

HB284 INTRODUCED



1 HB284
2 HG27N66-1
3 By Representative Colvin (N & P)
4 RFD: Local Legislation
5 First Read: 20-Jan-26



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to Marshall County; to amend Sections 45-48-231.20, 45-48-231.22, and 45-48-231.24, Code of Alabama 1975; and to add Section 45-48-231.27 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to further provide for abandoned and stolen personal property recovered by the sheriff's department.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 45-48-231.20, 45-48-231.22, and 45-48-231.24, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§45-48-231.20

The Sheriff of Marshall County shall sell, at public auction or by Internet auction, abandoned and stolen personal property recovered by the sheriff's department which has remained unclaimed by the owner for a period of 12 consecutive months."

"§45-48-231.22

Except for perishable property sold pursuant to Section ~~45-48-231.01~~ 45-48-431.21, at least every six months, the Sheriff of Marshall County, shall sell at ~~public~~-auction to the highest bidder ~~for cash~~ all abandoned or stolen personal



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29 property ~~which~~ that has been recovered by the sheriff's
30 department, ~~which~~ and that has remained unclaimed by the owner
31 after a period of 12 months. The sale shall be made after
32 notice has been given by publication in a newspaper of general
33 circulation in Marshall County once a week for two successive
34 weeks or by posting notice in a conspicuous place at the
35 Marshall County Courthouse for a period of at least 20 days
36 prior to the sale. The notice shall contain the place, date,
37 and time of each auction and a description of each item of
38 personal property to be sold at auction. If publication of the
39 notice is made by publication in the newspaper, the first
40 notice shall run at least 20 days prior to the auction."

41 "§45-48-231.24

42 ~~Whenever any property is sold at public auction, the~~
43 ~~sale shall be paid only in cash.~~ A notation in the storage
44 record book shall be made of the sale and of the amount
45 received for ~~the~~ any property sold at auction. The person
46 making the sale shall have the right to reject any ~~and all~~
47 ~~bids~~ bid if the bid amount is deemed unreasonably low. The
48 sale may continue, from time to time, if no bidders are
49 present."

50 Section 2. Section 45-48-231.27 is added to the Code of
51 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

52 §45-48-231.27

53 (a) (1) The sheriff shall keep and maintain a permanent
54 record of all abandoned or stolen firearms not subject to
55 disposition by general law. The records shall state the
56 description of the firearm; the serial or other identifying



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57 number, if any, of the firearm; and the place where the
58 firearm was recovered. The sheriff shall take reasonable
59 efforts to locate the owner of abandoned or stolen firearms
60 recovered by the sheriff's office, including by notifying the
61 sheriff's offices of surrounding counties.

62 (2) For the purposes of this section, the term
63 "firearm" shall have the same meaning as provided in Section
64 13A-8-1.

65 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, the sheriff may
66 sell or destroy a firearm if the owner does not claim the
67 firearm within 12 months of the date the sheriff obtained the
68 firearm.

69 (c) The sheriff may sell a firearm only to gun dealers
70 who have a current federal firearm license on the date of the
71 sale. The sheriff shall establish a procedure to notify gun
72 dealers of a sale. A firearm shall be sold to the gun dealer
73 submitting the highest sealed bid. The proceeds of the sale,
74 after deducting and paying all expenses incurred in the
75 recovery, maintenance, and sale of the firearm, shall be paid
76 to the Office of the Sheriff of Marshall County.

77 (d) The sheriff may establish a procedure to destroy
78 firearms and may expend necessary funds of the sheriff's
79 office for that purpose.

80 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October
81 1, 2026.