



Purchases from Other Governments and Private Entities Summary

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
Municipal Technical Advisory Service
1610 University Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37921-6741
865-974-0411 phone
865-974-0423 fax
www.mtas.tennessee.edu

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Any municipality may buy secondhand items from any other government. These purchases may be made without competitive soliciting and public advertisement, regardless of charter requirements.

Any municipality may buy used or secondhand items from any private individual or entity without public advertisement and competitive soliciting if the municipality documents the general range of value of the purchased item through a nationally recognized publication or through an appraisal by a licensed appraiser. The price paid must be no more than 5 percent of the highest value of the documented range.

The T.C.A. citation for this topic is T.C.A. § 12-3-1202.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

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