

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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ABIGAIL FILLMORE 2010



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ABIGAIL FILLMORE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN FIRST LADY, 1850–1853

The United States Mint released the Abigail Fillmore First Spouse Gold Coin on March 19, 2010. This represented the first issue of the series for 2010, and the fourteenth coin released since the series began back in 2007. Each year, four or five coins have been issued to honor the Nation's First Spouses with a unique 24 karat gold coin.

Perhaps her most lasting contribution as first lady was her work in establishing a permanent White House library, for which President Fillmore asked Congress to appropriate funds. With \$2,000 authorized for the project, Mrs. Fillmore acquired several hundred volumes to start the collection in a second floor oval parlor. Here, she enjoyed entertaining such guests as authors Washington Irving, Charles Dickens and William Makepeace Thackeray.

Mrs. Fillmore also spent many hours selecting and arranging books for the library. The reverse (tails) design depicts Mrs. Fillmore shelving books in the library that she established at the White House.

Each coin in the series features a face value of \$10. The Fillmore coins are limited to a maximum mintage of 15,000 across both options.

COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Designer: Phebe Hemphill (obverse), Susan Gamble (reverse) Sculptor: Phebe Hemphill (obverse), Joseph Menna (reverse) Date: 2010 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)