

State of New Mexico Coin Commission Guidelines and Procedures

1. Background

In 1997, the United States Congress approved and the President signed the “Fifty States Commemorative Coin Program Act”, Public Law 105-124 (the “Act”), which established a new series of quarters to commemorate each of the 50 States. Over a ten year period (1999-2008), the United States Mint will issue quarters with designs emblematic of each state. State quarters are issued in the order in which the states ratified the Constitution and joined the Union. New Mexico joined the Union on January 6, 1912.

Under the Act, the Governor establishes a selection process and submits coin concepts that are emblematic of the State of New Mexico. The Governor submits three to five narrative design concepts to the United States Mint. The Mint is responsible for producing original artwork based on the narratives submitted. The Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee and United States Fine Arts Commission review the designs and the Secretary of the United States Treasury reviews and approves the designs. The approved designs are provided to the Governor and the Governor then selects the final design for recommendation to the Treasury. The official release of the New Mexico commemorative quarter is scheduled for 2008.

2. Mission and Scope

- A. The Governor appointed State of New Mexico Coin Commission is responsible for soliciting narrative design concepts. Narratives must explain why the concept is emblematic of the state and what the concept represents to the state’s citizens.
- B. The Commission shall determine a procedure for the review and consideration of all narrative design concepts. The Commission shall ensure that the narrative design concepts chosen as finalists meet the requirements set forth in the Act and requirements established by the United States Treasury. The Commission may consult with historians, artists, design and coin experts, and others in its solicitation of the narrative design concepts. The Commission may edit or revise any narrative, combine narratives or create narratives.
- C. The Commission shall select three narrative design concepts as finalists by September 1, 2006. The Commissions final recommendations shall be subject to approval by the Governor. The Governor may supplement the narratives and will submit his approved finalists to the United States Mint.

- D. The Commission shall participate in collaboration with the United States Mint after submission to ensure historical accuracy and proper state representation of the artwork.
- E. The Governor will select the final design from those approved by the United States Mint and shall submit the final design to the Secretary of the United States Treasury for final approval.

3. *Commission Guidelines for Solicitation of Narrative Designs*

Narrative design concepts will be solicited from the general public. Narrative design concepts over 150 words will not be considered.

The Commission shall review all designs and submit three designs to the Governor for final approval before being submitted to the US Mint.