

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee

801 Ninth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20220



June 29, 2021

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting via videoconference on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, during which the CCAC made recommendations for the 2022 Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Program (*P.L. 116-247*).

The CCAC was joined by the liaison, Col. Russell Vernon, Executive Director of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission. Col. Vernon had studied the design portfolio extensively and shared his thoughts with the CCAC members.

As with many commemorative coin programs, obverses are paired with different reverses to “tell a story” the stakeholder feels is important. This was the case for this program.

The CCAC recommends \$5 obverse design PH-G-O-04, which features a Purple Heart medal with the inscription “A GRATEFUL NATION HONORS AND REMEMBERS.” This design garnered a score of 28 points out of a possible score of 30. For the reverse design, the CCAC recommends PH-G-R-04, which places George Washington’s signature under the Badge of Military Merit and over a textured stripe. The inscriptions “BADGE OF MILITARY MERIT” and “1782” round out the design. It garnered a score of 26 points, out of a possible score of 30.

For the \$1 silver design, the CCAC recommends obverse design PH-S-O-02A, which received a score of 30, of a possible score of 33 points. This design features the Purple Heart medal with the additional inscription “COMBAT WOUNDED AND KILLED IN ACTION.” The five stars in this design represent the five branches of the military. For the reverse, the CCAC recommends, by motion, reverse design PH-S-R-01, which shows a woman in a WWI helmet as she bandages a wounded soldier on a stretcher. This design highlights the more than 23,000 female nurses who served in the Army and Navy to support World War I soldiers. The CCAC recommends moving the “\$1” denomination below the stretcher, and to have the United States Mint evaluate spelling out “one dollar.” The CCAC made a motion that if the United States Mint decides to colorize coins in this program, it should only be applied to the silver dollar. The motion passed unanimously.

For the clad half-dollar, by unanimous motion, the CCAC recommends PH-C-01 for the obverse and PH-R-01 for the reverse. The obverse design, PH-C-01, shows a figure in military fatigues and combat boots using a pair of crutches. The left leg has been amputated from the thigh down. The negative space below the amputated knee shows the missing leg in silhouette. The Purple Heart medal appears behind the figure, and the inscription “ALL GAVE SOME” sits below the composition. The background field has a subtle flag motif.

The corresponding reverse design, PH-C-R-01, features a young boy holding the dress cap of an enlisted Marine. The silhouette of a Marine in dress blues stands behind him in negative space, emphasizing the loss that affects the families of Purple Heart recipients. The inscription “SOME GAVE ALL” is featured in the negative space around the boy in the lower half. The background field from the corresponding obverse is repeated.

I believe the strong opinions of Col. Vernon, meshed with the CCAC’s recommendations, will contribute to a Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Program of which Purple Heart recipients, their families, and all American will be proud.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary N. Lannin".

Mary N. Lannin
Chair