

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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One Victory Plaza | 25222 Glen Loch | The Woodlands, TX 77380 Toll Free (866) 358-0920 | www.GlobalMonetaryReserve.com

ELIZABETH MONROE 2008



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• Education. We take pride in our ability to educate our customers before they choose which metals to purchase. In addition to our variety of online articles and monthly newsletter The Collector, we have written several books that we offer FREE of charge.

ELIZABETH MONROE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN

The Elizabeth Monroe First Spouse Gold Coin was released by the US Mint on February 28, 2008. This was the fifth coin released for the series and the first coin released for 2008. At the time of release, the prior coin honoring Dolley Madison remained on sale.

The obverse of the Elizabeth Monroe coin was designed by Joel Iskowitz and sculpted by Don Everhart. It features a portrait of Dolley Madison and the inscriptions, "Dolley Madison," "In God We Trust," and "Liberty." Also included are the date and mint mark, years served as first spouse "1817- 1825" and order of the Presidency "5th."

The reverse of the coin was designed by Donna Weaver and sculpted by Charles Vickers. The reverse depicts Elizabeth Monroe at the reception to reopen the White House in the year 1818 after it had been burned in the War of 1812. An inscription reads "Reopening of the White House 1818".

Elizabeth Monroe First Spouse Coins were issued with both proof and uncirculated finishes. The coins had a maximum authorized mintage of 40,000 coins. The proof version sold 7,933 coins and the uncirculated version sold 4,519.

COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Designer: Joel Iskowitz (obverse), Donna Weaver (reverse) Sculptor: Don Everhart (obverse), Charles Vickers (reverse) Date: 2008 Mint: West Point (W mint mark) Weight: 0.5000 troy oz. (15.554 g) Composition: 0.9999 fine gold Diameter: 1.041 inches (26.49 mm) Thickness: 0.074 inches (1.88 mm)