Today's Presentation



Introduction to private credit

1. Cancellation 2. Discharge of of charges

your Debts

Necessary Forms and Other Things

GSA Optional Form 28 GSA Optional Form 90 GSA Optional Form 91 Standard Form 1402 Accepted for the Value Private Money order The Dollar bill

FROM -> http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/cfr 2007/octqtr/48cfr28.106-1.htm

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[Code of Federal Regulations]
[Title 48, Volume 1]
[Revised as of October 1, 2007]
From the U.S. Government Printing Office via GPO Access
[CITE: 48CFR28.106-1]
[Page 560-561]
            TITLE 48--FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS SYSTEM
                CHAPTER 1--FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION
Sec. 28.106-1 Bonds and bond related forms.
    The following Standard Forms (SF's) and Optional Forms (OF's) shown
in 53.301 and 53.302 shall be used, except in
[[Page 561]]
foreign countries, when a bid bond, performance or payment bond, or an
individual surety is required. The bond forms shall be used as indicated
in the instruction portion of each form.
    (a) SF 24, Bid Bond (see 28.101).
    (b) SF 25, Performance Bond (see 28.102-1 and 28.106-3(b)).
    (c) SF 25-A, Payment Bond (see 28.102-1 and 28.106-3(b)).
    (d) SF 25-B, Continuation Sheet (for SF's 24, 25, and 25-A).
    (e) SF 28, Affidavit of Individual Surety (see 28.202).
    (f) SF 34, Annual Bid Bond (see 28.001).
    (g) SF 35, Annual Performance Bond (see 28.104).
    (h) SF 273, Reinsurance Agreement for a Miller Act Performance Bond
(see 28,202(a)(4)).
    (i) SF 274, Reinsurance Agreement for a Miller Act Payment Bond (see
28.202(a)(4)).
    (j) SF 275, Reinsurance Agreement in Favor of the United States (see
28.202(a)(4)).
    (k) SF 1414, Consent of Surety (see 28.106-5).
    (1) SF 1415, Consent of Surety and Increase of Penalty (see 28.106-
    (m) SF 1416, Payment Bond for Other Than Construction Contracts (see
28.103-3 and 28.106-3(b)).
    (n) SF 1418, Performance Bond for Other Than Construction Contracts
(see 28.103-2 and 28.106-3(b)).
    (o) OF 90, Release of Lien on Real Property (see 28.203-5).
    (p) OF 91, Release of Personal Property from Escrow (see 28.203-5).
[48 FR 42286, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 54 FR 48986, Nov. 28, 1989;
61 FR 39213, July 26, 1996]
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Standard Form 28-Affidavit of Individual Surety

| AFFIDAVIT OF INDIVIDUAL SURETY (See instructions on reverse) OMB No. | | |
|--|---|--|
| ponse, including the time for reviewing i of information. Send comments regarding guistory Secretariat (MVA), Office of A | nstructions, searching existing ng this burden estimate or any o equisition Policy, GSA, Washing | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| surety to the attached bond(s); concerning any stocks or bonds ursuant to the registration provincers a matter within the juries may render the maker subject to ce the United States of America | (2) a citizen of the Unit included in the assets lis- visions of Section 5 of diction of an agency of prosecution under Title a to accept me as surety | |
| DDRESS (Number, Street, City, State, Zi | IP Code) | |
| ANYWHERE, ANYCITY, YOU | R STATE YOUR ZIP | |
| | | |
| ND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER # Self-em | ployed, so Statel | |
| ONE NUMBER | | |
| - | | |
| SS - | | |
| d attach certified evidence thereoil. nurt case) | | |
| VING SUBJECT ASSETS INCLUDING RE | AL ESTATE TAXES DUE AND | |
| case) | | |
| AVE BEEN PLEDGED WITHIN 3 YEARS P | RIOR TO THE DATE OF | |
| case) | | |
| ET MUST BE ATTACHED. | | |
| AND CONTRACT TO WHICH THIS AFFIC TTC Card # and/or Court | | |
| AS FOLLOWS: | | |
| | Official | |
| e.MY CO | MMISSION Seal | |
| | #EMY CO | |

FROM-> http://www.arnet.gov/far/current/html/Subpart%2053 2.html

53.228 Bonds and insurance.

The following standard forms are prescribed for use for bond and insurance requirements, as specified in Part 28:

- (a) SF 24 (Rev. 10/98) Bid Bond. (See 28.106-1.) SF 24 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (b) SF 25 (Rev. 5/96) Performance Bond. (See 28.106-1(b).) SF 25 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (c) SF 25A (Rev. 10/98) Payment Bond. (See 28.106-1(c).) SF 25A is authorized for local reproduction.
- (d) <u>SF 25B</u> (Rev. 10/83), Continuation Sheet (For Standard Forms <u>24</u>, <u>25</u>, and <u>25A</u>). (See <u>28.106-1(c)</u>.)
- e) <u>SF 28</u> (*Rev. 6/03*) Afficievit சி இணில்**dual Surety.** (See <u>28.106-1(e)</u> and <u>28.203(b).</u>) <u>SF 28</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
 - (f) SF 34 (Rev. 1/90), Annual Bid Bond. (See 28.106-1/f).) SF 34 is authorized for local reproduction.
 - (g) SF 35 (Rev. 1/90), Annual Performance Bond. (See 28.108-1.) SF 36 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (h) <u>SF 273</u> (Rev. 10/98) Reinsurance Agreement for a Miller Act Performance Bond. (See <u>28.106-1(h</u>) and 28.202-1(a)(4).) <u>SF 273</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
- (i) <u>SF 274</u> (Rev. 10/98) Reinsurance Agreement for a Miller Act Payment Bond. (See <u>28.106-1(i)</u> and 28.202-1(a)(4).) <u>SF 274</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
- (j) <u>SF 275</u> (Rev. 10/98) Reinsurance Agreement in Favor of the United States. (See <u>28.108-1</u>(j) and 28.202-1(a)(4).) <u>SF 275</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
 - (k) SF 1414 (Rev. 10/93), Consent of Surety. SF 1414 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (I) SF 1415 (Rev. 7/93), Consent of Surety and Increase of Penalty. (See 28.106-1(I).) SF 1415 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (m) <u>SF 1416</u> (Rev. 10/98) Payment Bond for Other than Construction Contracts. (See <u>28.106-1(m)</u>.) <u>SF 1416</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
- (n) <u>SF 1418</u> (Rev. 2/99) Performance Bond For Other Than Construction Contracts. (See <u>28.108-1</u>(n).) <u>SF 1418</u> is authorized for local reproduction.
- (o) OF 90 (Rev. 1/90) Release of Lien on Real Property. (See 28.108-1(o) and 28.203-5(a).) OF 90 is authorized for local reproduction.
- (p) OF 91 (1/90 Ed.), Release of Personal Property from Escrow. (See 28.106-1(p) and 28.203-5(a).) OF 91 is authorized for local reproduction.

FROM - http://www.arnet.gov/far/current/html/Subpart%2028 1.html

28.106-1 Bonds and bond-related forms.

The following Standard Forms (SF's) and Optional Forms (OF's) shown in <u>53,301</u> and <u>53,302</u>, shall be used, except in foreign countries, when a bid bond, performance or payment bond, or an individual surety is required. The bond forms shall be used as indicated in the instruction portion of each form:

FROM http://www.arnet.gov/far/current/html/Subpart%2028_2.html#wp1073333 28.203 Acceptability of individual sureties.

- (a) An individual surety is acceptable for all types of bonds except position schedule bonds. The contracting officer shall determine the acceptability of individuals proposed as sureties, and shall ensure that the surety's pledged assets are sufficient to cover the bond obligation. (See 28.203-7 for information on excluded individual sureties.)
- (b) An individual surety must execute the bond, and the unencumbered value of the assets (exclusive of all outstanding pledges for other bond obligations) pledged by the individual surety, must equal or exceed the penal amount of each bond. The individual surety shall execute the <u>Standard Form 28</u> and provide a security interest in accordance with <u>28.203-</u>
- 1. One individual surety is adequate support for a bond, provided the unencumbered value of the assets pledged by that individual surety equal or exceed the amount of the bond. An offeror may submit up to three individual sureties for each bond, in which case the pledged assets, when combined, must equal or exceed the penal amount of the bond. Each individual surety must accept both joint and several liability to the extent of the penal amount of the bond.

RELEASE OF LIEN ON REAL PROPERTY

| Whereas | Trust SHANE C. BUCZEK | your COUNTY, STATE (Place of Residence) | , by a bond |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| | | | , 0, 0 00.10 |
| became a | | successful performance of said contra- ty further described hereafter, and | ct, which bond |
| Whereas s | aid surety established the sa | id lien upon the following property | |
| (descript | ion of the property or real-ea | state, credit card or court case) Visa (| Credit Card |
| | | | |
| and record | led this pledge on | | |
| in the | | (Name of Land Records) of Your STAT | E |
| and | (Locality) | (Sta | ite) |
| Whereas | ı, | | , being a duly |
| officer, ha | ve determined that the lien is | States Government as a warranted co a no longer required to ensure further p action of claims arising therefrom, | - |
| | | e United States Government for continuontract and satisfaction of claims pertain | |
| Now, then aforement | | seth that the Government hereby relea | ses the |
| 1 st June | 2008 Joh | n Q Public , Authorized Representativ | |
| [Date] | Notan | [Signature] Seal | Right |
| | Notary | Joan | thumb |
| | stamp & | | print in Red |
| | seal | | IXEU |

AUTHORIZED FOR LOCAL REPRODUCTION

OPTIONAL FORM 90 (REV. 1-90) Prescribed by GSA-FAR (48 CFR) 53.228(n)

RELEASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM ESCROW

| | ist name JOHN Q PUBLI (Name) mance of U.S. Governn | C of <u>Your COUNTY, ST</u> (Place of Res | ATE by a bond |
|---|---|---|---|
| became a su | rety for the complete an | nd successful performance of | said contract, and Whereas |
| said surety h | as placed certain person | nal property in escrow | |
| | | Mortg #, Ticket #, Prisoner' | |
| at — | Bank One, 43rd Distr | ict Court, Oakland Count | y Jail |
| | (Na | ame of Financial Institution) | |
| located at | Address of; Bank, O | Court, Jail | and |
| | (Addres | ss of Financial Institution) | |
| Whereas I, | John Q Public - Uppe | r & lower case | , being a duly authorized |
| | edit Card 3214 54 | y or real-estate, credit of 89 6547 XXXX | card of court case) |
| | | a to the United States Go | |
| the property deliver the li property place directs the co with any inte | listed above, and direct sted property to the steed in escrow in the austodian to close the ac- rest accruing which rem | nesseth that the Government to the custodian of the aforer urety. If the listed property aforementioned escrow according to the count and to return all property ains after the deduction of ar Oakland County Jail | mentioned escrow account to comprises the whole of the unt, the Government further ty therein to the surety, along |
| | (Name of Financial In: | | |
| | | John Q Public, | Your Right |
| | | Authorized | |
| (D) | Notary | Representative | thumb print |
| [Date] | stamp & | [Signature] | in Red |
| une 2008 | seal | Seal | |
| | seai | | |

OPTIONAL FORM 91 (1-90) Prescribed by G SA-FAR (48 CFR) 53.228(e) 0002512 B



DTE Energy

Payment Coupon

Address changes or comments will only Notary stamp & Accepted for the value

Please indicate amount paying 5.

Account Number

500.00

Due Date: Total Due: October 22, 2008

\$25.12

Mail Payments To.

DTE Energy

P.O. Box 2859

lower right -John Q. Public Authorized Representative

For address our entions, please with my deer eig/comon the Wes or car and 477,4747.

Fortan upper portion with your paramete.

208901708

CERTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT

Under authority vested in the undersigned and in conformance with .Subpart 1.6 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation

is appointed

Contracting Officer

for the

United States of America

Subject to the limitations contained in the Federal Acquisition Regulation and to the following:

(Base) (Na.3

(Signature and Tale)

STANDARD FORM 1402 (10.83) Prescribed by GSA - FAR (48 CFR) 53.201-1

NSN7540-01-152-5812

Unless sooner terminated, this appointment is

Sign the back of voucher



Corrections, comments or correspondence included with this coupon cannot be processed For corrections or comments, visit my.dbeenergy.com or call 800.477.4747 Please duried write account information changes audior comments on the front or back of this payment, coupon

Please duried write account information changes autition of for corrections, comments or correspondence included with the Make check or money order payable to DTE Energy.

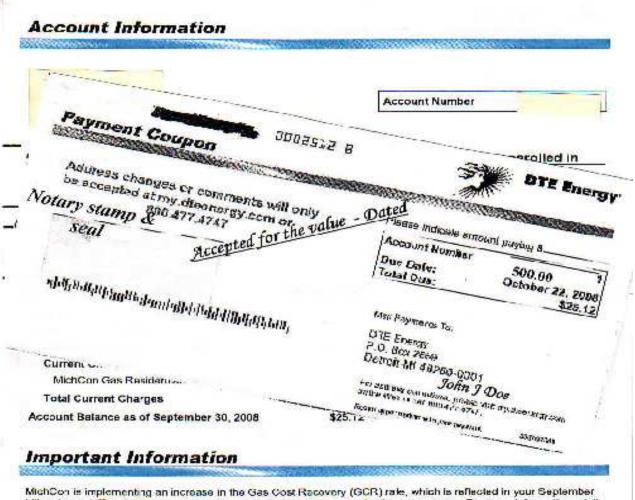
Write your account number(s) on your clock or money order payable to DTE Energy includes all applicable payment coupons.

Council shape or attach payment coupons.

Allow the business days for your payment to reach us.

Other payment options are listed at the critic of this bit. So not atach: or estact: payment or notes to the coupon Write your expount number(s) on your clock or money order

Send both halves back, registered mail, to the chief financial officer - CFO



MichCon is implementing an increase in the Gas Cost Recovery (GCR) rate, which is reflected in your September bill statement. The GCR covers the actual price that MichCon pays for the gas you use. For more information, visit my.deenergy.com/other/information/pdfs/rate/Card pdf

Take the surprise out of your energy bill. Pay the same amount each month by signing up for BudgetWise Bitting. Visit my, disenergy,com or call 600 477,4747 to enroll.



THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER

FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

Just staple a one dollar bill to the bottom half of bill detach and return both parts to the vendor



Payment Coupon

be accepted at my. dteenatey.scottle of JOHN J DOE - EXEMPTION LEVY Please hick ale growth in in the Sound State of the process, participant Resolution and immediate release of the process, State, and House DEPOSIT TO THE U.S.TREASURY AND CHARGE SAME TO JOHN a little and back, front aid back, and fix accept this Presentment for assessed value or performance, including all related endorseds, products and House and House

I accept this Presentment for assessed value of period mander, edges of the process, state, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process, State, and Ho exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the process. according to the Uniform Commercial Code 10-104 and 1-104, as it has been Adopted in 192, June 5, 1933, codified at 31 USC 3526, 3716, at 5133, enacted as Public Law Chap.

John Q. Public, Authorized Repl By:

October 22, 2008 \$25,12

Mail Payments To.

DTE Energy P.O. Box 2859 Detroit MI 48260-0001

For address corrections, please with my disensing/conon the Wes or call 8001477.4747.

Return upper portion with your payaruit.

2089/01/01

Accept and Return For Value Stamps-Samples

Sample 1

ACCEPTED AS VALUE - EXEMPT FROM LEVY DEPOSIT TO THE U.S.TREASURY AND CHARGE SAME TO JOHN J DOE - EXEMPTION NUMBER XXX-XXXXXX

I accept this Presentment for assessed value or performance, including all related endorsements, front and back, and return in exchange for closure and settlement accounting and immediate release of the proceeds, products, accounts and fixtures according to the Uniform Commercial Code 10-104 and 1-104, as it has been Adopted in this State, and House Joint Resolution 192, June 5, 1933, codified at 31 USC 3526, 3716, at 5133, enacted as Public Law Chap. 48, 48 Stat. 112.

Value \$25.12 Date: October 25, 2008

By:

John Quincy Public, Authorized Representative

Sample 2

Money Order

Dated: 25th October 2008

Pay: Thirty Two dollars and Twelve cents

\$32.12

to the United States Treasury and

Charge the same to: DTE Energy (the vendor)
Address: 2000 Second Ave., Detroit, Michigan

Memo account: *123-45-6789*

Authorized Representative John Quincy Public

The History of the One Dollar Bill

Although experiments with paper money did occur throughout the early history of the country, they were largely unsuccessful. People, for good reason, didn't trust the notes and preferred gold and silver coin. In 1861, needing money to finance the Civil War, Congress authorized the issuance of Demand notes in \$5,\$10 and \$20 denominations. The Demand notes were so named because they were redeemable in coin "on demand." The notes were nicknamed Greenbacks, a name which is still in use today to refer to United States currency.

The first \$1 bill was issued in 1862 as a Legal Tender Note with a portrait of Salmon P. Chase, the Treasury Secretary under President Abraham Lincoln.

The National Banking Act of 1863 established a national banking system and a uniform national currency. Banks were required to purchase U.S. government securities as backing for their National Bank Notes. Although United States Notes were still widely accepted, most paper currency circulating between the Civil War and World War I were National Bank Notes. They were issued from 1863 through 1932. From



1863 to 1877 National Bank Notes were printed by private bank note companies under contract to the Federal government. The Federal government took over printing them in 1877.

Gold certificates, were first issued in 1863 and put into general circulation in 1865. The severe economic crisis of the 1930s - better known as the Great Depression - resulted in runs on the banks and demands by the public for gold. In 1934 all Gold Certificates were called in from the Federal Reserve Banks and between the years 1934 and 1974 it was illegal for US Citizens to hold gold bullion or certificates.

Silver certificates were first issued in exchange for silver dollars in 1878. For many years silver certificates were the major type of currency in circulation. However, in the early 1960s when rising silver prices threatened to undermine the currency system, Congress eliminated silver certificates and also discontinued the use of silver in circulating coinage such as dimes and quarters.

The current design of the United States one dollar bill (\$1) technically dates to

1963 when the bill became a Federal Reserve Note as opposed to a Silver Certificate. However, many of the design elements that we associate with the bill were established in 1929 when all of the country's currency was changed to its current size. Collectors call today's notes "small size notes" to distinguish them from the older, larger form ats. The most notable and recognizable element of the modern



one dollar bill is the portrait the first president, George Washington, painted by Gilbert Stuart.

The one dollar bill issued in 1929 (under Series of 1928) was a silver certificate. The treasury seal and serial numbers on it were dark blue. The reverse had a large ornate ONE superimposed by ONE DOLLAR. These \$1 Silver Certificates were issued until 1934.

In 1933, \$1 United States Notes were issued to supplement the supply of \$1 Silver Certificates. Its treasury seal and serial numbers were red. Only a small number of these \$1 bills entered circulation and the rest were kept in treasury vaults until 1949 when they were issued in Puerto Rico.

In 1934, under Washington's portrait, the words ONE SILVER DOLLAR were changed to ONE DOLLAR due to the fact that Silver Certificates could be redeemed for silver bullion. The treasury seal was moved to the right and superimposed over ONE, and a blue numeral 1 was added to the left.

In 1935, design changes included changing the blue numeral 1 to gray, the treasury seal was made smaller and superimposed by WASHINGTON D.C., and a stylized ONE DOLLAR was added over the treasury seal. The reverse was also changed to its current design, except for the absence of IN GOD WE TRUST.

The World War II years featured several special printings including the Hawaii overprints. The Government was concerned that Hawaii might be lost to the Japanese and wanted to be able to devalue the money should this invasion occur.

In 1957 the \$1 bill became the first U.S. currency to bear the motto IN GOD WE TRUST.

In 1963 production of one dollar Federal Reserve Notes began to replace the \$1 Silver Certificate. The border design on the front was completely redesigned and the serial numbers and treasury seal were printed in green ink.

In 1969 the \$1 bill began using the new treasury seal with wording in English instead of Latin.

First 1863 \$5 Note Brings Top Dollar

The first 1863 \$5 note printed under the National Banking Act of 1863 sold at auction for \$220,000. The note with a serial number of "1" in red ink and a plate position mark of "A" depicts Christopher Columbus arriving in the New World on the front and back. The note had been kept in a bank envelope and was in pristine condition.

The owner's great-grandfather, William Spooner Huntingdon, was Cashier of the First National Bank of Washington, D.C., and his signature is on the rare note. Huntingdon began work at the bank as a clerk after being recommended by Pres. Abraham Lincoln. The family also has the note to Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase written in the President's own hand stating: "Will the Sec. of Treas. Please look at the case of clerkship, of Wm.S. Huntingdon, on file in your department. A. Lincoln July 10, 1861."

"This is the ultimate National Bank note for a collector," said David Sundman of Littleton Coin Co. who first announced the note's existence at the Florida United Numismatics convention. "It's the number one 'number one.' There may still be many descendants of 19th century bankers who today own notes with low serial numbers that could be valuable."



The first 1863 note.
The red serial number
1 is in the lower left by
the left leg of the
kneeling man.
Huntingdon's signature
is also in the lower left
corner. The "A" to the
left of "National
Currency" denotes its
position on the printing
press plate.



Scenes on the back here and on the front are of Christopher Columbus in the New World.

FROM -> http://www.go-star.com/antiquing/5note.htm

Decoding A One Dollar Bill

The United States one dollar note contains a wealth of information about when and where that note was printed. Collectors can use this information to help understand the U.S. system of currency and to make collecting decisions.



The Federal Reserve Seal and the Federal Reserve District Number.

There are twelve different Federal Reserve Banks responsible for printing paper money in the United States. On the one dollar bill, the bank can be quickly identified by a letter code in the Federal Reserve Seal to the left of the portrait of George Washington. The letter code is also found in the prefix of the serial number. A corresponding Federal Reserve District Number code is found in four locations. The following table is a handy reference for the bank codes:

| Reserve Bank | Letter | Designation |
|--------------|--------|-------------|
| Boston | A | 1 |
| New York | В | 2 |
| Philadelphia | С | 3 |

| Cleveland | D | 4 |
|---------------|---|-----|
| Richmond | E | 5 |
| Atlanta | F | 6 |
| Chicago | G | 7 |
| St. Louis | н | 8 |
| Minneapolis | I | 9 |
| Kansas City | J | 1 0 |
| D a lla s | K | 1 1 |
| San Francisco | L | 1 2 |

Serial Numbers

The serial number of a bill appears twice, once in the lower left hand quadrant and again in the upper right hand quadrant on the front of the bill. The letter which precedes the numbers must be the same number that you saw identifying the Federal Reserve Bank. The last letter of the serial number or suffix letter identifies the number of times that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used the sequence of serial numbers? A is the first time, B is the second time, C is the third time and so on. With one run for each letter of the alphabet (26) and 32 bill per run, there are a total of 832 bills per serial number.

Series Date (or Series Year)

In the lower right quadrant between the portrait of George Washington and signature of the Secretary of the Treasury is the Series Date. This number is presented as a the year portion of a date - as in 2004 - and sometimes has a letter suffix - as in 2004A. It is important to note that there is not a series for every calendar year. A new series will result from a change in the Secretary of the Treasury, the Treasurer of the United States, and/or a change to the note's appearance such as a new currency design.

- Design Change New series year (e.g. 1999).
- New Secretary of the Treasury New series year (e.g. 1999).

Plate Serial Number

The Plate Serial Number appears twice: once on the front of the bill in the lower right quadrant above the Federal Reserve District Number, and again on the back in the lower right corner. It identifies the plate from which the note was printed.

Note Number Position

The Note Number Position appears in the upper left quadrant. It is a letter number combination that indicates which position on the plate the note was printed. The number indicates the quadrant and the letter indicates the position within the quadrant. The following chart shows this relationship:

| A 1 | E 1 | А 3 | E 3 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| B 1 | F 1 | В 3 | F 3 |
| C 1 | G 1 | С 3 | В 3 |
| D 1 | H 1 | D 3 | н 3 |
| A 2 | E 2 | A 4 | E 4 |
| B 2 | F 2 | B 4 | F 4 |
| C 2 | G 2 | C 4 | G 4 |
| D 2 | H 2 | D 4 | н 4 |

The Great Seal of the United States

The front (or obverse) of the seal shows an American bald eagle behind the national shield. The eagle holds an olive branch. The 13-letter motto, "E Pluribus Unum," on the ribbon held in the eagle's beak means "Out of Many, One."

On the reverse of the seal is a pyramid with 1776 in Roman numerals at the base. The pyramid stands for permanence and strength. The 13-letter motto, "Annuit Coeptis" means "He has favored our undertakings." Below the pyramid the motto, "Novus Ordo Seclorum" means "A new order of the ages," standing for the new American era.

