Ivey, who is the liaison from the State of Alabama.

Illinois: The CCAC received eight candidate reverse designs honoring the innovation of the steel plow and seven candidate reverse designs honoring the innovation of the Eder-Berry biopsy attachment. The CCAC discussed the significance of each of these innovations. The steel plow sparked both the migration of Americans to the Midwest and the beginning of the industrial age in agriculture.

Dr. Leonidas H. Berry, an African-American gastroenterologist, invented the Eder-Berry biopsy attachment, allowing doctors to more safely and effectively collect tissue from the upper digestive system and lead to other innovations in medicine preventing, diagnosing, and treating diseases and cancers of the upper digestive system. This innovation set the stage for other medical advances leading to preventing, diagnosing, and treating diseases and cancers of the lower digestive system.

Focusing on the design candidates, **IL-01**, features a large steel plow blade affixed to a right-handed beam and braces. Behind the plow is a stand of Big Bluestem prairie grass and a field of soil below. The inscription "STEEL PLOW" rounds out the design. The CCAC recommended this design with a score of 30 out of a maximum of 33 points.

Alabama: The CCAC received 11 candidate reverse designs honoring the Saturn V rocket, designed and built at the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Initially developed to support the Apollo program for human exploration of the Moon, a total of 13 Saturn V rockets were launched between 1967 and 1972 from the Kennedy Space Center with no loss of crew or payload.

The candidate design **AL-01** depicts the power and force of the Saturn V rocket lifting off with the Moon in the background along with the inscriptions "United States of America" and "Alabama." This design received a score of 30 of a possible 33 points. The CCAC recommended unanimously this design and that the United States Mint consider adding the inscription of "Saturn V" and using the font inspired by the NASA logotype.

Once again and on behalf of the CCAC, it is an honor for the CCAC to continue its participation in the design process of this ongoing series. As a collector of this series, the addition of the 2024 reverse designs to this program will continue the attractiveness of the American Innovation Dollar to the numismatic community.

Sincerely,

Lawrence S. Brown, Jr., MD, MPH, FACP, DFASAM

CCAC Chair



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Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting with ten of the 11 members participating in person and one via videoconferencing on June 14, 2022, during which the CCAC made recommendations for the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medals for the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

Public Law 117-32 awards four Congressional Gold Medals of appropriate design to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. In accordance with the Public Law, gold medals will be presented to the United States Capitol Police (USCP), the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia (MPDC), the Smithsonian Institution, and the Architect of the Capitol. The design of the medals are emblematic of the service and sacrifice of those who risked their lives to uphold democracy on January 6, 2021.

Common inscriptions and design elements across obverse designs include "JANUARY 6TH, 2021" and a depiction of the United States Capitol building with a flag at half-staff. Common inscriptions and design elements across reverse designs include "ACT OF CONGRESS 2021", "HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THOSE WHO PROTECTED THE U.S. CAPITOL", and a depiction of the Statue of Freedom.

The CCAC was joined by Lt. Michael Weight, U.S. Capitol Police, who is the primary liaison for the Congressional Gold Medals to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. Of the five candidate obverse designs, the CCAC recommended **CP-O-2** with a score of 33 out of the 33 maximum. This design features the windows of the Capitol Rotunda on the border and is the preferred design of the Speaker of the House, the primary liaison, the USCP, and the MPDC.

Of the 11 candidate reverse designs, the CCAC recommended with a score of 33, the maximum possible, the reverse design **CP-R-6C**. This reverse design features the service badges of the USCP and MPDC, an American flag, and the inscription "Act of Congress 2021." This is also the preferred design of the Speaker of the House, the primary liaison, the USCP, and the MPDC. The CCAC recommended unanimously obverse **CP-O-2** and reverse **CP-R-6C**.

There are very few occasions in which the CCAC has had the opportunity to make recommendations of designs with greater historical significance than those that are the subject of this communication. For this reason, the CCAC was emotionally affected and felt especially privileged to provide its recommendations for your consideration.

Sincerely,

 $Lawrence\ S.\ Brown,\ Jr.,\ MD,\ MPH,\ FACP,\ DFASAM$

CCAC Chairperson