



Ronald L. Jones
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To: Alabama Municipalities
Alabama County Commissions
Alabama Community College System
Other Entities subject to the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-16-50

In accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-16-51, we have reviewed the competitive bidding process used by National IPA, a national purchasing cooperative, and their participating awarding authorities for the contracts awarded as of the date of this letter. We noted no matters we felt were contrary to proper purchasing procedures or routine governmental procurement practices. These contracts were awarded by various governmental entities, based on competitive bid requirements of their respective local governments.

Based on our review, we approve the competitive bidding process used by National IPA and their participating awarding authorities through November 30, 2013.

However, to ensure your entity's compliance with the Alabama Competitive Bid Law, you will need to verify whether or not the goods are either not at the time available on the state purchasing program or are available at a price equal to or less than that on the state purchasing program. Also, your entity will need to verify that the purchase is made through a participating Alabama vendor holding an Alabama business license if such a vendor exists.

Note – This approval does not apply to State Public Four-Year Universities or City and County Boards of Education within the State of Alabama.

Sincerely,

RONALD L. JONES
Chief Examiner

RLJ/td