

Liberty files suit against U.S Mint

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Liberty Services, issuer of the Liberty Dollar, filed suit against the U.S. Mint March 20 in U.S. District Court in Evansville, Ind.

The suit comes in reaction to a consumer warning issued by the Mint Sept. 13, 2006, saying that the Liberty dollar is not legal tender. The warning also says "prosecutors with the Department of Justice have determined that the use of these gold and silver NORFED 'Liberty Dollar' medallions as circulating money is a federal crime."

"The Liberty Dollar organization has never claimed that its new gold and silver currency was a 'coin' or 'legal tender,' " said Bernard von NotHaus, who calls himself the monetary architect of the Liberty Dollar.

"We had to sue the U.S. Mint, because this unfair and illegal warning was killing the Liberty Dollar and the ideals it represents."

Von NotHaus says he is asking the court to declare that use of the Liberty Dollar is not a federal crime.

His organization sells warehouse receipts denominated in Liberty Dollars and silver and gold medals. Buyers are encouraged to use them in transactions.

A Mint spokesman had no comment until Treasury officials had a chance to examine the legal documents.