



GSA Federal Citizen Information Center

U.S. General Services Administration

Guide to Federal Government Sales



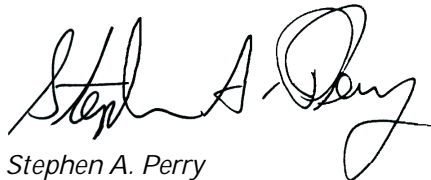
November 2003

Dear Consumer:

As the Federal Government's principal manager of workspace, products, services, and solutions, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is proud to sponsor this **Guide to Federal Government Sales**. We believe this publication will prove to be a valuable resource for our customer agencies and for you, the American taxpayer, because it delivers the accurate information you need to participate in the Federal Government's various sales programs.

GSA and the agencies listed in this **Guide** want you to have the most complete information available regarding our sales programs. In addition, many agencies now use their websites to provide the public with detailed information about items or real estate for sale, locations, prices, and more. We have included agency website information in this edition. You can also visit **FirstGov.gov** to get instant access to all the latest government sales information on one comprehensive website.

The program officials from all the sales programs listed in this publication deserve our thanks for their assistance and support. Their cooperation has helped us provide you with one of the best sources of information regarding Federal Government sales.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen A. Perry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "P" at the end.

Stephen A. Perry
Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration

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introduction

When the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection confiscates an imported necklace, or the Department of Defense no longer needs a power tool, or the U.S. Marshals Service seizes a sports car from a drug dealer, all these items may become available for purchase by the public.

Although some surplus and forfeited items of the Federal Government are transferred to other Federal agencies or given to state and local governments, a staggering variety of items from vehicles to office equipment to real estate finds its way to the public through Federal Government sales.

This revised guide is published by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) in cooperation with 20 Federal sales programs. With informative listings from each Federal sales program, combined with practical consumer tips, this guide is designed to help you do business with the Federal agencies that sell items to the public. This guide:

- Gives information about sales methods and sale locations,
- Describes items for sale,
- Lists addresses, telephone numbers, and websites for further information, and
- Has a glossary on page 29 that explains the sales terminology used by Federal agencies to describe the types of property available and the methods by which it is sold.

Use this guide to contact the appropriate government sales program. Uncle Sam may have something to sell that interests you.

A great online resource for finding out the latest on government sales and auctions is the Shopping and Auctions page at **FirstGov.gov** (www.firstgov.gov/shopping/shopping.shtml). This page takes all of the Federal Government's sales and auctions of property, real estate, cars, souvenirs, books, and gifts and organizes it one easy-to-read-and-navigate page. Sales and auctions are broken down into eight categories:

- Auctions
- Cars and Transportation
- Loans and Investments
- Real Estate
- Souvenirs/Books/Gifts
- Supplies and Equipment
- For Government and Non-Profit Buyers
- Find Sales by Agency

consumer tips

- *Be wary of offers to sell you "inside" information about Federal Government sales.*
-

Information about Federal Government sales programs is typically available for free or at low cost from the Federal Government. Some Federal agencies maintain mailing lists with names of people interested in being notified about upcoming sales. In these cases, agencies may charge a subscription fee to maintain the list and cover mailing costs. Non-governmental organizations that sell information about these sales often don't tell consumers that they can receive sales information just by contacting the agency's local or regional office. You may see advertisements offering to sell you access to little-known sources of Federal Government property. It's likely that they are selling the names and addresses of the Federal Government agencies listed in this publication. Be aware that the information sold by non-governmental entities may not be accurate or up-to-date.

- *Know where to find current Federal Government sales information.*
-

To find information about specific upcoming sales, check the classified or business sections of national or local newspapers. Some sales programs may even advertise on local radio and television. Notices may also be also posted at post offices, town halls, and other local and Federal Government buildings. Current information on sales programs is sometimes published in trade journals and

periodicals, or online at the Federal Business Opportunities' (FedBizOpps) website, www.fedbizopps.gov.

Sales information may also be listed in the *Federal Register*, a daily publication listing Federal Government activities. The *Federal Register* is available at most libraries or through a yearly paid subscription from the Government Printing Office (GPO). To order a subscription, call toll-free 1 (866) 512-1800. In addition, the *Federal Register* can be accessed online at www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html.

If you need more information than is provided in this publication, you may be able to obtain it by directly contacting the local or regional office of the Federal agency that sponsors a particular sales program. Use this publication as a guide to identify the parent agency of the sales program. For example, if you are interested in learning more about the U.S. Marshals Service sales program, look under the Department of Justice in the "U.S. Government" listings in the phone directories of major cities in your state.

If you have difficulty locating the local office of a particular sales program, call the Federal Citizen Information Center's National Contact Center (NCC) for assistance. This service, provided by GSA, can tell you the location of the sales office closest to you. You can reach the NCC by calling toll-free 1 (800) FED-INFO (that's 1-800-333-4636). The NCC is open for personal assistance from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

-
- *Do your homework before going to a Federal Government sale or auction.*
-

Before attending, research the sale by contacting the sponsoring agency. Find out how and when the sale or auction will be held, what bidding procedure will be used, and what special restrictions or unusual conditions apply. It's important to ask what forms of payment are accepted. Most sales require a guaranteed method of payment such as money order, certified check, or cash. Credit cards are sometimes accepted. Also, look for information prior to the sale on the buyer's responsibility for property removal, inspection times prior to the sale, and zoning rules if purchasing land in an urban area. In most cases, the "Invitation For Bid" will answer these types of questions. It is an informational piece released by the sponsoring Federal agency that contains a description of the property being offered for sale with the sale terms and conditions. It's wise for potential buyers to attend several sales to get a feel for the auction process. With just a little research, you can get the information that you need to make a successful purchase.

Most of the Federal agencies listed in this publication maintain websites that include detailed information about their particular sales program. Whenever possible, the websites for these agencies are provided.

-
- *Inspect the property carefully before buying.*
-

Chances are you will not find new or unused items at Federal Government sales. And because the sales

items are used, the condition of the goods will vary. For example, some forfeited vehicles may be in excellent condition, others may have high mileage or a stripped interior.

Although information about the condition will be given, it is still necessary to inspect before you purchase. It is the buyer's responsibility to verify that the description of the item fits its actual condition. Find out if the goods are sold "as is" or can be returned. Most sales are final.

-
- *Don't expect to buy a \$1 yacht.*
-

Goods in Federal Government sales programs are usually sold at fair market value. The "bargains" that you hear about are frequently mythical. The \$1 yacht most likely has serious problems. For example, it may not have an interior or an engine. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it usually is. At many sales, the items are appraised prior to the sale and will not be sold if the bid price is below what is reasonable. For example, GSA's Federal Supply Service has a policy to sell property at fair market value, and often will not sell items if the bid price is below what is reasonable.

-
- *You will not drive away from a Federal Government sale with a military jeep.*
-

In 1971, based on safety statistics and vehicle tests, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recommended that the M151 series vehicle not be sold to the public because it is unfit for public use. Therefore, M151 series jeeps cannot be driven. Disposal regulations on the M151 require that the vehicle body be crushed, shredded, or mutilated to

prevent the jeep from being rebuilt. Businesses that sell the “secrets” of buying surplus military property often take out enticing magazine and newspaper ads. “Just send \$19.95 and learn how to buy surplus military jeeps,” they say. However, these advertisements do not tell the consumer that the M151 series is unfit for public use and that older jeep models, such as the World War II M38, are virtually nonexistent today. Jeeps are now typically auctioned at sales for scrap metal or parts.

● *Know where and how to complain.*

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) works for the consumer to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint or to get free information on consumer issues, visit www.ftc.gov or call toll-free 1 (877) FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357); TTY: 1 (866) 653-4261. The FTC enters Internet, telemarketing, identity theft and other fraud-related complaints into Consumer Sentinel, a secure, online database available to hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

In addition, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the law enforcement arm of the U.S. Postal Service, investigates allegations of mail fraud involving the U.S. mail. Deceptive advertisements placed in newspapers or magazines which use the mail for delivery, would fall within the Inspection Service's Federal jurisdiction under the Mail Fraud Statute contained in Title 18, USC Section 1341. Address your complaints to the Inspection Service via your local Postmaster or obtain a Mail

Fraud Complaint form by calling 1 (800) 372-8347. You may also send an e-mail message to Fraud@uspis.gov and receive the form as an automatic response.

Other organizations that investigate and prosecute fraud include state Attorneys General, state and local consumer offices, and Better Business Bureaus. If you suspect that you have been tricked or misled, and you paid money for products or services that have little or no value, you can contact the above-mentioned organizations for further assistance. They are listed in the business or government listings of your local telephone directory.

If you wish to comment on the sales process used by Federal programs or on the merchandise purchased from a Federal agency, write directly to the sponsoring agency at the address listed in this publication. The U.S. Postal Service and the FTC want to know experiences you have had with misleading advertising. However, neither the FTC nor the U.S. Postal Service has jurisdiction over the procedures and practices used by the agencies that sell property to the public.

agencies with sales programs

Department of Agriculture



What is sold

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) sells trucks, ambulances, station wagons, sedans, office equipment, office furniture, computers, and laboratory items (typically microscopes and scales). Although the U.S. General Services Administration (see page 9) sells some of USDA's motor vehicles, USDA also sells vehicles at various field locations around the country.

How items are sold

Personal property is sold through auction or sealed bid.

How sales are advertised

Personal property sales information is advertised through notices in newspapers and Federal Government buildings. A mailing list is maintained for the Washington, DC metropolitan area for personal property sales only. To be placed on this mailing list, see the "For More Information" section. USDA field offices throughout the U.S. do not maintain mailing lists.

Special restrictions/conditions

For personal property sales, USDA prohibits employees who are directly involved in the sale or have used the property as an employee from participating in the sale. Other USDA

employees are allowed to bid. USDA requires guaranteed methods of payment such as money orders, certified checks, or cash.

For more information

To learn about USDA personal property sales, look in the phone directories of the major cities of your state under the "U.S. Government" listings for the USDA office nearest you. Most likely, your state capital will have a USDA office.

Consult the USDA website at www.usda.gov/da/property.html.

To be placed on a mailing list to learn about USDA personal property sales in the Washington, DC metropolitan area only, write:

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Operations Centralized
Excess Property Operation
6351 Ammendale Rd.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Department of Defense



Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS)

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) is responsible for the disposal of excess/surplus property received from the U.S. military services. The property is turned in to Defense Reutilization and Marketing Offices (DRMOs)

located on or near military installations in the United States and in several foreign countries. Property processed through the disposal program varies in type and value—from clothing to vehicles, from hardware to information technology, etc. DRMS does not sell real estate. Property is first offered for reutilization within the Department of Defense (DoD), transfer to other federal agencies, or donation to state and local governments and other qualified organizations. Information on how to obtain this property and what is available from DRMS is displayed on the Internet at www.dla.mil/drms.

Excess property that is not reutilized, transferred, or donated may be sold to the public as surplus. DRMS manages the DoD surplus property sales program. Surplus property varies in commodities and value, depending on what is turned in from the military services. Once the items have been deemed available for sale, DRMS makes them obtainable via Usable, Scrap or Hazardous property sales. DRMS has entered into a commercial venture partnership with Government Liquidation (GL) to sell usable surplus property.

Selling DoD Surplus Property

General sales information, sales schedules, and catalogs for scrap and hazardous property can be viewed by visiting the DRMS website at www.drms.com. To request a printed copy of the Invitation For Bid (IFB) catalog, customers may contact the Customer Contact Center toll-free at 1 (888) 352-9333 in the US or (269) 961-7197 from Canada.

Methods of Sales

Usable Surplus Property – GL purchases and re-sells all surplus usable property (not requiring demilitarization) in the continental United States, Guam, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Sales include high-value property, such as aircraft parts, machine tools, hardware, electronics, material handling equipment, and vehicles.

Anyone interested in purchasing this property can find sales information, sales schedules, and past bid results at <http://govliquidation.com> or by contacting them at:

Government Liquidation (GL)
15051 North Kierland Blvd.,
Third Floor
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
Phone: (480) 367-1300
Fax: (480) 367-1450

GL sells property by sealed bid sales and live Internet auctions. Bidders may submit electronically their sealed bid offer via GL's website or by mail/fax.

Scrap Property – DRMS conducts the sale of scrap property that is ferrous metal, non-ferrous metal or non-metallic. Scrap property is offered at several locations throughout the United States and can be offered as a term sale lasting for a specified amount of time or a one-time sale for a specified weight. More information regarding scrap sales can be found at www.drms.com/sales/scrap/scrap.html.

Hazardous Property – DRMS also conducts sales of environmentally sensitive material such as chemical or petroleum products, paints, or lead acid batteries. Certain items may require onsite inspection of the

destination facility prior to the award. Additional information regarding hazardous property sales can be found at www.drms.com/sales/haz/haz.html.

NOTE: The sealed bid method is used for selling both scrap and hazardous property. Bidders submit their bids by mail, fax, or via the Internet. Bids are then opened at a specific date and time and awarded to the highest responsive/responsible bidder.

International Sales:

International sales, also geared to business needs, are for property that is physically located outside the United States, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, or the US Virgin Islands. DRMS International sells property in many countries including Germany, England, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Iceland, Japan, Korea, and Thailand. DRMS overseas locations use all approved methods of sale to offer Usable, Scrap, and Hazardous Property. The majority of the property offered for sale is Non-MLI/CCLI usable property (MLI is Munitions List Items—controlled by the U.S. Department of State; CCLI is Commerce Controlled List Items—controlled by U.S. Department of Commerce) and is offered on Local Zone Sales. These sales are held through either sealed-bid or auction. A few sites offer retail, fixed-price sales aimed at customers interested in buying inexpensive items for personal use. Typical retail sales property includes appliances, computers, clothing, furniture, office equipment and tools. Information regarding international sales can be found at www.drms.dla.mil/drmsiw/sales/sales.html.

Department of Energy



What is sold

Office equipment, vehicles, furniture, trailers, generators, instruments and laboratory equipment, mechanical power transmission equipment, and heavy equipment are some of the items sold by the Department of Energy (DOE). The personal property items for sale will vary with the sale location. Most of DOE's real property is sold by the U.S. General Services Administration (see page 9).

How items are sold

Sealed bids, auctions, negotiated sales, fixed price, and spot bids

Internet sales are available at several DOE sites.

How sales are advertised

Sales are advertised in Federal Government buildings, national and local newspapers, and through radio and television announcements.

For DOE Personal Property Asset Sales information at various DOE sites, consult the DOE Property Management Information website at <http://professionals.pr.doe.gov/ma5/MA-5Web.nsf/Property/Buying+Surplus+Personal+Property>.

The DOE Headquarters in Washington, DC does not maintain a mailing list to notify prospective buyers of upcoming sales. However,

some local DOE offices may maintain localized lists.

Special restrictions/conditions

Guaranteed forms of payment, such as cashier's checks, certified checks, money orders, or cash are required. For information on additional restrictions and conditions, consult the advertised public sale announcement for a phone number to call for further sales information. For personal property sales, DOE prohibits participation by Federal and contractor employees who were directly or indirectly involved in the determination to dispose of the property for sale or participated in the preparation or presentation of the sale. Other DOE employees are allowed to participate.

For more information

Consult the DOE Property Management Information website at <http://professionals.pr.doe.gov/ma5/MA-5Web.nsf/Property/Personnel+Directory?OpenDocument> and click on the DOE Personal Property Management Personnel Directory for information on your local DOE field office.

Additionally, you may contact your local DOE Office of Property Management, found in the "U.S. Government" listings of the phone directories of the major cities of your state.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation



What is sold

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) sells a wide variety of assets from failed banks including loans; real estate such as undeveloped land, hotels, shopping malls, single-family homes, condominiums, and apartment complexes; personal property, including computers, phone systems, furniture, fixtures, and plants; and specialty items such as crystal, china, and antiques.

How items are sold

Brokers, sealed bid, and sometimes auctions

How sales are advertised

Sales are advertised in the *Wall Street Journal*, trade publications for specialized items, and the local newspapers and broadcast media where the sales will be held. The FDIC office listed on the next page can also provide information on upcoming sales. FDIC does not maintain a national mailing list.

Special restrictions/conditions

Special conditions and restrictions are made on a case-by-case basis and may involve verifying low to moderate income for buyers of certain residential properties, requiring protection of the endangered species on undeveloped property, or

insuring proper care for a property that is a national historic landmark. FDIC typically does not finance properties. Guaranteed payment, such as money orders, certified checks, cashier's checks, or cash, is required. FDIC employees may not participate in the sales.

For more information

The best way to obtain information on FDIC auctions and assets for sale is through the FDIC website at www.fdic.gov.

For more information on FDIC sales, including listings of upcoming sales, contact:

FDIC Asset Marketing
Dallas Field Office
1910 Pacific Pl., Ste. 1700
Dallas, TX 75201
(214) 754-0098
1 (800) 568-9161 toll-free

General Services Administration



Federal Supply Service

What is sold

GSA's Federal Supply Service (FSS) sells a wide variety of personal property no longer needed by the Federal Government. Items sold include cars, trucks, boats, cameras and projectors, communications equipment, copiers, food preparation and serving equipment, hardware, jewelry and

collectibles, medical and laboratory equipment, office machines, office and household furniture, recreational and athletic equipment, tools, and many other items.

How items are sold

GSA conducts sealed bid, fixed price, auction, spot bid, negotiated, or online Internet sales. It is GSA policy to sell personal property at fair market value, and not to sell items if the bid price is below what is reasonable. No preference is given to individuals or groups, including veterans and religious organizations.

Payment is restricted to the following instruments: U.S. currency; bank cashier's check; cashier's check issued by a Federal or State chartered credit union; U.S. Postal Service or commercial money order; traveler's checks; properly endorsed Federal, State, or local government checks; Visa, MasterCard, Discover (Novus), and American Express. Certified checks and bank drafts are not acceptable.

A personal or company check will be accepted only when accompanied by a bank letter guaranteeing payment. This letter must be on bank letterhead and must state (1) that payment is guaranteed, (2) that the guarantee is valid for 30 days after the bid opening date, and (3) that the guarantee covers the purchase of U.S. Government personal property only. The letter must include the date, the bidder's name, the amount the guarantee is for, date of sale, and signature of the bank official authorized to guarantee payment. The Government does not provide any form of financing.

GSA Auctions® online auction sales offer electronic bidding, bids by proxy, online credit card payment, and instant feedback on a wide array of Federal assets and personal property. Visit www.gsaauctions.gov to see what is offered to the public.

Information needed to purchase pre-owned GSA fleet vehicles at government auctions is available at www.autoauctions.gsa.gov.

Visitors to the site can view the vehicle auction sales schedule, search for an upcoming auction by location, look for specific vehicle models, and more.

NOTE: GSA employees or spouses or minor children of GSA employees, or their agents, may not bid on Federal personal property. Employees of another agency may bid if not prohibited from doing so by the employing agency's rules or regulations.

How sales are advertised

Sales information is advertised through mailing lists for frequent purchasers; radio, television, or newspaper announcements; trade journals and periodicals; and notices in town halls, post offices, and Federal Government buildings. Information is also available via GSA's website at www.gsa.gov. Sales of national interest are published online at the Federal Business Opportunities' (FedBizOpps) website, www.fedbizopps.gov.

Special restrictions/conditions

Bidders are cautioned to inspect all items before bidding. GSA informs bidders of any known deficiencies prior to the sale, but GSA does not guarantee the condition of sale items and is not responsible for any problems identified after the sale. For

details about other restrictions and conditions, please contact the personal property sales office in your area.

For more information

To request information on FSS sales, write to *Personal Property Sales, U.S. General Services Administration* at the local addresses listed here for the states where you wish to buy property or call the listed telephone numbers.

Washington, DC Metropolitan area:

6808 Loisdale Rd. (3FP-W)
Bldg. A, Suite 2
Springfield, VA 22150
(703) 557-7785

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont:

10 Causeway St.
3rd Floor, Room 347 (2FBP-1)
Boston, MA 02222-1076
(617) 565-7319

New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands:

Room 20-112, Box 10 (2FBP)
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278
(212) 264-2626

Delaware, Maryland, Virginia (except Washington, DC Metropolitan area), Pennsylvania, and West Virginia:

The Strawbridges Building (3FPD)
20 North 8th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3191
(215) 446-5065

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee:

Peachtree Summit Building
401 West Peachtree St.
Suite 2600 (4FD)
Atlanta, GA 30308
1 (877) 472-7068 toll-free

*Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,
Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,
Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin
(for Utilization and Donation Support):*

230 South Dearborn St. (5FBP)
MS 34-6, Room 3430
Chicago, IL 60604-1969
1 (800) 472-2886 toll-free

*Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,
Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,
Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin
(for Miscellaneous Surplus Sales):*

1500 East Bannister Rd. (6FBDP)
Room 1102
Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 823-3714

*Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,
Oklahoma, and Texas:*

819 Taylor St. (7FMP)
Room 7AO7
Fort Worth, TX 76102-6105
(817) 978-2352 or
1 (800) 495-1276 toll-free

*Colorado, Montana, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming:*

P.O. Box 25506
Denver Federal Center
Building 41 (7FP-8)
Denver, CO 80225-0506
(303) 236-7705

*Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada,
American Samoa, Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam:*

450 Golden Gate Ave.
4th Floor, West Side (9FBP)
San Francisco, CA 94102-3434
(415) 522-2891

*Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and
Washington:*

400 - 15th St., SW (10FZP-0)
Auburn, WA 98001-6599
(253) 931-7566

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Office of Property Disposal Public Buildings Service

What is sold

As the program responsible for selling a significant amount of the Federal Government's real estate to the public, the Office of Property Disposal sells real property in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and U.S. Territories in the Pacific. The properties vary widely in type and value and may include office buildings, warehouses, industrial facilities, developed and undeveloped land, as well as residential and commercial properties that have been seized, forfeited, or foreclosed for nonpayment of Federal taxes or loans, or for law enforcement purposes.

How real property is sold

Sealed bid, public auction, online auction, or auction by mail

How sales are advertised

Sales information is advertised in national and local newspapers, as well as online at <http://propertydisposal.gsa.gov/Property>.

Special restrictions/conditions

Information and details (zoning or environmental conditions) for each specific property are listed in the Invitation for Bids, available upon request. Cashier's checks or money orders are generally required. Under

special circumstances financing is available. GSA employees are not eligible to participate in sales.

For more information

Write to the *Office of Property Disposal, U.S. General Services Administration* at the local addresses listed here for the states where you wish to buy property or call the listed telephone numbers.

Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin, and the Virgin Islands are covered by:

10 Causeway St., Room 925
Boston, MA 02222
(617) 565-5700 or
1 (800) 755-1946 toll-free

Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia*, and West Virginia are covered by: (*except for the Washington, DC Metropolitan area)*

Peachtree Summit Bldg.
401 West Peachtree St., Room 2528
Atlanta, GA 30365-2550
(404) 331-5133 or
1 (800) 473-7836 toll-free

Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming are covered by:

819 Taylor St., Room 11A09
Fort Worth, TX 76102
(817) 978-2331 or
1 (800) 833-4317 toll-free

Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington are covered by:

450 Golden Gate Ave. 4th Floor
East San Francisco, CA 94102-3400
1 (888) GSA-LAND toll-free
(that's 1-888-472-5263)

The Washington, DC Metropolitan area, including Washington, DC, and portions of Maryland and Virginia, is covered by:

301 7th St., SW, Room 7709
Washington, DC 20407
(202) 205-2127

The Office of Property Disposal also compiles a bimonthly *U.S. Real Property Sales List*, which lists current sales of property available by state, city, or county. You'll find it by accessing GSA's website at <http://propertydisposal.gsa.gov/Property>.

To obtain a free copy of the *Sales List* write or call:

Federal Citizen Information Center
Dept. 559K
Pueblo, CO 81009
1 (888) 8 PUEBLO toll-free
(that's 1-888-878-3256)

Government Printing Office



What is sold

The Government Printing Office (GPO) prints, binds, and distributes the publications of the Federal

Government. As a result, the public will find used printing and binding equipment for sale. You may also find office furniture and business machines such as copiers, calculators, and typewriters. All sales are conducted at the GPO Headquarters located in Washington, DC.

How items are sold

Sealed bid

How sales are advertised

Sales are advertised through bidder's lists and the *Federal Business Opportunities* (Fed Biz Ops). To be placed on a bidder's list, see "For more information" below.

Special restrictions/conditions

Payment by certified or cashier's check only.

For more information

To learn more about personal property sales, send a fax to (202) 512-1354 or write to:

Government Printing Office
Specialized Procurement and
Sales Section
Mail Stop: MMPS
710 North Capitol St., NW
Washington, DC 20401

Department of Homeland Security

*Bureau of Customs and Border
Protection*

*Bureau of Immigration and
Customs Enforcement*

United States Secret Service

See the "Department of Treasury" section on page 24 for more information on these agencies.

Department of Housing and Urban Development



Office of Single Family Housing

What is sold

When a mortgage lender forecloses on a mortgage insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), a division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the lender may convey the property to HUD in exchange for the mortgage insurance benefits. HUD sells the homes to the public, non-profit groups, and governmental entities at fair market value or at a discounted price under special programs. The acquired properties are single-family homes (1-4 units), including townhomes, condominiums, or other types of single-family dwellings.

How HUD Homes are sold

HUD uses the competitive electronic bid process as its primary method of disposing of acquired properties. Bids must be submitted online at the HUD Home Sale website at www.hud.gov/homes. Typically, at the end of the offer period (usually 10 days), all the bids received on the home are opened. HUD accepts the bid giving the highest acceptable net return. The winning bid is then posted on the HUD Home Sale website. Buyers must use a licensed real

estate broker to prepare and submit bids. From time to time, HUD may use the auction method to dispose of properties in hard to sell areas and where there is a large inventory of properties that have been on-hand longer than six months. HUD also offers properties on a direct sale basis to nonprofit organizations and governmental entities under special sales programs.

How sales are advertised

HUD provides information on available properties via widely circulated daily newspapers and the Internet at www.hud.gov/homes.

Special restrictions/conditions

HUD does not offer direct financing on its properties. However, FHA-insured financing is available through approved FHA lenders on many of HUD's properties. Generally, HUD employees, their relatives, and HUD contractors are prohibited from buying HUD properties.

For more information

Call 1 (800) 767-4483 to request information on the HUD Homes sales program. You may also call a participating real estate broker in your area. Participating real estate brokers are a valuable source of information and advice about HUD Homes and HUD will pay the broker's fee. Consult the HUD website at www.hud.gov/homes. To read the HUD brochure, *The HUD Home Buying Guide*, which includes helpful advice on choosing and buying a HUD home, visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov/cic_text/housing/hudhome/sfhhomeb.html.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Office of Multifamily Housing Programs

What is sold

When an owner of a multifamily property (5 or more units) with a HUD-insured mortgage defaults on the mortgage, the mortgagee generally assigns the mortgage to HUD in exchange for the payment of insurance benefits. When HUD becomes the mortgagee, it can sell the note or foreclose if the mortgage is in default.

Examples of these properties include multifamily apartment projects, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, mobile home parks, and hospitals.

How items are sold

Note sales and foreclosure sales are generally auction-type sales to the public and are the predominant method of sale. If HUD is the high bidder at the foreclosure sale, HUD becomes owner of the property. City, state, and local public housing agencies have a right of first refusal to purchase HUD-owned properties if they can meet the sales conditions set by HUD. If the property is not sold pursuant to the right of first refusal, it is generally sold to the public through a competitive process, either by sealed bid, auction, or request for proposals.

HUD-held multifamily mortgage loans are usually offered for sale in pools according to various criteria such as performance status, collateral type, loan type, and geography. Bidders must meet specific qualifications. A Bidder Information Package is available to all qualified bidders,

which details the loans offered for sale and the bidding process. The loans are sold servicing-released, without FHA insurance and, except as expressly provided in the loan sale agreement, without any representation or warranty, whether express, implied or created by operation of law.

How sales are advertised

Foreclosure sale information is available on the Internet, in the *Wall Street Journal* every Wednesday, and in local and regional newspapers where properties for sale are located. HUD also maintains a mailing list of persons and firms who have indicated a desire to be informed of all sales—an Invitation to Bid is e-mailed to everyone on the mailing list for each property advertised for competitive sale.

Note sales are advertised in financial newspapers such as the *Wall Street Journal* and on the Internet at www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/comp/asset/mfam/mhls.cfm.

This site is updated as Note sales are scheduled.

Special restrictions/conditions

Apartment projects located in areas where there is a need for affordable housing are usually sold with a condition that they be maintained as affordable housing for at least 20 years. HUD does not offer financing to purchase properties. HUD may impose deed restrictions to assure that an apartment project is repaired to HUD standards and maintained as affordable housing, generally for at least 20 years after the repairs are completed. Some projects are sold with a requirement that they be partially or totally demolished.

Subsidized mortgage loans are sold with protections for the tenants.

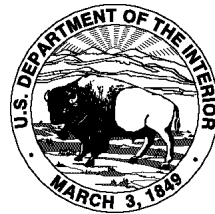
Unsubsidized mortgage loans are generally sold without any restrictions.

For more information

To obtain a list of projects currently available for sale, consult HUD's website at www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/msh/pd/mfplist.cfm and the *Wall Street Journal* every Wednesday. To get on the mailing list, go to www.hud.gov/subscribe/index.cfm.

For information on mortgage sales, visit HUD's website at www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/comp/asset/mfam/mhls.cfm.

Department of Interior



Bureau of Land Management

What is sold

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for managing more than 261.4 million acres of public lands. Public land is undeveloped land with no improvements. Most of the public lands are located in the Western States and Alaska. The BLM does not offer much land for sale because of a Congressional mandate in 1976 to retain these lands. The BLM occasionally sells parcels of land under certain conditions. The lands are generally rural woodland, grassland, or desert.

How the land is sold

The BLM has three options for selling land:

- 1) modified competitive bidding where some preferences to adjoining landowners are recognized;
- 2) direct sale to one party where circumstances warrant; and
- 3) competitive bidding at a public auction.

The sale method is determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the circumstances of each particular parcel or sale. By law, the lands are offered for sale at fair market value.

How sales are advertised

Land sales are listed in local newspapers and in the *Federal Register*.

Special restrictions/conditions

Sales conditions are provided in the Notice of Sale. The BLM can sell public land only to U.S. citizens or corporations subject to Federal or state laws. Employees of the Department of the Interior are not allowed to bid. No financing is available. Cashier's check or cash is required.

For more information

For general BLM information, contact:

BLM National Headquarters
1849 C St., NW,
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 452-5125.

You may wish to consult the BLM website at www.blm.gov. You also may wish to contact the BLM office in the state(s) where you are interested in buying land. The specific states covered by each office are listed here.

BLM - Alaska State Office

222 W. 7th Street, #13
Anchorage, AK 99513-7599
(907) 271-4418

BLM - Arizona State Office

222 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2203
(602) 417-9504

BLM - California State Office

2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834
Sacramento, CA 95825-0451
(916) 978-4611

BLM - Colorado State Office

2850 Youngfield St.
Lakewood, CO 80215-7076
(303) 239-3670

BLM - Eastern States Office (includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin)

7450 Boston Blvd.
Springfield, VA 22153
(703) 440-1713

BLM - Idaho State Office

1387 S. Vinnell Way
Boise, ID 83709-1657
(208) 373-3890

BLM - Montana State Office (including Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota)

5001 Southgate Dr.
Billings, MT 59107
(406) 896-5011

BLM - Nevada State Office

1340 Financial Blvd.
Reno, NV. 89520-7147
(775) 861-6586

*BLM - New Mexico State Office
(including Oklahoma, Kansas, and
Texas)*

1474 Rodeo Rd.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 438-7514

*BLM - Oregon State Office (including
Washington state)*

333 SW First Ave.
Portland, OR 97208
(503) 808-6287

BLM - Utah State Office

324 S. State St., Ste. 301
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155
(801) 539-4021

BLM - Wyoming (including Nebraska)

5353 Yellowstone Rd.
Cheyenne, WY 82003
(307) 775-6015

For the BLM booklet, *Can I Get Free
Land from BLM?*, send a \$2.00 check
or money order payable to
"Superintendent of Documents" to
the following address:

Federal Citizen Information
Center
Dept. 111K
Pueblo, CO 81009
1 (888) 8 PUEBLO toll-free
(that's 1-888-878-3256)

Department of Justice



U.S. Marshals Service

What is sold

The U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) sells property to the public that has been forfeited under laws enforced and administered by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and its investigative agencies (the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Federal Bureau of Investigation) and certain other Federal law enforcement agencies. More than 14,000 items of property are sold annually with gross sales of \$200 million.

The property consists of both residential and commercial real estate, business establishments, financial instruments, and a wide variety of personal property such as vehicles, boats, aircraft, jewelry, art, antiques, collectibles, and other personal property.

How items are sold

Forfeited property is sold through a variety of methods including auction, sealed bid, and Internet sales. Most forfeited property is sold by professional auctioneers and brokers who are under contract to USMS. The contractors, usually auctioneers, sell vehicles, boats, jewelry, art, antiques, aircraft, and other personal property. Normally, real property is sold by real estate brokers through multiple listing services. Some forfeited property

is sold by the U.S. General Services Administration under an agreement with USMS (see page 9). USMS also occasionally conducts sales.

How sales are advertised

Generally, forfeited property is advertised for sale in the classified section of major newspapers in the area where the property is located. Advertisements for the sale of special interest items can also be found in national association and trade publications, in specialized periodicals, and on the websites of USMS and some of its contractors. USMS does not maintain a list of forfeited property for sale or a mailing list to notify prospective buyers of upcoming sales.

Special restrictions/conditions

The law under which USMS disposes of forfeited property provides no authority for donations.

DOJ employees, USMS contractors, their families, and criminal defendants cannot bid on or purchase forfeited property.

Guaranteed payment such as cash or certified check is required. Some of the sales contractors may accept credit cards.

Forfeited property is usually sold at its fair market value. USMS reserves the right to reject any and all bids in a given forfeiture sale.

For more information

USMS maintains a *National Sellers List* (NSL) that is available to the public. The NSL is a list of USMS contractors and other Federal agencies that sell property to the public for USMS. The NSL may be accessed by consulting either the USMS web-

site at www.usdoj.gov/marshals or the Federal Citizen Information Center (FCIC) website at www.pueblo.gsa.gov/cic_text/fed_prog/selerlst/selerlst.htm.

You may request a copy of the NSL by calling the USMS fax-on-demand service at (202) 307-9777. You also may order a copy of the NSL from FCIC by sending your name, address, and a check or money order for \$1.00 payable to "Superintendent of Documents" to:

Federal Citizen Information
Center
Dept. 319K
Pueblo, CO 81009
1 (888) 8 PUEBLO toll-free
(that's 1-888-878-3256)

Contact the district U.S. Marshal who is listed under the U.S. Marshals Service of the Department of Justice in the "U.S. Government" listings of the telephone directories of the major cities in your state, or write:

U.S. Marshals Service
Office of Public Affairs
OS #3, 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20530-1000



*Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms, and Explosives*

See the "Department of Treasury" section on page 24 for more information on this agency's forfeited sales program.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



What is sold

Each year more than \$400 million in National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) surplus and exchange/sale personal property is sold to the public. Types of property available include primarily computer equipment, printers, electronics, test equipment, office furniture, laboratory equipment, video equipment, computer tape, heavy vehicles, hardware, aircraft parts, communication equipment, recyclable materials such as metal, copper wire, waste office paper, wood pallets, aluminum cans, and much more.

How items are sold

Much of NASA's personal property is sold directly from 13 NASA locations on a fairly regular basis. However, small quantities of surplus contractor inventory may be sold from any location nationwide. Most NASA surplus and exchange/sale personal property is sold by the U.S. General Services Administration (see page 9). However, NASA does conduct its own sales at several locations. NASA personal property is sold primarily by sealed bid and auction. At several NASA locations, working computers, printers, and office furniture are sold by fixed price sale. Recyclable property, such

as waste office paper and metals, is frequently sold for a term of one year via sealed bid.

How sales are advertised

Sales information is advertised online at the NASA surplus sale website, www.sale.hq.nasa.gov.

Sales are also advertised in local newspapers. When the combined acquisition cost of the property is \$250,000 or more, sales are advertised online at the Federal Business Opportunities' (FedBizOpps) website, www.fedbizopps.gov. NASA does not maintain a mailing list of potential buyers or their needs.

Special restrictions/conditions

Terms and conditions of each sale are posted and available from the Government sales contracting officer for each sale. Purchasers must be 18 years of age or older. Potential purchasers who are currently debarred or suspended by any Federal agency cannot make purchases. Generally, NASA employees and contractors are eligible to purchase, provided they do not have access to NASA property records and have not been involved in the administration or termination of contractor inventory, maintenance, use, inspection, or support of property before or during the disposal or sale process.

Guaranteed payment such as cash or certified check is required. At many of the sales, credit cards may be accepted. The Federal Government does not provide any form of financing.

It is the potential purchaser's responsibility to ascertain and comply with all applicable Federal, state, local,

and multi-jurisdictional laws, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to the registration, export, processing, manufacture, resale, use, or disposal of the property they will purchase from the Federal Government. The purchaser must pay for and remove purchases within the time prescribed for each sale and cannot remove merchandise before payment. If the purchaser fails to pay for and remove the property by the deadline, the Federal Government will take action to collect damages totaling \$25 or 20% of the purchase price, whichever is greater.

For more information

Visit the NASA surplus sale website at www.sale.hq.nasa.gov to obtain contact information for sales of NASA surplus and exchange/sale personal property.

To report suspected fraud, waste, or abuse in the sale of NASA surplus and exchange/sale personal property, please contact the NASA Office of Inspector General toll free at 1 (800) 424-9183 or write to one of the specific offices listed on the NASA website at www.hq.nasa.gov/office/oig/hq/hotline.html.

To learn more about personal property sales at NASA centers or installations in your geographic area, look under NASA in the "U.S. Government" listings in the phone directories of the major cities of your state.

U.S. Postal Service



What is sold

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) auctions a wide variety of items that have been lost in the mail, are unclaimed, or on which an insurance claim has been paid. Sales of this merchandise are referred to as mail recovery auctions, although letters are not among the items offered for sale. The merchandise may include clocks, televisions, radios, tape recorders, jewelry, VCRs, and clothing. The USPS also has sales programs that sell excess postal vehicles, computers, workroom and office furniture, and electronic and hardware items for mail handling equipment.

How items are sold

Auctions, sealed bid sales, and fixed price sales

How sales are advertised

Postal vehicle sales are announced in local post offices, newspapers, and television advertisements.

Personal property sales of excess goods are advertised in local newspapers and post offices in the geographic areas where sales are held.

Lost, damaged, and unclaimed goods are sold at two sites: St. Paul, MN and Atlanta, GA. To be placed on a mailing list for notices of mail recovery center auctions, write to the appropriate USPS offices listed under "For more information."

Special restrictions/conditions

Terms and conditions of each sale are posted with sales notice information. USPS employees are permitted to buy at personal property sales, except for those employees directly involved in the sales. However, USPS employees are not allowed to buy at mail recovery center auctions. Postal vehicle sales require payments by certified check, money order, cashier's check, or cash. All mail recovery auction sales accept cash, credit cards, and money orders.

For more information

Due to the logistical distance of the Atlanta and St. Paul Mail Recovery Centers, many property sales of excess, lost, damaged, and/or unclaimed goods are sold via auction or sealed bids at the respective local district site. Postal patrons should contact the local postal facility in their area to obtain information on any local or district sales.

For information on surplus postal vehicle sales, contact your local postmaster by looking under U.S. Postal Service in the "U.S. Government" listings of the phone directories of the major cities of your state. Your local postmaster can direct you to the vehicle maintenance facility responsible for conducting sales in your area.

For information on personal property sales, write to one of the following material service centers closest to your mailing address. Material Service Centers (MSCs) work closely with the district/local offices and can be contacted to obtain information on district offices, such as contact names, addresses, phone, fax, etc.

Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Minneapolis, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming are covered by:

San Francisco MSC
395 Oyster Point Blvd., Suite 205
So. San Francisco, CA 94099-6260

Arkansas, Indiana, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas are covered by:

Chicago MSC
150 South Wacker Dr., Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60606-4100

Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, southern New Jersey, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia are covered by:

Memphis MSC
225 North Humphreys Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38166-6260

The New York City Metropolitan area, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, northern New Jersey, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and the Virgin Islands are covered by:

Windsor MSC
8 Griffin Rd. North
Windsor, CT 06095-1572

For information on damaged and unclaimed merchandise mail recovery center auctions held in the following cities, write to the office where you are interested in attending sales:

Atlanta Mail Recovery Center
5345 Fulton Industrial Blvd., SW
Atlanta, GA 30378-2400

St Paul Mail Recovery Center
443 Fillmore Ave.
St Paul, MN 55107-9607

For more information on personal property sales or mail recovery center auctions, you also may write to:

U.S. Postal Service
Consumer Advocate
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Rm. 5911
Washington, DC 20260-2202

Small Business Administration



What is sold

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and its participating lenders make loans and loan guaranties to small businesses and individuals who are victims of natural disasters. If a borrower defaults on the SBA loan or guaranty, SBA or a participating lender may sell the property securing the loan. The assets for sale may range from real estate—commercial property, single-family homes, and vacant land—to personal property such as machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, and inventory that were used in a wide variety of business operations.

The Asset Sales Program is an initiative to sell SBA's "owned portfolio" of loans and other assets. These assets consist of Section 7(a) and 504 guaranteed loans purchased. Private lenders and development companies originate and service 7(a) and 504 small business loans with a govern-

ment guarantee for all or a portion of the loan. Upon default by the borrower, SBA purchases the guaranteed portion. It is these guaranteed portions as well as the lenders' share that are being offered for sale. SBA also originates and services Section 7(b) disaster assistance home and business loans to victims of natural disasters. These will also be sold.

How items are sold

Public auction, sealed bid, sealed bidders auction, listing with brokers or dealers, and private negotiation.

Auctions are open to all investors meeting certain financial qualifications.

How sales are advertised

Sales advertisements depend on the size and type of assets being sold. Classified and display advertisements appear in local, regional, national and international newspapers, and trade and industry publications. Individual properties for sale are listed by state at SBA's website at www.sba.gov. The SBA Headquarters office in Washington, DC does not maintain a mailing list of upcoming sales or of potential buyers who wish to be notified. However, local auctioneers and some SBA district offices may maintain localized lists.

Sales information for bulk loan sales is available on SBA's website at www.sba.gov as well as through advertisements in the *Wall Street Journal* and other nationally recognized newspapers throughout the country. SBA and its financial advisors also maintain a mailing list of persons or firms who have indicated a desire to be informed of all sales.

Special restrictions/conditions

Unless otherwise specified, all sales are "as is." The buyer is responsible for removal. For the most part, only cash or guaranteed payment such as a cashier's check or certified check is accepted. The sales advertisements will provide payment information. The terms and conditions for each sale are provided before the start of the sale.

All prospective bidders should be present at this time, since bidders are bound by sales announcements and published information, and there may be some last minute changes or additions to the advertised terms. SBA has certain qualification standards for persons or entities interested in bidding on SBA loans. These can be found on the www.sba.gov/assets web page under the specific sale announcements.

For more information

For individual assets, consult SBA's website at www.sba.gov and select "Property for Sale." Then, select the state you are interested in. Select "Loan Asset Sales" for the asset sales program. You also may call your local SBA district office. To find the district office nearest you, call 1 (800) U-ASK-SBA (1-800-827-5722) or look for the U.S. Small Business Administration under the "U.S. Government" listings in the telephone directories of the major cities in your state. Ask for the Liquidation Chief, and specify the types of assets you wish to buy, the general price range, and the geographic location in which you're interested. To find out how to be placed on a localized mailing list (if there is one), contact the SBA Liquidation Chief in

the location where you wish to buy goods. To obtain additional information on loan sales please visit www.sba.gov/assets or write to:

U.S. Small Business
Administration
Asset Sales Team
409 Third St. SW, Suite 8300
Washington, DC 20416

Tennessee Valley Authority



What is sold

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is involved in a variety of activities ranging from flood control and electric power production to forestry and wildlife development. TVA sells both personal and real property, such as electrical supplies, heavy construction equipment, office furniture and machines, vehicles ranging from heavy industrial vehicles to pick-up trucks and sedans, and undeveloped land for industrial and recreational purposes. TVA holds approximately three to four auctions each year throughout the Tennessee Valley.

How items are sold

Goods are sold by auction, negotiated sales, or requests for offers.

How sales are advertised

Sales information is available through mailing lists, newspapers, trade publications, and online at

TVA's website at www.tva.gov/surplus. To be placed on TVA mailing lists, write to the address below. Be sure to include the types of items in which you are interested so you will be placed on the appropriate mailing list.

Special restrictions/conditions

Certified check, cashier's check, wire transfer, and personal checks with a letter of guarantee are acceptable.

For more information

Visit TVA's surplus sales website at www.tva.gov/surplus.

Write or call:

Tennessee Valley Authority
Investment Recovery
PO Box 2000
Dixon Springs, TN 37057
(615) 374-7400

U.S. Department of the Treasury



*Internal Revenue Service –
Criminal Investigations*

*Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms, and Explosives (now
under Department of Justice)*

*Bureau of Customs and Border
Protection (now under
Department of Homeland
Security – DHS)*

*Bureau of Immigration and
Customs Enforcement (now
under DHS)*

*United States Secret Service
(now under DHS)*

What is sold

The agencies listed above sell seized/forfeited property throughout the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico through EG&G Technical Services, the national asset management contractor for the Department of the Treasury. A wide variety of items are sold including cars, boats, airplanes, real estate, carpets, electronics, industrial goods, jewelry, computer equipment, wearing apparel, and household goods. Items may be new or used and are sold in lots ranging from single items to wholesale quantities. Real estate is also sold, including single-family residences, warehouses, retail buildings, and operating businesses, such as apartment buildings, gas stations, wine stores, and golf courses.

How items are sold

Over 300 public auctions are held at the times and locations listed below:

- Approximately every nine weeks in Edison, New Jersey; Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; El Paso, Laredo and Edinburg, Texas; Los Angeles, California; and Nogales, Arizona.
- Approximately every four weeks in Chula Vista, California.
- Approximately three times a year in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

- Over 100 times annually for real estate throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.
- At other times and locations as merchandise becomes available.

Real estate is normally sold on-site at the property location; however, selected real estate may be sold online.

Written bids are accepted at all personal property and real estate auctions.

How sales are advertised

A recorded message of upcoming auctions may be accessed 24 hours a day by calling the Public Auction Line at (703) 273-7373. Customer service representatives are available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to answer specific questions.

A one-year flyer subscription, listing the items at upcoming auctions, is available to the public for a non-refundable fee. Nationwide subscriptions for personal property sales in the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are \$25. Eastern Region subscriptions for sales located east of the Mississippi River (including Puerto Rico) and Western Region subscriptions for sales located west of the Mississippi River (including Alaska and Hawaii) are \$15 each. Nationwide real property subscriptions are \$25. Please add \$10 for foreign delivery outside the U.S.

E-mail notification is available at no charge for both personal property and real property. Information in the flyers includes merchandise featured, registration information, viewing and inspection opportunities, payment methods, and other information about the sales. Flyers are mailed two to

three weeks prior to the scheduled sale date for personal property and twice a month for real property.

Upcoming auctions are also advertised in local newspapers and on the Department of the Treasury's website www.treas.gov/auctions/customs three weeks prior to the sale date.

Terms of sale

All auctions are open to the public. In order to participate/bid at auctions, a bidder registration card must be filled out at the auction location. Bidders must be over 18 years of age and have a government-issued photo ID such as a driver's license or passport in order to register. Once the card is filled out, a bidder number will be issued. Registration is free, and catalogs are available at preview and sale locations. Auction officials strongly encourage all interested parties to preview property before bidding. Cash, cashier's check, MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover are acceptable forms of payment for personal property auctions. Cashier's check is acceptable for real property. Personal or business checks, bank letters, or letters of credit are not acceptable forms of payment.

Special restrictions/conditions

Employees of the Department of the Treasury, Department of Homeland Security, and EG&G Technical Services and their immediate families are prohibited from bidding on property/merchandise. Additionally, in order to comply with the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 552 (2000)), the following information regarding the transaction shall be

published on the U.S. Department of Treasury auction website:

- 1) the registered bidders name,
- 2) the lot number,
- 3) the lot description, and
- 4) purchase price of lot.

For more information

Consult the Department of the Treasury website at www.treas.gov/auctions/customs for personal and real property sales information.

To obtain information about the personal property subscription program or general and upcoming sales information, contact:

EG&G Technical Services
7845 Ashton Avenue
Manassas, VA 20109
Fax: (703) 361-4450
Telephone: (703) 273-7373
e-mail: auctions@egginc.com

To obtain information about the real property subscription program or general and upcoming sales information, contact:

EG&G Technical Services
7723 Ashton Avenue
Manassas, VA 20109
Fax: (703) 361-3671
Telephone: (703) 273-7373
e-mail: realproperty@egginc.com

Department of Veterans Affairs



What is sold

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates several programs to benefit veterans and members of their families. One of these programs is the Guaranteed Home Loan Program. If a veteran-homeowner defaults on a VA-guaranteed loan, the veteran's lender forecloses the loan and, in most cases, VA acquires the property after foreclosure. VA then sells these properties, which include single-family homes, townhouses, and condominiums, to the public through its nine regional loan centers and 36 regional offices.

How VA-acquired properties are sold

Properties are offered for sale to the public at fair market value and sold to the offeror whose bid provides the highest net to VA. Offers may be submitted through any licensed real estate broker who participates in VA sales programs. These brokers can answer questions about VA sales procedures and show properties to prospective purchasers.

How properties are advertised

VA regional offices advertise properties for sale to the general public either by direct mailings to local sales brokers or by listing properties in local newspapers. Information on

properties or on the program in general may also be available on regional office telephone information systems and/or bulletin boards. Some regional offices have established websites that can be accessed through VA's Veterans Benefits Administration website at www.vba.va.gov.

Special restrictions/conditions

You do not have to be a veteran to purchase these properties. VA-acquired properties may be purchased by veterans, non-veterans, owner occupants, and investors. Terms and conditions of sale, which vary from property to property, are included in property sales listings.

For more information:

Consult the VA's Home Loan Guaranty Services website at www.homeloans.va.gov.

Contact the VA regional office nearest you. Look for VA under the "U.S. Government" listings in your local telephone directory or call toll-free 1 (800) 827-1000.

a final note

The information in this publication is accurate as of November 2003. Because the sales programs described change over time, the U.S. General Services Administration encourages consumers to contact the sponsoring Federal agency's local or regional offices for current sales information and specific details concerning the rules and conditions of sales. Federal agency information can be found at **FirstGov.gov**.

Please note that this guide does not include very small and specialized one-time sales. Also, state and municipal governments may have similar sales programs. Contact your local government offices for information on those sales programs.

This publication was produced by the U.S. General Services Administration, Office of Citizen Services and Communications, Federal Citizen Information Center.

GSA wishes to thank the many program officials in Federal agencies across the country who gave so generously of their time and expertise to help produce this comprehensive publication.

The U.S. General Services Administration *Guide to Federal Government Sales* is available for sale through the *Consumer Information Catalog*. It is one of the more than 200 free and low-cost Federal publications listed in the free *Consumer Information Catalog*. To get your free copy of the *Catalog*:

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glossary

Types Of Property

Personal property is the term used for all items other than real estate. It includes everything from office furniture to cars and jewelry. Most personal property sold by the government is used, and sold "as is."

Real property is real estate. It may include office buildings, houses, condominiums, apartments, undeveloped land, retail stores, industrial properties, and golf courses. Like personal property, the kind of real property available will vary among the sales programs.

Confiscated, seized, and forfeited are terms that describe the status of property in the possession of Federal law enforcement agencies. The terms are not interchangeable. Property that is seized or confiscated may be returned to a defendant or innocent owner. If it is not returned, the property becomes forfeited and may become available for sale to the public. Therefore, advertising for Federal Government sales will usually describe the property obtained through confiscation and seizure, as forfeited. This kind of property is sold "as is" and the inventory of sales items constantly changes.

Foreclosed property is sold when citizens default on loans secured by a government agency. The property, usually real estate, is sold to the public through government sales programs. FDIC, HUD, SBA, and VA all sell foreclosed properties.

Excess and/or Surplus property.

Federal property no longer needed by an agency is declared as excess to the needs of that agency, but may be transferred to another Federal agency. Federally owned property that is no longer needed by any Federal agency is declared as surplus to the needs of the Federal Government. If not transferred to state governments, it is sold to the public.

Unclaimed goods are sold by the Federal Government when items are lost, abandoned, or unclaimed by the public. The U.S. Postal Service is the primary agency that sells unclaimed items, typically goods that have been lost in the mail. USPS sells the unclaimed merchandise to the public through mail recovery auctions.

Sales Methods

Sealed Bid. The Federal agency prepares an "Invitation for Bid," an informational sheet that contains all the information you need to bid on the item. The sheet describes the property being offered for sale and includes the terms and conditions of sale. If interested, you submit your bid to the agency, usually by mail. On the bid opening date, the bids are read publicly and the award is made to the highest bidder who has correctly followed the required procedures.

Public Auction. The Federal agency follows traditional auction procedures and gives prospective buyers a description of the property to be auctioned along with bidding instructions before the auction. The auctioneer conducting the sale offers the proper-

ty item-by-item and awards the item to the highest bidder. When buying through an auction, the buyer must be present to bid, unlike the sealed bid method, which is conducted by mail.

Internet Auctions offer the general public the opportunity to bid electronically on a wide array of Federal assets. The auctions are completely web-enabled, allowing all registered participants to bid on a single item or multiple items (lots) within specified timeframes. For example, GSA Auctions® online auction sales offer electronic bidding, bids by proxy, online credit card payment, and instant feedback on a wide array of Federal assets and personal property.

Sealed Bidders Auction. A sales method that combines aspects of the sealed bid and auction methods. Bidders submit sealed bids on the item being offered for sale and the highest sealed bidders are then allowed to participate in a public auction. The bidding starts with the highest sealed bid.

Spot Bid. Bidders are usually required to attend the sale to place their bid in written form. The property is offered item-by-item, as in an auction. However, in an auction, the bids are voiced; with the spot bid method, the written form allows a one-time chance for the bidder. The highest bidder is announced publicly, receives the award, and the sale is made. Buyers are encouraged to be present at the award.

Fixed Price sale. The Federal agency marks the merchandise with a particular price. The public may purchase the items for that set price at a public sale. The items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

Negotiation. This method is often used when selling real estate. Federal agencies may negotiate individual property sales as a way to sell the property. At other times, negotiation may be used in special circumstances. For example, GSA may negotiate a sale if, after advertising, the bid prices are not reasonable or if the specialized property is of interest only to a small group of buyers. Negotiation may also be used if the character/condition of the property or unusual circumstances make it impractical to advertise publicly. Sometimes agencies appraise properties to estimate their market value and establish a list price. Offers on the property are encouraged based on the list price, with the final price subject to negotiation.

Broker/Individual Sale. Real property in government sales programs is sometimes disposed of by using private real estate brokers to negotiate the sale. For example, HUD uses real estate brokers in the HUD Home sales program. The VA sales program also utilizes private real estate brokers when selling residential properties. The U.S. Marshals Service sells the majority of its forfeited real property through licensed real estate brokers using multiple listing services.

Portfolio sales. These sales occur when packages of real estate and loans are grouped together for sale to the public. Typically, buyers purchase the property as a package. For example, real estate may be grouped by geographic location and assets from a failed institution may be packaged by loan type.

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**GSA Office of Citizen Services and Communications
Federal Citizen Information Center**

U.S. General Services Administration

1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405
www.pueblo.gsa.gov