

NEWS RELEASE

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis St. Louis Little Rock Louisville Memphis

Media Advisory

For release: October 20, 1997 **Contacts:**

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WHAT:

The New \$50 Bill Goes Into Circulation.

WHEN:

The Federal Reserve will begin shipping the new note to depository

institutions on Monday, October 27. (Some banks may not have the new 50

right away because the Fed ships currency to banks on request.)

WHERE/

WHO:

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

411 Locust Street

WHY:

The new \$50 note is the second in the U.S. currency series (the first, the \$100 note, was introduced last year) to incorporate new and modified security features to thwart counterfeiters, including:

- larger, off-center portrait (of U.S. Grant) and a matching watermark portrait;
- color-shifting ink in the lower right-hand numeral;
- micro-printing in the border of the note and in U.S. Grant's shirt collar;
- a polymer security thread to the right of the portrait that glows when exposed to ultraviolet light in a dark environment; and
- a large, dark numeral on a light background on the back of the bill to make it easier for the 3.7 million Americans with low vision to better recognize the note.

NOTE: The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis has several specimens of the newly designed \$50 note for viewing.

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