



Ronald L. Jones  
Chief Examiner

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State of Alabama  
Department of  
**Examiners of Public Accounts**

Act 2018-413 provides for certain exceptions to the Alabama Public Works Law. This purchasing cooperative's contract for air conditioning and heating units and systems, which was awarded to Trane (RFP# 15-JLP-023), has been approved for use under the provisions of Act 2018-413.

October 30, 2017

Location:  
Gordon Persons Building  
50 North Ripley Street, Room 3201  
Montgomery, AL 36104-3833

Alabama Municipalities  
Alabama County Commissions  
Alabama City and County Boards of Education  
Alabama Community College System  
Other Entities subject to the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-16-50

To whom it may concern,

We have reviewed the competitive bidding process used by U.S. Communities, the purchasing cooperative sponsored by the National Association of Counties, and their participating awarding authorities. We noted no matters that we felt were contrary to proper purchasing procedures or routine governmental procurement practices. Also, these contracts were awarded by various governmental entities, based on competitive bid requirements of their respective local government.

Based on our review, we approve the competitive bidding process used by U.S. Communities through November 30, 2019, for the purchase of goods or services.

The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 41-16-51 and 16-13B-2 authorizes the purchases of goods or services, other than voice or data wireless communication services utilizing purchasing cooperatives when certain conditions are met. Therefore, you **are not authorized** to use this purchasing cooperative for the purchase of voice or data wireless communication services.

Prior to utilizing this purchasing cooperative, you must ensure your entity's compliance with the Alabama Competitive Bid Law. The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 41-16-51 and 16-13B-2, requires that you verify that the goods or services are not at the time available on the state purchasing program, or that they are available at a price equal to or less than that on the state purchasing program. Additionally, you must 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 within the State of Alabama.**

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Jones  
CHIEF EXAMINER

RLJ/jh