UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND, et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	CIVIL ACTION NO.
v.)	1:02CV00864
)	
TIMOTHY F. GEITHNER, Secretary of the)	
Treasury,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	

<u>DEFENDANT'S SEVENTH STATUS REPORT PURSUANT TO ORDER</u> <u>AND JUDGMENT OF OCTOBER 3, 2008</u>

Defendant, by his undersigned counsel, hereby submits the seventh status report pursuant to paragraph 4 of the Court's Order and Judgment of October 3, 2008 (Doc. 96 ¶ 4), which requires the defendant to "file periodic status reports describing the steps taken to implement this Order and Judgment."

- 1. As stated in Defendant's Sixth Status Report (Doc. 108), the Secretary of the Treasury has determined to provide meaningful access to United States currency in accordance with this Court's judgment by (1) adding a raised tactile feature to each Federal Reserve note that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing ("BEP") may lawfully redesign, (2) continuing BEP's program of adding large, high-contrast numerals and different colors to each denomination that it may lawfully redesign, and (3) implementing a supplemental currency reader distribution program for blind and other visually impaired U.S. citizens and legal residents.
- 2. The BEP is conducting research toward developing the specific tactile feature to be included in the next redesign of United States currency. The Department of the Treasury has not yet established a timetable for that redesign, aside from the Department's goal of redesigning each denomination of currency every seven to ten years. Development of an appropriate tactile feature is a priority project at the BEP, which is currently conducting a number of feasibility

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studies on multiple technologies. Since the last status report, as a result of these efforts, BEP

has eliminated several technologies and found several that show promise for further

development.

3. The BEP is investigating options for implementing the currency reader program,

which will provide a currency reader, at no cost, to eligible individuals. Currently, BEP is

consulting with certain other federal agencies about the possibility of using certain existing

resources and infrastructures of those agencies in connection with the reader program.

4. Aside from the accommodations required by this Court's Order and Judgment and

approved by the Secretary, the "EyeNote" application developed by BEP and described in the

sixth status report (Doc. 108) remains available for the Apple iPhone, the fourth generation iPod

touch, and the iPad 2. EyeNote has now been downloaded more than 5,000 times. BEP is

exploring the possibility of developing an application similar to EyeNote for the Android

platform.

Dated: March 16, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

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