



UNITED STATES MINT

Report to Congress on Operations

For the Period from July 1 through Sept. 30, 2004
Fourth Quarter FY 2004

Summary



2005 5-Cent Coins

The obverse (heads side) that will appear on both 2005-dated 5-cent coins (nickels) and the reverse (tails side) of each nickel. These commemorate the bicentennials of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

In a conference report to Public Law 104-52, enacted November 19, 1995, which created the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund (PEF), Congress directed the United States Mint to report quarterly on implementation of the PEF. This report is designed to fulfill that requirement.

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- Fourth quarter FY 2004 revenues: Circulating coins: \$236 million, which is a 23% decrease from third quarter. Numismatic Products: \$115 million, which is a 19% decrease from third quarter. Bullion Coins: \$50 million, which is a 39% decrease from third quarter.
- During FY 2004, the United States Mint transferred \$665 million to the Treasury General Fund, an increase of \$65 million over FY 2003.
- The Keelboat Nickel was released.
- Designs for two 2005-dated nickels were unveiled. These designs were created by Artistic Infusion Program artists.
- The Iowa commemorative quarter-dollar was launched.



The Iowa Commemorative Quarter-Dollar

- The United States Mint was represented at the American Numismatic Association's World Money Fair.
- The United States Mint received the top Federal score on the e-commerce section of a survey of the customer service provided by government websites.
- The United States Mint 2004 Annual Collection catalog was issued.
- The United States Mint launched a new virtual tour on its website.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Sales of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar are strong./ The popularity of our educational website continues to grow./ The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee has a new Chairperson and one new member./ Our fourth quarter licensing earnings total \$15.7 million./ One ongoing Government Accountability Office (GAO) review and one ongoing Treasury OIG audit are addressing our activities./ The United States Mint has a new Chief Financial Officer./ The *Brown v. Board of Education* families were honored by a Congressional Gold Medal./ Bronze duplicates of a Congressional Gold Medal honoring Dr. Dorothy I. Height are available./ The United States Mint's Lost Time Accident Rate decreased from 1.48 in FY 2003 to 1.24 in FY 2004.

State of the United States Mint

The United States Mint's primary responsibilities are:

- Producing an adequate volume of circulating coins for the United States to conduct its trade and commerce, and distributing these coins to the Federal Reserve.
- Manufacturing, marketing and selling proof and uncirculated coins, commemorative coins and medals to the general public. These products are known as numismatic products.
- Manufacturing, marketing and selling gold, silver and platinum bullion coins through the American Eagle Bullion Program. The value of American Eagle Bullion Coins generally depends upon their weight in specific precious metals. (By contrast, the numismatic value of other types of coins generally depends upon factors such as mintage, rarity, condition and age.) American Eagle Bullion Coins provide investors with a simple and tangible means to own precious metals. These products -- which are not sold directly to the general public by the United States Mint -- are available through precious metal dealers, coin dealers, brokerage companies and participating banks.
- Safeguarding United States Mint assets and non-Mint assets that are in the United States Mint's custody, including bullion reserves at the Fort Knox Bullion Depository and elsewhere.

STATUS OF THE PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

The United States Mint's Public Enterprise Fund is financed by the sale of circulating coins to the Federal Reserve and the sale of numismatic and bullion coins and other products to customers worldwide.

Table #1 QUARTERLY COMPARISON OF REVOLVING FUND REVENUE (Millions of Dollars)			
Product Category	FY 2004 4 th Qtr	FY 2004 3 rd Qtr	Change
Circulating	\$236	\$308	-23%
Numismatics	\$115	\$142	-19%
Bullion*	\$50	\$82	-39%
TOTAL	\$401	\$532	-25%

Table #2 FISCAL YEAR COMPARISON OF REVOLVING FUND REVENUE (Millions of Dollars)			
Product Category	FY 2004 4 th Qtr	FY 2003 4 th Qtr	Change
Circulating	\$236	\$205	+15%
Numismatics	\$115	\$68	+69%
Bullion*	\$50	\$36	+39%
TOTAL	\$401	\$309	+30%

* Investment versions; proof versions will be included in numismatic sales when offered.

CIRCULATING COINS

The demand for circulating coins by commercial establishments and the general public fluctuates with the United States' economy. To accommodate this variability, the United States Mint and Federal Reserve continually assess their inventories and the demand for circulating coins, and adjust their production, ordering and delivery schedules accordingly.

Quarterly Comparison: During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, the United States Mint shipped about 3.4 billion coins to the Federal Reserve -- down by 8 percent from the 3.7 billion coins shipped during the third quarter of FY 2004. Reflecting this decrease, circulating collections for the fourth quarter of FY 2004 totaled \$236 million -- down by 23 percent from the \$308 million in circulating collections received during the third quarter of FY 2004. (See Table #1.)

Annual Comparison: This quarter's circulating collections of \$236 million represent a 15 percent increase over the \$205 million in circulating collections received during the same quarter of last year. (See Table #2.)

The Future: The Federal Reserve's forecasted coin order for next quarter represents an increase of 1.9 billion coins over this quarter's order. Therefore, next quarter's circulating production will likely be higher than this quarter's production level.

NUMISMATIC PRODUCTS

Quarterly Comparison: During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, numismatic revenues totaled \$115 million -- down by 19 percent from the \$142 million in numismatic revenues earned during the third quarter of FY 2004. (See Table #1.) This revenue decrease reflects the following factors:

1. A \$23.7 million decrease in revenues from the American Eagle Proof Coin Program. This decrease was the net result of: 1) A revenue increase generated by the fourth quarter launch of 2004 American Eagle Platinum Proof coins; and 2) A decline in demand for 2004 American Eagle Gold and Silver Proof Coins that followed the usual demand spike accompanying the introduction of these coins during the third quarter of FY 2004.
2. An expected decrease in demand for the 2004 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar following the demand spike accompanying this coin's introduction during the third quarter of FY 2004.
3. An \$11.7 million decline in licensing revenues following the third quarter of FY 2004, when sales of 1999 to 2003-dated commemorative quarter-dollar coins enhanced licensing revenues.

Annual Comparison: This quarter's \$115 million in numismatic revenues represents a 69 percent increase over the \$68 million in numismatic revenues earned during the same quarter of FY 2003. (See Table #2.) This increase was the net result of the following factors:

1. A \$7.1 million increase in revenues from American Eagle Gold and Platinum Proof Coins.
2. A \$31.7 million increase in sales from the following Recurring Program products: the 2004 United States Mint Proof Set; the United States Mint Silver Proof Set; the United States Mint Uncirculated Set, and; Peace Medal and Keelboat Nickel bags and rolls.
3. A \$4.3 million decrease in revenues that were primarily due to the one-time sale of excess jewelry inventory sold through the General Services Administration. (Those sales closed-out the United States Mint's direct-to-consumer jewelry sales).
4. A \$12.0 million increase in revenues from new licensing agreements.

The Future: During the first quarter of FY 2005, numismatic revenues will likely reach about \$60 million. This projection is based upon our expectation of strong sales of the 2004 American Eagle Platinum Proof Coins and the 2004 Westward Journey Nickel Series™ -- both of which were launched late in the fourth quarter 2004. First quarter revenues will also benefit from holiday season sales.

BULLION COINS

Quarterly Comparison: During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, bullion revenues totaled \$50 million -- down by 39 percent from the \$82 million earned during the third quarter of FY 2004. (See Table #1.) This type of decrease -- which reflects the sluggish sales typically experienced during the summer months -- commonly occurs during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

Annual Comparison: This quarter's \$50 million in bullion revenues represents a 39 percent increase over the \$36 million in revenues earned during the fourth quarter of last year. (See Table #2). This increase reflects the particularly high demand for bullion during times of international instability, when investors tend to favor relatively stable investments. This increase also reflects the relative appeal of bullion as an investment when gold prices rise -- as they did this year.

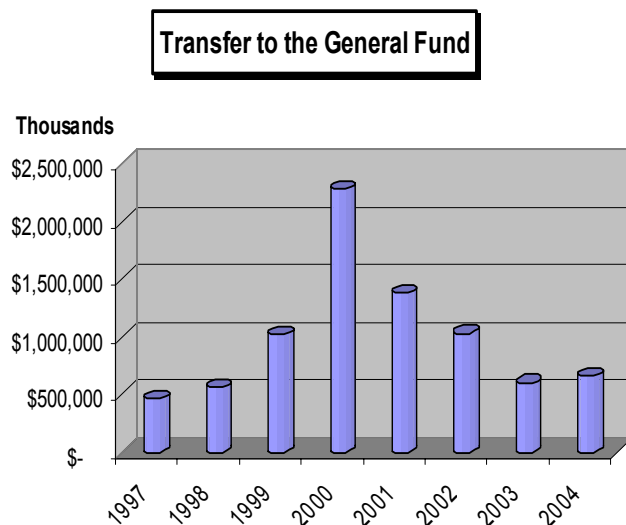
The Future: The United States Mint anticipates selling about 1,000,000 ounces of bullion coins during the first quarter of FY 2005.

TRANSFER TO THE TREASURY GENERAL FUND

As required by Public Law 104-52, the United States Mint transfers all profits to the Treasury General Fund, retaining only the amount required by the Public Enterprise Fund to support United States Mint operations and programs. In any given fiscal year, depending upon operational demands, the United States Mint may transfer more or less than the total profits earned during the fiscal year. During FY 2004, the United States Mint's transfer to the Treasury General Fund totaled \$665 million, which exceeded profits by \$15.0 million. Of this transfer, \$4 million is attributable to FY 2003 numismatics profits that were transferred during FY 2004; the remainder is attributable to circulating operations for FY 2004. In addition to the normal costs of meeting coin demand, this year the United States Mint had to absorb an increase of about 50% in raw material costs. Despite this increase in raw material costs, the United States Mint transferred 11% more this year than last year to the General Fund.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of Treasury require the United States Mint to hold back enough cash to cover all existing liabilities. As of September 30, 2004, the United States Mint had \$278.7 million in liabilities. To accommodate OMB and Treasury requirements, the United States Mint covered its \$278.7 million in liabilities, as well as any potential unforeseen contingencies, by retaining \$322.5 million in Fund Balance (cash) with Treasury for use in United States Mint operations as of September 30, 2004.

The United States Mint expects FY 2005 collections and sales to exceed FY 2005 expenses. Therefore, during FY 2004, the United States Mint did not retain any cash to cover any potential FY 2005 losses.



Update on United States Mint Activities

THE 5-CENT COIN (NICKEL)

2004-DATED NICKELS

On August 2, 2004, the Keelboat 5-Cent Coin (nickel) was released by the Federal Reserve Bank. This coin is the second 2004-dated nickel and the second nickel in the Westward Journey Nickel Series™.

The reverse (tails side) of the Keelboat Nickel features an angled view of the keelboat with full sail that transported the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark are depicted in full uniform in the bow of the keelboat. The obverse (heads side) of this nickel showcases the same likeness of Thomas Jefferson that appears on the nickel that preceded the Westward Journey Nickel Series.

On August 3, 2004, the Keelboat Nickel was launched on a replica of the keelboat that carried the Lewis and Clark Expedition through the rivers of the Louisiana Territory at the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration in Omaha, Nebraska. Lt. Governor David Heineman and the Nebraska Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission hosted the celebration. Following the ceremony, a nickel exchange was held for the public.

On August 20, 2004, Treasury Secretary John W. Snow, along with Iowa Senator Charles Grassley, presented the Keelboat Nickel at the Iowa State Fair.

2005-DATED NICKELS

On September 16, 2004, at the United States Mint's headquarters, United States Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore unveiled designs for two new nickels that will be released in 2005. Dan Jordan, President of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, and George Horse Capture, Senior Counselor to the Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, served as guest speakers at the unveiling. Senator Michael Enzi provided a videotaped message.

The two new 2005 nickel designs will complete the Westward Journey Nickel Series. (See images on cover of this report.) The obverse (heads side) of both new 2005 nickels will feature a fresh new image of President Thomas Jefferson, and an inscription of the word "Liberty" fashioned after Jefferson's own handwriting. The reverse (tails side) of the first nickel, which will be released in early 2005, will display an "American Bison" image that recognizes the American Indians and wildlife encountered by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The reverse of the second nickel, which will be released in the late summer of 2005, will depict the Pacific Ocean. It will also feature an entry from William Clark's journal that reflected his excitement at reaching the expedition's Pacific Ocean destination: Ocean in view! O! The Joy!

For more information about how the designs of the 2005-dated nickels were selected, please see this report's "Artistic Infusion Program" section.

THE 2006-DATED NICKEL

The 2006-dated nickel will be released at the conclusion of the Westward Journey Nickel series. Congress has authorized that the obverse of the 2006 nickel feature a likeness of Thomas Jefferson and that its reverse depict Jefferson's home at Monticello.

On September 8, 2004, the United States Mint and a panel assembled by the National Endowment for the Arts reviewed designs for the 2006-dated nickels that had been submitted by the United States Mint's team of sculptor/engravers and Artistic Infusion artists. From these submissions, the panel selected six obverse designs and six reverse designs for the 2006-dated nickel. These 12 designs, in addition to the obverse and reverse designs from the 1938-2004 nickel and the obverse from the 2005-dated nickel, will be submitted to the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee and the Committee for Fine Arts for further review.

50 STATE QUARTERS® PROGRAM

IOWA

In a ceremony held on September 3, 2004, Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack, First Lady Christie Vilsack, Lt. Governor Sally J. Pederson and Director Fore launched the Iowa commemorative quarter-dollar.

The Iowa quarter was the fourth quarter released during calendar year 2004, and the 29th quarter released in the 50 State Quarters® Program. (See image on cover of this report.) The design of the Iowa quarter features a one-room school house with a teacher and students planting a tree. The inscriptions "Foundation in Education" and "Grant Wood" also appear on the coin. The Iowa quarter's design is based on "Arbor Day," a painting by Grant Wood, who was born in Iowa. This is our first state quarter with an education theme.

The festive atmosphere of the launch was heightened by musical entertainment provided by the 34th Army Band of the Iowa Army National Guard and the Isisirettes Drill and Drum Corps; Peter the Mint Eagle's appearance greeting children; and a quarter exchange for participants following the ceremony.

2005 STATE QUARTER DESIGNS

During calendar year 2005, commemorative quarter-dollar coins will be released for California, West Virginia, Kansas, Minnesota and Oregon. Designs for all of these quarters have been approved.

2006 STATE QUARTER DESIGNS

During calendar year 2006, 50 State Quarters coins will be released for Nevada, Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota and South Dakota. During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, each of these states submitted narratives of three to five design concepts that will be fashioned into original artwork by the United States Mint.

ARTISTIC INFUSION PROGRAM

WESTWARD JOURNEY NICKEL SERIES

The two 2005-dated nickels from the Westward Journey Nickel Series will feature a total of three new images: one obverse and two reverses. (See discussion of the 5-Cent Coin above.) All three of these new images were designed by artists from the United States Mint's Artistic Infusion Program.

Two of the new images were designed by Artistic Infusion Program artist Joe Fitzgerald of Silver Spring, Maryland: 1) The image of President Thomas Jefferson, which will appear on the obverse of both 2005-dated nickels; and 2) the image celebrating the arrival of the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Pacific Ocean, which will appear on the reverse of the second 2005-dated nickel.

The "American Bison" image that will appear on the reverse of the first new 2005-dated nickel was designed by Artistic Infusion Program artist Jamie Franki of Concord, New Hampshire.

The three new images featured in the two new 2005-dated nickels were selected from designs submitted by 24 Artistic Infusion Program artists and by the United States Mint's team of sculptor-engravers.

50 STATE QUARTERS PROGRAM

- In August 2004, five artists from the Artistic Infusion Program and the United States Mint's team of sculptor-engravers submitted designs for the 2006 South Dakota commemorative quarter-dollar. The Governor of South Dakota selected five of these submissions for review by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee and the Commission for Fine Arts. All five of these selected designs had been submitted by Artistic Infusion Program artists.
- Artistic Infusion Program artists and the United States Mint's team of sculptor-engravers are currently preparing to submit designs for 50 State Quarters coins for Nebraska, Colorado, Nevada and North Dakota, which will be released in 2006.

PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

The United States Mint played a prominent role in the American Numismatic Association's (ANA) World Fair of Money in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from August 18 to August 22, 2004. At the event:

- Director Fore and Gloria Eskridge, the United States Mint's Associate Director for Sales and Marketing, held a Collectors Forum to discuss the United States Mint's products and to solicit feedback from dealers and consumers.
- 144 designs submitted through the Artistic Infusion Program for 2004 coinage were displayed publicly.
- The United States Mint sponsored a booth premiering our products. \$65,000 worth of merchandise was sold.
- Director Fore, who is President of the international Mint Directors Conference (MDC), hosted several meetings for the MDC on the future of money and minting, international cooperation among mints and governance policies.
- Director Fore received the ANA's Outstanding Government Service Award.

THE UNITED STATES MINT PROVIDES PREMIER E-COMMERCE

The United States Mint scored higher than any other Federal agency on the E-commerce/Transactions section of the E-Government Satisfaction Index, which covered the third quarter of 2004. The E-Government Satisfaction Index -- which is a special report of the University of Michigan Business School American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) -- was released on September 21, 2004.

The E-Government Satisfaction Index ranked the websites of 54 government agencies in four major categories. The United States Mint's online catalog, which earned a score of 80 on the E-commerce/Transactions section of this Index, outranked the average government e-commerce/transaction score of 71.2, and ranked just one point below the private sector's overall e-commerce score of 80.8.

Our high E-commerce/Transactions score is due, in part, to the United States Mint's responsiveness to customer feedback on the content and functionality of our online catalog. We demonstrate our responsiveness by, for example, inviting feedback on our online survey; responding to resulting feedback; and announcing our responses to this feedback on our website's "We're Listening to You" page.

Recent upgrades to our online catalog include its new graphic design, which closely matches the graphic design of the United States Mint's 2004 Annual Collection print catalog. In addition, the site has new navigation bars, a new product availability page; and a feature that, upon request, reminds a user of his/her user name.

RELEASE OF 2004 CATALOG

On September 16, 2004, the United States Mint's 2004 Annual Collection catalog was released by mail and on the United States Mint's website. Among the products featured in this year's catalog are coin and die sets for nickels from the Westward Journey Nickel Series; American Eagle Platinum Proof Coins; the Thomas Alva Edison Commemorative Coin; the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar; medals honoring President George W. Bush, President Thomas Jefferson, and President Ronald Reagan; a medal honoring Dr. Dorothy I. Height; and National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial medals. (See <http://catalog.usmint.gov>.)

WEBSITE ENHANCEMENTS

On August 18, 2004, the United States Mint launched a virtual tour on its website. Featuring a slideshow and video, the tour educates website visitors about the design, engraving and mass production of circulating coins. The United States Mint's virtual tour is Section 508 compliant, which means that everyone, regardless of visual and/or hearing impairments, can enjoy the tour. (See http://www.usmint.gov/mint_tours/index.cfm?flash=yes.)

In addition, we recently expanded the images that are posted on our website.

Other Highlights

STRONG SALES OF LEWIS & CLARK BICENTENNIAL SILVER DOLLAR

The 2004 Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar, which commemorates the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition, is available in a proof version and an uncirculated version. Both versions of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar have sold briskly since they were released on May 12, 2004.

In addition, the uncirculated version of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar was included in the Lewis and Clark Coinage and Currency Set. This product sold out in just six days.

The proof version of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Silver Dollar was included in the Lewis & Clark Coin & Pouch Set. Each Lewis and Clark Coin & Pouch Set includes a unique leather pouch that was handcrafted by descendants of American Indian tribes that figured prominently in the Lewis and Clark saga. This product sold out in just over three weeks.

THE UNITED STATES MINT EDUCATION INITIATIVE (MEI)

The United States Mint's educational website is called the United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change™, and its address is <http://www.usmint.gov/kids>. The site received 66 percent more visits during the fourth quarter of FY 2004 than during the same quarter last year. In addition, the average length of each visit was 26 percent longer during the fourth quarter of FY 2004 than during the same quarter of last year.

During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, the MEI's outreach activities reached more than 20,000 adults and children. These outreach activities included creating and staffing large exhibits at the National Education Association Convention in Washington, DC; participating in the Fort Knox Boy Scout Jamboree, which was attended by children from Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee; and contributing to various coin shows and young collectors programs that were held throughout the Nation.

CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, two appointments were made to the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC):

- 1) Tom Noe was appointed Chairperson of the CCAC. Mr. Noe, the President of an Ohio coin business, has served on the CCAC since its inception in 2003. He has also served as Chairman of the Ohio Commemorative Quarter Committee.
- 2) Ken Thomasma was appointed to the CCAC Congressional recommendation vacancy. He was recommended by United States Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist. An educator for more than 50 years, Mr. Thomasma is a long-time member of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

LICENSING

The United States Mint's Office of Licensing protects the integrity and image of the United States Mint's intellectual property. The Office of Licensing works with the Office of the Chief Counsel to monitor compliance with the United States Mint's licensing agreements and to address infringement of the United States Mint's intellectual property. The United States Mint's earnings to date from licensing royalties and coin sales total \$42.1 million; this figure includes \$15.7 million earned during the fourth quarter of FY 2004.

The United States Mint's current licensees include: 1) H.E. Harris & Co (now called Whitman Publishing L.L.C.), which distributes coin folders and holders for 50 State Quarters coins, Golden Dollars and other coins; 2) Wonderland Marketing, which is preparing to distribute new products that incorporate 50 State Quarters coins, the 50 State Quarters logo and Greetings from American stamp images; 3) Peak Capital Group, which distributes

albums that hold 50 State Quarters coins; and 4) Fuller Fine Jewelry and KARS/Wideband Jewelry, which are in the initial stages of developing and marketing licensed coin jewelry. These jewelry products will primarily feature American Eagle Bullion Coins and the United States Mint banner logo.

FOURTH QUARTER AUDITS AND REVIEWS

- As reported in the United States Mint's Report to Congress on Operations for the third quarter of FY 2004, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) had been considering examining the United States Mint's E-Commerce Fraud Analysis Activity data mining system as a case study in its ongoing review of security/privacy safeguards of Federal data mining systems. However, during the fourth quarter of FY 2004, GAO determined that the United States Mint's system does not fit GAO's definition of a "data mining system," and so the GAO chose not to cover our system in a case study.
- On July 25, 2004, the GAO released a report entitled *Human Capital: Selected Agencies Use of Alternative Service Delivery Options for Human Capital Activities*. The report reviewed the types and relative benefits of various ASD options that are currently being used by eight selected agencies, including the United States Mint. The report concluded by recommending that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) encourage the Federal Chief Human Capital Officers Council to share information about ASD.

The United States Mint's activities continue to be addressed by:

- A review initiated on July 23, 2004 by the GAO entitled *Currency Paper Procurement*. The audit will focus primarily on the activities of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, but will also review the United States Mint's methods for obtaining competition in procuring metals used in coin production.
- An audit begun in March 2004 by the Treasury Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the Treasury Department's computer security incident response capability. In addition to covering the activities of the United States Mint, this audit is also covering the activities of the Treasury Departmental offices, the Financial Management Service, and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.
- An audit begun in January 2004 by the Treasury OIG of the United States Mint's competitive sourcing study of circulating blanking, annealing and upsetting activities. This audit will determine whether the United States Mint followed its procurement policy and sound business practices in the following areas: 1) developing the study's scope of work; 2) selecting the study's support contractor; and 3) overseeing the performance of the study's contractor. During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, the OIG announced that it will release an interim report on this audit's findings on the United States Mint's work thus far on the competitive sourcing study.

NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AT THE UNITED STATES MINT

During the fourth quarter of FY 2004, the United States Mint welcomed Robert J. Byrd as its new Associate Director and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Byrd brings to the United States Mint a wide range of executive experience in both the private and public sectors. Most recently, he served as Vice President of the Orkand Corporation (now Harris Orkand Information Services) and Cedar Enterprise Solutions, Inc. Previously, Mr. Byrd served as the Deputy Commissioner for Management Systems and Chief Financial Officer of the Food and Drug Administration.

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION FAMILIES HONORED

In a ceremony held in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda on September 8, 2004, a Congressional Gold Medal was posthumously awarded to Reverend Joseph A. DeLaine, Harry and Eliza Briggs, and Levi Pearson for their pioneering work in the struggle against segregation. The ceremony marked the 50th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. The Congressional Gold Medal was given to descendants of the three medal recipients. Bronze duplicates and miniature bronze replicas of this Congressional Gold Medal are available.



The obverse (heads side) and reverse (tails side) of the *Brown v. Board of Education* Congressional Gold medal.

BRONZE MEDALS HONORING DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT AVAILABLE

On July 14, 2004, the United States Mint issued bronze duplicates and miniature bronze replicas of the Congressional Gold medal honoring Dr. Dorothy I. Height. As reported last quarter, Dr. Height received her Congressional Gold Medal from President Bush on March 24, 2004, her 92nd birthday, in a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda in recognition of her work in the struggle for equality, social justice, and human rights for all people.

SAFETY

The United States Mint has steadily reduced its lost time accident (LTA) rate since 2000. (The LTA rate represents the number of LTAs that occur per 200,000 work hours.) As of September 30, 2004, the United States Mint LTA rate for 2004 was 1.24. (See graph provided below).

We remain committed to meeting our goal, as defined in the United States Mint's 2002-2007 Strategic Plan, of reducing our LTA rate to 0.62 by 2007. To achieve this goal and to accelerate our rate of safety progress, we are implementing an employee-driven safety improvement process that involves the entire workforce in using measurements and feedback to increase safe work habits, safety awareness and productivity, and thereby reduce accidents and injuries.

