
SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY GENERAL SALE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

NOTE : These Terms and Conditions of Sale were developed prior to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and are being provided for general information and content. These are the Terms and Conditions of Sale that are currently in use. These Terms and Conditions of Sale are currently under review and are subject to change.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

The placement of a successful bid at a Department of the Treasury auction establishes a legally binding contract between the successful high bidder and the Treasury Department. The auctioneer's announcement of the high bid amount and the bidder's number establishes the contract which may be subject to final acceptance by the Government. This contract is bound by these Terms and Conditions as well as special terms and conditions published by the Contractor for the specific auction and other Federal regulations governing contracts for the purchase of government property. The successful bidder is legally bound to pay for property awarded in accordance with his/her bid.

The contractor is acting as the agent of the Government with respect to the sale of Government property.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF BIDDERS:

The Bidder warrants that he/she is not:

- (a) under 18 years of age;
- (b) an employee of any department or agency of the Federal Government prohibited by the regulations of that agency from purchasing property sold hereunder;
- (c) an agent or immediate member of the household of the employee in (b), above;
- (d) the contractor, subcontractor or vendor, their agent or employee who has access to information concerning the property to be sold at U.S. Department of the Treasury auctions that is not generally available to the public;
- (e) presently debarred or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any Federal agency in accordance with 41 CFR 101-45.6;

(f) or the party or representing the party(s) from whom the property was seized and/or forfeited.

The contractor's subcontractor may not act as agent for a third party in purchasing Department of the Treasury property that is or has been in their custody or control. For breach of any of these warranties, the government shall have the right to cancel the contract without liability.

3. REGISTRATION OF BIDDERS:

All persons wishing to participate in the bidding process of the sale are required to obtain, completely fill out, and turn in a bidder registration card at the sale site prior to sale.

An individual's signature/initials on the bidder registration card is an acknowledgment of his/her full and complete understanding of all terms and conditions of the sales contract and his/her agreement to be bound thereby. The sales catalog and sales brochure may also contain terms and conditions constituting part of the sales contract. Each bidder must present a Government-issued photo ID as a prerequisite of registration (i.e. driver's license, military ID or passport).

Each bidder will be issued a bidder number along with a sales catalog upon completion of registration. Each registered bidder is solely responsible for the use of his/her bidder number and any use by another person is presumed to be with the consent of and contractually binding on the registered bidder.

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The registrant agrees that, should the registrant be the successful bidder on a lot, 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.

Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 552 (2000)).

4. VIDEO RECORDING:

The Contractor may videotape the conduct of sale which may be utilized in dispute resolution processing and for other purposes as needed.

5. INSPECTION OF PROPERTY:

The bidder is invited, urged, and cautioned to inspect the property prior to submitting a bid. The failure to inspect property shall not constitute cause for cancellation of sale. The property or a representative sample of property will be available for inspection at the places and times specified by the contractor. Absolutely no access to property is allowed without prior contractor authorization.

6. ORAL STATEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS:

Announcements may be made on the day of the sale to clarify property status, catalog descriptions, or other information specific to a lot or item. These announcements take precedence over sales catalog information pertinent to that

property, but do not alter in any way the basic terms and conditions of sale. An errata sheet will be distributed to provide bidders with an up-to-date posting of lot additions, deletions, or modifications. The errata sheet information replaces the applicable corresponding information in the sales catalog.

Further, no interpretation of any provision of the sale contract, including applicable performance requirements, shall be binding on the Government unless furnished or agreed to, in writing, by the Contracting Officer.

7. ADDITION/WITHDRAWAL OF PROPERTY:

The Government reserves the right to withdraw from sale any of the items listed in the sales catalog/brochure or to sell at auction items not listed.

8. PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS:

The Government warrants to the original Purchaser that the property listed in the sales catalog for bids will conform to its description. This warranty is in place of all other guaranties and warranties, express or implied. The Government does not warrant the condition, quality, or merchantability of the property or its fitness for any use or purpose. The condition of items offered varies from "NEW" to "SALVAGE." The Purchaser understands and agrees that all property is purchased and accepted "AS IS, WHERE IS" and "WITH ALL FAULTS."

The amount of recovery under this provision is limited to the purchase price of the inaccurately described property. The Purchaser is not entitled

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to any payment for loss of profit or any other money damages, including special, direct, indirect, incidental, or consequential.

For Purchasers claiming recovery under the warranty of description, no refund will be made unless the Purchaser:

- a) submits a written notice to the Contractor within 30 calendar days of the date of removal that explains in what manner the property was inaccurately described.
- b) If the government agrees, then a full refund of the money received will be returned.

If a misdescription is determined before removal of the property, the Government will keep the property and refund any money paid. If a misdescription is determined after removal, the Government will refund any money paid if the Purchaser takes the property at his/her expense to a location specified by the Contractor. The Purchaser must maintain the property in the same condition as when removed.

9. OFFERING OF PROPERTY FOR AUCTION AND SUBMISSION OF BIDS AND AWARD:

(a) The auctioneer will offer each item/lot in accordance with catalog sequence or by special announcement. All bidders will communicate their bid amounts orally or by such other means as may be recognized by and acceptable to the auctioneer.

(b) A lot will be sold to the highest bidder upon acceptance of the final bid amount by the Government. In the event the bidding does not exceed the Government's minimum reserve price, the auctioneer will close the bidding subject to acceptance by the Government.

For open and progressive voice auction sales, it is the bidder's responsibility to pay attention to items being offered for sale and to bid on those items in which he/she is interested.

(c) In the event of a dispute as to the amount bid, item or item number, and/or paddle number of the Bidder, the Government reserves the right to reoffer the item in question. Once the Government accepts a bid, a contract is established and the Purchaser may not withdraw the bid. The auctioneer will not accept unilateral conditions asserted by the high bidder.

(d) The invoice, as to the name and number of the Purchaser, and the amount of the bid shall be prima facie evidence of these facts of the sale, and all disagreements will be resolved in accordance with such records;

10. COLLUSION:

Practices that eliminate competition, such as collusive bidding, may warrant criminal, civil, or administrative action against the participant(s) and may be referred to the Department of Justice in accordance with 41 CFR 101-45.317.1.

11. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS:

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any technical defects in bids. All property is sold with a minimum reserve price unless the goods are, in explicit terms, offered without a minimum reserve price. If the minimum reserve price is not achieved, the Government may withdraw the goods at any time until the completion of sale.

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12. FORMS OF PAYMENT:

Forms of payment are cash, cashier's check, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover), where acceptable by the Government. Photo identification of the registered bidder must be presented to initiate the payment process. Payment for each lot must be made by the successful registered bidder for that specific lot. Cashier's Checks must be made payable to the VSE Corporation/U.S. Treasury. Personal or business checks, bank letters, or letters of credit are not acceptable. All cash payments of \$10,000 or more will be reported to the IRS in accordance with 26 USC 6050 Section I (d). In order to comply with this requirement, bidder must provide their Social Security Number or Federal ID number if a business, along with date of birth at the time of payment in order for completion of IRS Form 8300.

Acceptance of credit cards is subject to verification and approval by the issuing institution. Credit cards issued in the name of the registered bidder or the company he/she represents are the only cards that will be accepted for payments. Each credit card receipt must be signed by the original cardholder. Credit cards issued to a Purchaser's spouse or in another individual's name will not be accepted for use by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser agrees to the publication of his/her/company registered name, lot number, lot description and purchase price on the U.S. Department of Treasury auction website. Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 552 (2000)).

13. DEPOSITS:

The Purchaser agrees to make deposits in accordance with the instructions in the sales catalog/brochure. The Purchaser agrees to pay for property awarded to him/her in accordance with their successful bid.

14. FINAL PAYMENT:

Full payment of the purchase price must be received by the Contractor within the time specified in the sales catalog/brochure and prior to the release of any property.

In addition to the forms of payment listed in paragraph 12, bank wires may be used for final payments. Any electronic bank transfer must originate from an account of the registered bidder or the business the bidder represents. The transfer must include the bidder number and all applicable auction sale lots. Any electronic bank transfers received from an account other than that of the registered Purchaser will not be accepted and will be returned to the originating bank. All final payments must be made and received by the date and time specified in the sales catalog/brochure or the bidder will be placed in default of the contract.

The Purchaser agrees to the publication of his/her/company registered name, lot number, lot description and purchase price on the U.S. Department of Treasury auction website. Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 552 (2000)).

15. APPLICABLE TAXES:

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All purchasers are responsible for the payment of any and all applicable taxes imposed by any state, country, county, or political subdivision.

The Purchasers may be required to pay such taxes to the cashiers at time of sale or to tax officials after purchase is made. If sales taxes are required, presentation of proof of payment will be required prior to property release.

16. ISSUANCE OF PAYMENT/RELEASE DOCUMENTATION :

Upon receipt of full and final payment for each purchase, the Contractor shall provide the Purchaser with a receipt of each deposit or payment. Sale receipt(s) and release documents will only be issued in the name/company name of the registered bidder.

17. PREPARATION FOR SHIPMENT, LOADING AND REMOVAL:

(a) The Purchaser is responsible for making all arrangements for the packaging and removal of their purchases. When property is described in the sales catalog as being boxed, packed, crated, skidded, or in containers, the Government does not warrant that the property, as packaged, is suitable for shipment. Segregation, culling, or selection of property for the purpose of effecting partial or incremental release will not be permitted. No partial release will be permitted. The Purchaser shall remove the property at his/her expense.

(b) All Purchasers or their authorized representatives will be required to present sale receipt(s) and release document(s) prior to the

initiation of any shipment preparations. If a Purchaser designates a representative agent, broker or transporter to pick up their sale property, the Purchaser must prepare and sign an authorization letter identifying the agent to act on their behalf. The Agent must present photo identification to validate the Purchaser's option prior to initiation of any action.

18. REMOVAL FROM SALES CENTERS OR COMMERCIAL STORAGE LOCATIONS:

Any items purchased at auction will be released to the Purchaser or his designated representative upon presentation of the sale receipt(s) and release document(s). If Purchaser elects to have a designated representative (transporter, broker, other) pick up his/her property, that person must have all sale receipt(s) and release document(s) and an authorization letter signed by the Purchaser for removal.

All property stored at the Contractor's facilities must be removed by the dates specified in the sales catalog/brochure; no extensions of storage time will be granted. The failure to pick up property by the specified time will be declared a default against the Purchaser as specified in paragraph 23.

All property stored at commercial warehouse facilities must also be picked up by the time specified in the sales catalog/brochure and an appointment should be scheduled in advance. The failure to pick up property by the specified time will be declared a default against the Purchaser as specified in paragraph 23.

19. REMOVAL OF EXPORT ONLY:

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Any property listed in the sales catalog "For Export Only" may not be entered into the commerce of the United States and must be exported under conditions described in the sales catalog/brochure. A representative sample from large, commercial quantity "Export Only" lots (greater than ten cartons) may be released to the Purchaser upon full payment if the sample is available at the sales center.

All Purchasers are responsible for complying with all applicable federal licensing and permit regulations prior to exportation. The failure of the purchaser to obtain necessary licensing will not result in the return of any monies tendered for the goods.

The Contractor shall provide a copy of the required procedures for export, when available from the Government, to the Purchaser at the time of final payment. Unless a different period for removal is applicable with respect to goods or conveyances that are sold "For Export Only," the purchaser will have 60 days from auction day to remove the property from the United States or purchaser will be deemed in default and the property will be resold by the Government as provided in paragraph 23 of these Terms and Conditions of Sale.

All forms required for exportation may be obtained at a nominal cost from the U.S. Government. Because of the complexity of some export requirements, the purchaser may wish to secure the services of a Customhouse Broker, bonded carrier, or other professional in securing the necessary documents required for exportation. The Contractor will offer no assistance whatsoever.

20. LIMITATION OF GOVERNMENT LIABILITY:

Except for reasonable packing, loading, and transportation costs (such packing, loading, and transportation costs being recoverable only when a return of property at the Governments cost is specifically authorized in writing by the Contracting Officer or other costs authorized in writing by the Contracting Officer) the measure of the liability of the Government under any provisions of the terms and conditions in any case where liability of the Government to the Purchaser has been established shall not exceed the refund of such portion of the purchase price as the Government may have received.

21. TITLE:

The Contractor shall furnish the Purchaser with all documents in its possession that have been provided to the Contractor by the government relating to the title, registration, or licensing of the property sold to the purchaser. However, the Government does not warrant or guarantee that the documents it possesses and furnishes to the purchaser, if any, are sufficient to obtain any necessary licenses, registrations or titles, or that licenses, registrations or titles can be obtained.

22. MARITIME EXPORTATION:

The Purchaser, whether a U.S. citizen or an alien, may not export any vessel from the United States or its territories or possessions without first obtaining the approval of the DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590,

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pursuant to the provision of the Shipping Act of 1916, as amended (46 U.S.C. 801 et. seq.). To export a commercial vessel, a license from the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY, BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230, is required. For further information, contact (202) 482-2721.

23. DEFAULTS:

The failure to make required deposit or final payments and/or comply with the time frames specified in the sales catalog/brochure for removal of property shall be deemed forfeiture of any rights, title, and interest the Purchaser may have acquired. The title of such property shall revert back to the Government without further notice to the Purchaser and will result in any monies paid being forfeited. The transaction shall be null and void as to the Purchaser. The property will be processed for resale at the next available auction.

24. REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

It is the Purchaser's responsibility to ascertain and comply with all applicable Federal, State, local, and multi-jurisdictional laws, ordinances and regulations pertaining to the registration, licensing, handling, possession, transportation, transfer, export, processing, manufacture, sale, use, or disposal of the property listed in the sales catalog.

The Purchaser or user of this property is not excused from any violation of such laws or regulations either because the United States is a

party to this sale or has had any interest in the property at any time.

25. FALSE ADVERTISING AND UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTIONS:

The use of false or misleading advertisements in commerce or other unfair or deceptive practices are unlawful (15 U.S.C. 45, et seq.). In disposing of any property purchased from the Government, purchasers should exercise extreme caution in preparing advertisements to ensure that they do not violate applicable Federal, state or foreign government laws.

26. DISPUTES:

Any contract resulting from this offering is subject to the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, Public Law 95-563. The current "Dispute" clause found in 48 CFR 52.233-1 is hereby incorporated by reference. All requests for refunds or adjustments should be submitted to the contractor.

Any disputes which cannot be resolved by the contractor may be directed to:

Contracting Officer
Department of the Treasury
Departmental Offices
Procurement Services Division
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 1425 New York Avenue
Suite 2100
Washington, D.C. 20220