

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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U.S. Postal Service Issues High-denomination Statue of Freedom Stamps

Vintage Look Evokes Head of Freedom Stamp from 1923

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service has issued a set of three high-denomination stamps featuring an illustration of the statue that tops the U.S. Capitol dome. The \$1, \$2 and \$5 stamps were issued in Bellefonte, PA.

The stamps, designed by art director Greg Breeding, offer a modern take on vintage patriotic stamp art for use on packages, large envelopes and other mailings. The artwork is based on an engraved vignette originally created for a 1923 stamp, the \$5 Head of Freedom Statue, by John Eissler (1873-1962). The stamp design is intaglio-printed, meaning the design is transferred to paper from an engraved plate. The illustration is emerald green on the \$1 stamp, indigo blue on the \$2 stamp and brick red on the \$5 stamp.

American sculptor Thomas Crawford (1814–1857) created the allegorical *Statue of Freedom* during the mid-1850s. The statue wears a variation on a Roman helmet — circled by stars, topped with an eagle head, and embellished by feathered plumes.

The statue's installation onto the new Capitol dome was completed in 1863.

Customers may purchase the *Statue of Freedom* stamps at The Postal Store at usps.com/shop, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724) or at Post Office facilities nationwide. A variety of stamps and collectibles also are available at ebay.com/stamps. The \$1 and \$2 stamps will be sold in sheets of 10 and the \$5 stamps will be sold in a sheet of four.

Ordering First-Day-of-Issue Postmarks

Customers have 120 days to obtain first-day-of-issue postmarks by mail. They must affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes to themselves or others and place them in envelopes addressed to:

FDOI - Statue of Freedom Stamps
USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services
8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64144-9900

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for postmarks up to a quantity of 50. For more than 50, customers are charged 5 cents each. All orders must be postmarked by Oct. 27, 2018.

Ordering First-Day Covers

The Postal Service also offers first-day covers for new stamps and stationery items postmarked with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation. Each item has an individual catalog number and is offered in the *USA Philatelic* publication at usps.com/shop. Customers may register to receive a free *USA Philatelic* publication online at usps.com/philatelic.

Philatelic Products

Philatelic products for this stamp issue are available at usps.com/shop.

• 114200	\$1 Statue of Freedom (Jun 27)	\$1.00
• 114216	First Day Cover	\$1.44
• 114221	Digital Color Postmark	\$2.15
• 114300	\$2 Statue of Freedom (Jun 27)	\$2.00
• 114316	First Day Cover	\$2.44
• 114321	Digital Color Postmark	\$3.15
• 117900	\$5 Statue of Freedom (Jun 27)	\$5.00
• 117916	First Day Cover	\$5.44
• 117921	Digital Color Postmark	\$6.15
• 114200	\$1 Statue of Freedom (Jun 27)	\$1.00
• 114216	First Day Cover	\$1.44

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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