Reproducing Money or Stamps



If you are planning to reproduce the image of currency or stamps in your printed piece, please read these guidelines carefully.



Paper Money, Checks, and Bonds

Photographic or other likenesses of US and foreign currencies are permissible for any non-fraudulent purpose, provided the items are reproduced in black and white and are less than ¾ or greater than 1½ times the size, in linear dimensions, of any part of the original items being reproduced. Negatives and plates used in making the likeness must be destroyed after their use for the purpose for which they were made. This policy permits the use of currency reproductions in commercial advertisements, provided they conform to the size and color restrictions.

US and Foreign Postage Stamps

Printed illustrations of cancelled and un-cancelled US and foreign postage stamps are permissible for any non-fraudulent purpose. Black and white illustrations may be of any size, as can colored illustrations of cancelled US or foreign postage stamps. However, illustrations in color of un-cancelled US or foreign postage stamps must be less than ¾ or more than 1 ½ times the size of the genuine stamp. Cancelled US and foreign stamps must bear an official cancellation mark – the stamps must have been used for postage. Also, the plates and negatives, including glossy prints of US or foreign obligations, must be destroyed after their final use for the purpose for which they were made.

Coins

Photographs or printed illustrations, motion picture films, or slides of US and foreign coins may be used for any purpose. According to the US Secret Service, existing law generally prohibits the manufacture, sale or use of any token, disk or device in the likeness or similitude of any coins of the US or of any foreign country which are issued as money.

For more information, contact the Public Affairs Office of the United States Secret Service at (202) 435-5708 or visit their website at www.secretservice.gov



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