



# FIRST SPOUSE SERIES

ONE-HALF OUNCE PROOF AND UNCIRCULATED COINS

## HIGHLY COLLECTABLE SERIES

American First Ladies are now honored with First Spouse Gold Coins, which are one-half ounce, 24 karat pure gold coins minted in collector proof and uncirculated versions. This series of gold coins introduced in 2007 and set to last until 2016 compliment and are released on the same schedule as the US Mint Presidential \$1 program which honors past Presidents at a rate of four gold coins each year.



## THE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COINS PROGRAM

The program is the first to feature women in a consecutive series of legal tender coins. The series of gold coins is authorized through the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005, which was signed into law (Public Law 109-145) on Dec. 22, 2005 by President George Bush. It calls for the following coin specifications:

- A \$10 denomination
- The same diameter as the \$1 coins
- Issued as counterparts and during the same period as the circulating Presidential \$1 coins

There are two cases where a President has had more than one wife during service and two coins are issued, like John Tyler. Tyler's first wife Letitia died during his second year in office. Tyler later married Julia while still President. Under the program, both Letitia and Julia First Spouse Coins were produced.



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# IDA MCKINLEY 2013



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## IDA MCKINLEY FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN *FIRST LADY, 1897–1901*

These \$10 coins, produced at the West Point Mint, are struck from one-half ounce of 99.99% pure gold and are available in both proof and uncirculated qualities.

Ida Saxton McKinley was born in Canton, Ohio, on June 8, 1847. She met her future husband and president, William McKinley, while working at her father's bank, and they married in 1871. Ill health, including phlebitis and epilepsy, caused her to spend much of her time crocheting bedroom slippers that were auctioned off for charity. Despite her health problems, as first lady, Mrs. McKinley received guests at formal receptions seated in a blue velvet chair while holding a fragrant bouquet to suggest she would not shake hands. After President McKinley's assassination in 1901, she moved back to Canton, where her younger sister looked after her. She died in 1907.

Designs on the release celebrate Ida McKinley, wife of the 25th President of the United States, William McKinley. They mark a continuation of the First Spouse Gold Coin Program which debuted in 2007 and honors the spouses of former Presidents.

For a second year, the release of the First Spouse Gold Coins was delayed due to production problems at the United States Mint. After a delayed design review and selection process, the Mint revealed that they were experiencing a problem known as finning whereby excess metal can build up at the edges of the coin when pressed causing a bottle capping effect. The combined delays pushed the release dates for the year's coins well into the fourth quarter.

## COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Date: 2013

Designers: Susan Gamble (obverse), Donna Weaver (reverse)

Composition: 0.9999 Gold

Weight: 0.5000 troy oz. (15.554 g)

Diameter: 1.041 inches (26.49 mm)

Thickness: 0.074 inches (1.88 mm)