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For Immediate Release
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Liberty Coin Service Helping U.S. Mint Collect 2005 Nickel Design Ideas!

Using a design template provided by Liberty Coin Service of Lansing, mid-Michigan students have the opportunity to contribute their design ideas for what should appear on the reverse of the 2005 Jefferson nickel. At the end of April, all forms received by Liberty Coin Service will be forwarded to the office of U.S. Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore.

Patrick A. Heller, owner of Liberty Coin Service, said, "When I was talking with Mint Director Fore last month, she said that the design for the reverse of the 2005 nickel had not yet been selected and that she would appreciate public input. I promised her that I would come up with some great ideas. Since the Jefferson Nickel was originally designed by Felix Schlag of Owosso, it seems right that current Michigan residents contribute to the design process for next year's coin."

The 2005 Jefferson Nickel will be the third in the U.S. Mint's special Westward Journey series of nickels. The first, honoring the 1803 Louisiana Purchase, is just now appearing in circulation. The second coin, to honor the bicentennial of the start of the 1804-1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition, is scheduled for release in the late summer. The 2005 Nickel, which will also commemorate the Lewis & Clark Expedition, will be issued in early 2005.

The design forms are being distributed as Heller makes presentations at schools, via the internet, and at coin shows including the huge Michigan State Numismatic Society Spring Convention at Holiday Inn-South in Lansing April 16-18. They are also available at the Liberty Coins store.

Liberty Coin Service, in the Standard Federal Bank Building at Frandor in Lansing, was established in 1971. It is Michigan's largest rare coins and precious metals bullion dealership. Among Patrick A. Heller's recent honors are the 2003 Michigan State Numismatic Society George Hatie Memorial Award, the 2004 Socially Responsible Entrepreneur of Greater Lansing Award, and an appointment to the American Numismatic Association's Future Of The Hobby Committee. He was appointed by former Michigan governor John Engler to the Michigan Quarter Commission to work on the design of the recently released 2004 Michigan Quarter.

The United States Mint is the world's largest manufacturer of legal tender coinage. Circulating coins are struck at plants in Philadelphia and Denver. Commemorative and bullion coins are struck at facilities in Philadelphia, San Francisco, and West Point, New York.