



CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

801 9TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

June 24, 2024

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting on June 18, 2024, during which they reviewed the candidate designs for the Iran Hostages Congressional Gold Medal. *Public-Law 117-320* awards a single Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal and the national unity it produced, marking four decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States. In developing the portfolio, the United States Mint worked closely with primary liaison, Ezra Friedlander, as well as former hostages and the Department of State.

Following its discussion, the CCAC unanimously approved a motion to recommend the preferred design candidates of the liaisons and the former hostages **IH-O-01A** and **IH-O-04A** for the obverse and reverse of the medal. Note that IH-O-04A, which originally conceived as an obverse design, was selected to serve as the reverse design of the Medal. The CCAC also recommends that the two dates, “November 4, 1979” and “January 20th, 1981” be standardized with either the addition of “-th” on the obverse, or the deletion of “-th” on the reverse. In addition, the CCAC recommends that the inscription “American Embassy” on the obverse be replaced with “U.S. Embassy” as it appears in the enabling legislation.

It is an honor to serve as the Chair of the CCAC and I am proud of the CCAC’s role in United States coins and medals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter van Alfen". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Peter van Alfen, PhD, CCAC Chair