

Report To

The Mississippi Legislature



Comparison of State Contract Prices with Retail Prices for Commodity Items

June 13, 1995

In response to reports from public employees that Mississippi government pays too much for supplies bought through state competitively bid contracts, PEER shopped to see if public officials could buy selected items more economically from discount and specialty stores "off the shelf," as had been suggested.

PEER staff shoppers, however, found that the Department of Finance and Administration's state contract prices were lower for 93% of the pricing comparisons.

Because of the volatile and competitive nature of retail pricing, it is possible that public officials could obtain retail prices lower than state contract prices. However, based on PEER's pricing comparisons, it is unlikely that the state could achieve significant or consistent savings without the contract system in some form.

The PEER Committee

PEER: The Mississippi Legislature's Oversight Agency

The Mississippi Legislature created the Joint Legislative Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER Committee) by statute in 1973. A standing joint committee, the PEER Committee is composed of five members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker and five members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. Appointments are made for four-year terms with one Senator and one Representative appointed from each of the U. S. Congressional Districts. Committee officers are elected by the membership with officers alternating annually between the two houses. All Committee actions by statute require a majority vote of three Representatives and three Senators voting in the affirmative.

Mississippi's constitution gives the Legislature broad power to conduct examinations and investigations. PEER is authorized by law to review any public entity, including contractors supported in whole or in part by public funds, and to address any issues which may require legislative action. PEER has statutory access to all state and local records and has subpoena power to compel testimony or the production of documents.

PEER provides a variety of services to the Legislature, including program evaluations, economy and efficiency reviews, financial audits, limited scope evaluations, fiscal notes, special investigations, briefings to individual legislators, testimony, and other governmental research and assistance. The Committee identifies inefficiency or ineffectiveness or a failure to accomplish legislative objectives, and makes recommendations for redefinition, redirection, redistribution and/or restructuring of Mississippi government. As directed by and subject to the prior approval of the PEER Committee, the Committee's professional staff executes audit and evaluation projects obtaining information and developing options for consideration by the Committee. The PEER Committee releases reports to the Legislature, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the agency examined.

The Committee assigns top priority to written requests from individual legislators and legislative committees. The Committee also considers PEER staff proposals and written requests from state officials and others.

**Comparison of State Contract Prices with
Retail Prices for Commodity Items**

June 13, 1995

**The PEER Committee
Mississippi Legislature**

The Mississippi Legislature

Joint Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review

PEER Committee

REPRESENTATIVES

ALYCE G. CLARKE
Chairman
J. P. COMPRETTA
DAVID M. HALBROOK
CECIL McCRORY
MORRIS LEE SCOTT

TELEPHONE:
(601) 359-1226

FAX:
(601) 359-1420



P. O. Box 1204
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1204

John W. Turcotte
Director

SENATORS

TRAVIS L. LITTLE
Vice Chairman
WILLIAM W. CANON
Secretary
JAMES L. BEAN, JR.
WILLIE SIMMONS
JOSEPH T. STOGNER

OFFICES:
Professional Building
222 North President Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

June 13, 1995

Honorable Kirk Fordice, Governor
Honorable Eddie Briggs, Lieutenant Governor
Honorable Tim Ford, Speaker of the House
Members of the Mississippi State Legislature

At its meeting of June 13, 1995, the PEER Committee authorized release of the report entitled **Comparison of State Contract Prices with Retail Prices for Commodity Items.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alyce Clarke".

Representative Alyce Clarke, Chairman

**This report does not recommend increased
funding or additional staff.**

Table of Contents

Letter of Transmittal.....i

List of Exhibits v

Executive Summary..... vii

Introduction 1

 Authority and Purpose 1

 Method 1

 Overview 1

Background 3

 State Procurement Policy..... 3

 State Purchasing Laws for the
 Procurement of Commodities..... 3

 Department of Finance and Administration
 Purchasing Responsibilities 6

 DFA State Commodity Contracts 8

Results of PEER’s Pricing Comparison 9

 Pricing Comparison Method 9

 Conclusion 9

Recommendation 15

Appendix: PEER Price Comparison Survey Data..... 16

List of Exhibits

1. Differences in State Laws Governing Commodity Purchases of State Contract Items for a State Agency Versus a Governing Authority 5

2. Authority of the DFA Office of Purchasing and Travel..... 7

3. PEER Statewide Survey Locations and Number of Obtained Prices.....10

4. Outcome of 816 Price Comparisons: State Contract Price vs. Retail “Shelf” Price.....11

5. Percent Saved as a Result of State Contracting in 816 Price Comparisons (24 Retail “Shelf” Prices Compared to State Contract Price for Each of 34 Commodity Items).....12

6. Commodity Items for Which PEER Obtained Unit Price Comparisons13

Comparison of State Contract Prices with Retail Prices for Commodity Items

Executive Summary

June 13, 1995

Introduction

Legislators and state agency personnel have often expressed concerns that agencies and governing authorities may not actually pay the lowest possible prices for commodities purchased through competitively bid state contracts. Some individuals contend that commodity items could be purchased at retail ("shelf") prices lower than state contract prices.

Overview

For the thirty-four commodity items compared by PEER, the Department of Finance and Administration's state contracts resulted in prices lower than retail "shelf" prices. For the items compared by PEER, state contract prices were lower than retail prices for 93% of the pricing comparisons (758 of 816). Factors which give DFA's state contract prices an advantage over retail prices include:

- greater "market buying power" of the state through assurance of multiple purchasers;
- direct contracts with product manufacturers, thus reducing or eliminating wholesaler costs;
- contracts with specifications which require the item prices to include all freight, instal-

lation, transportation, or warranty costs; and,

- purchasing in bulk quantities (e.g., by the dozen, case, or thousand).

The commodity purchase provisions of MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (1972) differ for agencies and governing authorities, as defined in CODE Sections 31-7-1 (1972). While state agencies *must purchase* supplies and equipment at the contract price set by the Department of Finance and Administration's exclusive competitively bid contracts, state-funded local entities such as counties and school districts have greater flexibility. They *may purchase* either through the state contract or from local businesses under specified conditions. As a result, all Mississippi governmental organizations do not have the same degree of flexibility to obtain the lowest available price when purchasing commodities.

Recommendation

Using the experience and resident expertise of its staff, the Department of Finance and Administration should submit a written report to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee no later than December 1, 1995, addressing whether the Legislature should amend MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (1972) to eliminate differences in purchasing requirements for state agencies and governing authorities.

For More Information or Clarification, Contact:

PEER Committee
P. O. Box 1204
Jackson, MS 39215-1204
(601) 359-1226

Representative Alyce Clarke, Chairman
Jackson, MS (601) 354-5453

Senator Travis Little, Vice-Chairman
Corinth, MS (601) 286-3914

Senator William Canon, Secretary
Columbus, MS (601) 328-3018

Comparison of State Contract Prices with Retail Prices for Commodity Items

Introduction

Legislators and state agency personnel have often expressed concerns that agencies and governing authorities may not actually pay the lowest possible prices for commodities purchased through competitively bid state contracts. Some individuals contend that commodity items could be purchased at retail (“shelf”) prices lower than state contract prices.

Authority and Purpose

In response to a legislative request, PEER sought to determine whether state agencies or governing authorities could procure commodity items at retail prices lower than the Department of Finance and Administration’s competitively established state contract prices. The Committee acted in accordance with MISS. CODE ANN. Section 5-3-57 (1972).

Method

During the project, PEER:

- reviewed and analyzed state law and Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) purchasing policies;
- reviewed and analyzed DFA’s twenty-nine competitively bid state contracts for commodities;
- obtained retail prices for a sample of items for which there were competitively bid state contracts;
- interviewed the Director of the DFA Office of Purchasing and Travel; and,
- interviewed retail business owners and store managers.

Overview

For the thirty-four commodity items compared by PEER, the Department of Finance and Administration’s state contracts resulted in prices lower than retail “shelf” prices. For the items compared by PEER, state contract prices were lower

than retail prices for 93% of the pricing comparisons (758 of 816). Factors which give DFA's state contract prices an advantage over retail prices include:

- greater "market buying power" of the state through assurance of multiple purchasers;
- direct contracts with product manufacturers, thus reducing or eliminating wholesaler costs;
- contracts with specifications which require the item prices to include all freight, installation, transportation, or warranty costs; and,
- purchasing in bulk quantities (e.g., by the dozen, case, or thousand).

The commodity purchase provisions of MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (1972) differ for agencies and governing authorities, as defined in MISS. CODE ANN. Sections 31-7-1 (1972). While state agencies *must purchase* supplies and equipment at the contract price set by the Department of Finance and Administration's exclusive competitively bid contracts, state-funded local entities such as counties and school districts have greater flexibility. They *may purchase* either through the state contract or from local businesses under specified conditions. As a result, all Mississippi governmental organizations do not have the same degree of flexibility to obtain the lowest available price when purchasing commodities.

Background

State Procurement Policy

In its 1962 Regular Session, the Mississippi Legislature established the policy of state supervision over the procurement activities of state agencies, departments, and institutions. The Commission of Budget and Accounting, through a Division of Purchase Supervision, was the original responsible state entity. Between 1984 and 1990, the Legislature passed four government reorganization acts which changed the responsible state entity for this program management function, eventually to the Department of Finance and Administration. MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (5) (1972) states that this department shall:

- ensure that the state contract prices are the lowest and best prices available from any source offering that commodity at the same level of quality or service, utilizing reasonable DFA-established standards; and,
- be authorized and empowered to exempt certain commodities from the requirement that the lowest and best price be formally approved by a DFA order and placed on its minutes.

MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (5) (1972) further states that if DFA does not list an approved price for an item, the purchase of this item shall be made according to statutory bidding and licensing requirements. Therefore, state agencies and governing authorities must comply with state law for all purchases.

State Purchasing Laws for the Procurement of Commodities

Both an *agency* and a *governing authority*, as defined in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-1 (1972), must comply with the provisions for bid requirements, exceptions, and public auctions in MISS. CODE ANN. Sections 31-7-13 (1972). Section 31-7-1 defines these entities:

- *Agency*--any state board, commission, committee, council, university, department or unit thereof created by the Constitution or statutes if such board, commission, committee, council, university, department or unit or the head thereof is authorized to appoint subordinate staff by the Constitution or statute, except a legislative or judicial board, commission, committee, council, university, department or unit thereof; and,
- *Governing Authority*--board of supervisors, school district, public water supply district, master public water supply district, municipal public utility commission, municipality, port authority, public hospital, public library system, district attorney, school attendance officer and any

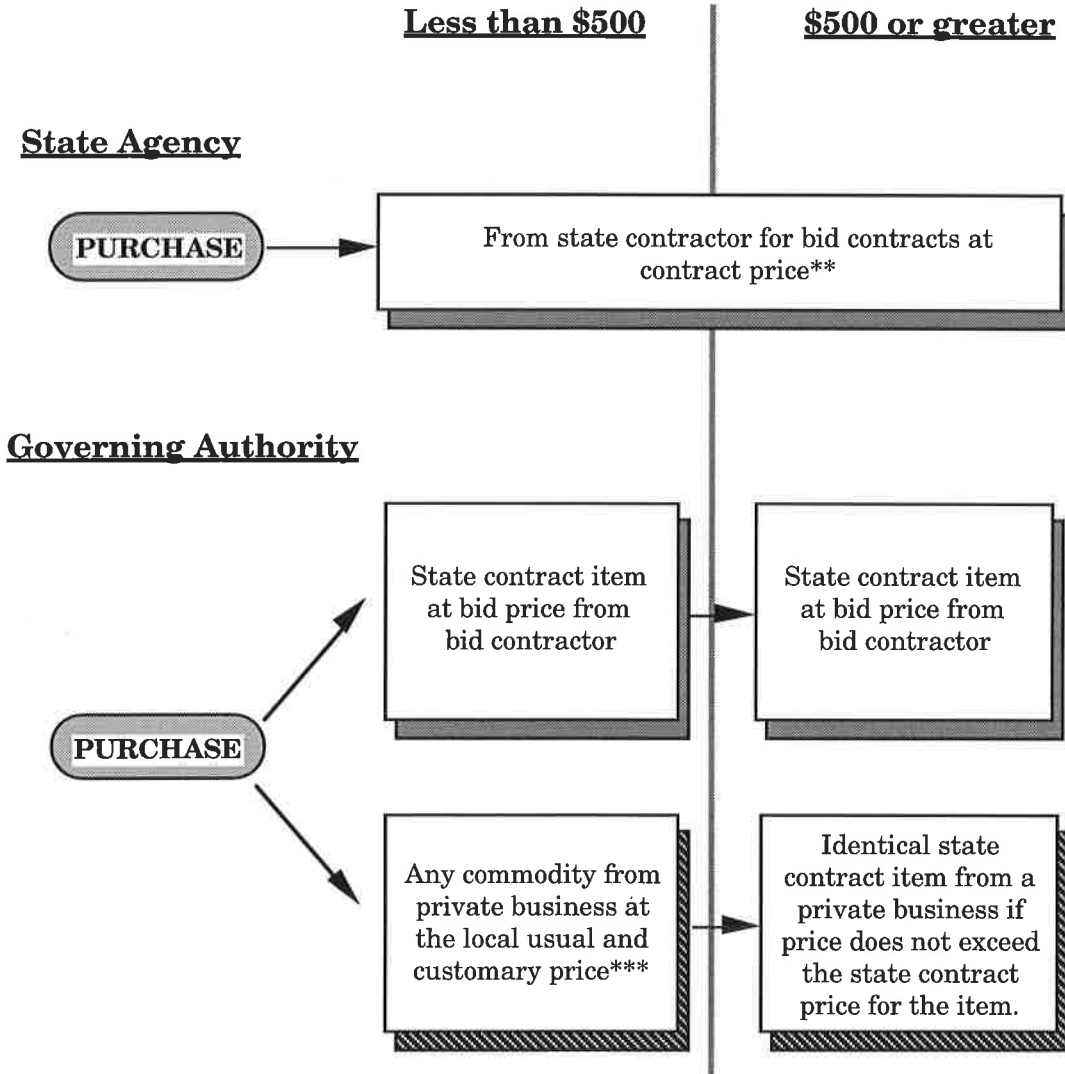
political subdivision of the state supported wholly or in part by public funds of the state or political subdivisions thereof, including commissions, boards, and agencies created or operated under the authority of any county or municipality of this state.

The provisions for commodity purchases in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (1972) differ for state agencies and governing authorities. As a result, all state-funded entities do not have the same degree of flexibility to obtain the lowest available price when purchasing commodities. As shown in Exhibit 1, page 5, the differences in the law are:

- an agency *must purchase* all commodities from the state contractor for the state competitive bid contracts at the contract price unless DFA either approves a single agency contract or a purchase exception outside the terms of this agreement. These exceptions occur when the state contract item either does not meet a justified agency need or the agency wants to buy an almost comparable item at a lower price than the state contract item at the state price;
- any governing authority *may purchase*:
 - *all commodities* on the state competitive bid contract at the contract price, regardless of the expenditure amount;
 - *any commodity* from a local business at its usual and customary price when the total expenditure is \$500 or less, exclusive of freight or shipping charges; and,
 - the *identical state contract commodity* from a local business at a price which does not exceed the state contract price when the total expenditure is \$500 or more, exclusive of freight or shipping charges. The governing authority does not have to obtain or advertise for competitive bids;
- a school district, which is a governing authority, *may purchase* commodities from contracts established by its levying authority if the authority established such contracts through the competitive bidding requirements of § 31-7-13.

Exhibit 1

**Differences in State Laws Governing Commodity Purchases
of State Contract Items for a State Agency versus
a Governing Authority***



* Does not include extraordinary purchases such as sole source or emergency purchases.

** Does not include purchase exceptions or purchases from a DFA-approved individual state agency contract.

*** A school district (governing authority) may purchase from a competitively bid private business contract of a local tax levying authority.

SOURCE: Compiled from MISS. CODE. ANN. (1972) Section 31-7-12 and the *Department of Finance and Administration Procurement Manual*.

Department of Finance and Administration Purchasing Responsibilities

The *DFA Procurement Manual* sets forth laws, regulations, policies, and procedures to implement the state purchasing statutes in Title 31, Chapter 7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, ANNOTATED. These laws govern the purchase, lease, or rent of *commodities*, defined in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-1 (e) as the goods, merchandise, furniture equipment, automotive equipment, and other personal property purchased by agencies and governing authorities for non-resale purposes.

MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-104-7 (1972) establishes the Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB) and assigns to it the responsibilities and powers over the commodity, equipment, and furniture purchase program of any agency, as defined in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-1 (1972). The board membership includes the DFA Executive Director, the Director of the DFA Office of Budget and Policy Development, and an employee of the DFA Office of General Services who is familiar with the state purchasing laws. Their responsibilities and powers include:

- supervision of purchases, lease-purchases, leases, and rentals of any commodities or equipment made or entered into by an agency;
- approval authority for all personal property sales or transfers. (Some statutory exemptions exist for the Department of Transportation and Central Data Processing Authority.);
- approval authority for all purchasing regulations governing the purchase or lease by any agency of commodities and equipment, except computer equipment acquired through the Central Data Processing Authority; and,
- adoption, at its discretion, of regulations to set aside at least five percent of anticipated annual expenditures for the purchase of commodities from minority business, as defined in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-104-7 (1972).

The PPRB accomplishes its day-to-day management and operational functions through the DFA Office of Purchasing and Travel, hereafter called the Office. Its responsibilities extend only to *agencies* due to the statutory exemptions for governing authorities in the state purchasing laws discussed on page 4. To accomplish these responsibilities in accordance with the state purchasing laws, PPRB delegates specific program management authority to the Office. See Exhibit 2, page 7.

Exhibit 2

Authority of the DFA Office of Purchasing and Travel

- Program Management
 - Approve non-state contract purchases over \$500
 - Approve purchases over \$5,000 except as allowed in law
 - Approve all rental, lease, or lease-purchase contracts except a short-term, daily rental (three days or less)
 - Approve all printing, binding, engraving, and lithographing services
 - Approve any individual agency commodity contracts
 - Distribute regularly all information pertinent to contracts, regulations, and other appropriate information

- Absolute Contracting Authority
 - Establish the product specifications and bid evaluation standards for any DFA contracted items
 - Establish state contracts on selected vehicles and other equipment
 - Regulate optional equipment allowed on state contract vehicles
 - Set the size standard of purchased vehicles, based on specific needs of the buying agency

- Discretionary Contracting Authority
 - Establish mandatory use *competitively bid state contracts* for any state agency commodity, unless exempted by DFA
 - Establish *non-exclusive negotiated contracts* with multiple vendors for optional agency purchases

SOURCE: The *DFA Procurement Manual*, July 1, 1993, Chapter 2.

DFA State Commodity Contracts

The Office establishes two types of agreements to help achieve the statutory intent of obtaining the lowest and best prices available from any source offering that commodity at the same level of quality or service:

- *Competitively Bid Contracts*--The Office of Purchasing and Travel establishes these contracts through statewide solicitations for sealed competitive bids to determine which in-state or out-of-state business can provide the item(s) in the bid specifications at the lowest and best price. The successful bidder for an item becomes the exclusive supplier of this item for the contract period. The length of these contracts usually ranges from six to twelve months, normally with a renewal clause for one year. Market factors such as product shortages or price volatility can produce a shorter contract period. The state currently has twenty-nine classes of commodities under these contracts.
- *Negotiated Agreements*--The Office of Purchasing and Travel establishes these contracts through the evaluation of voluntary business proposals to the state. The Office evaluates them and awards non-exclusive contracts to businesses whose prices are "competitive." These contracts only serve to establish a maximum price that can be paid for any item covered by the contract and do not preclude further downward negotiations by the buying agency and/or the Office if the volume of a purchase so dictates. The length of these contracts usually covers a twelve-month period, with renegotiations for each successive twelve-month period. The state currently has nineteen classes of commodities with this type of contract.

In accordance with its responsibilities as outlined in Exhibit 2, the Office notifies state agencies of these contracts and provides updated information on a regular basis. It publishes the *Index List of Commodities* (an annual document briefly discussing each type of contractual agreement and open-market purchases and listing the commodity class and items covered by each type of purchase) and *Purchasing Notes* (a monthly newsletter which provides state agencies and governing authorities with current information about state purchasing plus state contracts and agreements).

Results of PEER's Pricing Comparison

Pricing Comparison Method

In conducting its pricing comparison, PEER sought to determine whether state agencies or governing authorities could procure commodity items at retail prices lower than DFA's state contract prices. PEER selected thirty-four commodity items from eleven of DFA's twenty-nine 1995 competitively bid contracts. The items selected had high purchase volume and included automotive batteries; computer accessories and supplies; paper and writing supplies; office equipment and supplies; and tires and tubes.

PEER obtained twenty-four retail prices for each of the thirty-four state contract items resulting in 816 separate pricing comparisons (six retail prices per contract item from each of four geographic regions). PEER obtained these prices from specialty and discount stores (e.g., Kmart, Sears, Wal-Mart, Sam's, electrical companies, office supply companies, and tire dealers) located in fifteen municipalities within DFA's four purchasing districts. Exhibit 3, page 10, illustrates DFA's purchasing districts, identifies municipalities from which PEER obtained price comparisons, and presents the number of prices obtained.

Conclusion

For the thirty-four commodity items compared by PEER, the Department of Finance and Administration's state contracts resulted in prices lower than retail prices. As illustrated in Exhibit 4, page 11, for the thirty-four commodity items compared by PEER, state contract prices were lower than retail prices for 93% of the pricing comparisons (758 of 816). The percent savings provided by state contracts as compared to retail prices for the thirty-four commodity items ranged from 10% to 100%. Only in fifty-eight (7%) of PEER's pricing comparisons were retail prices equal to or lower than DFA state contract prices. Sixty percent of the fifty-eight items with prices equal to or lower than state contract prices provided savings of 10% or less. PEER obtained most of the equal to or lower retail prices in specialty-type stores with statewide distribution, such as Mississippi Office Supply Company.

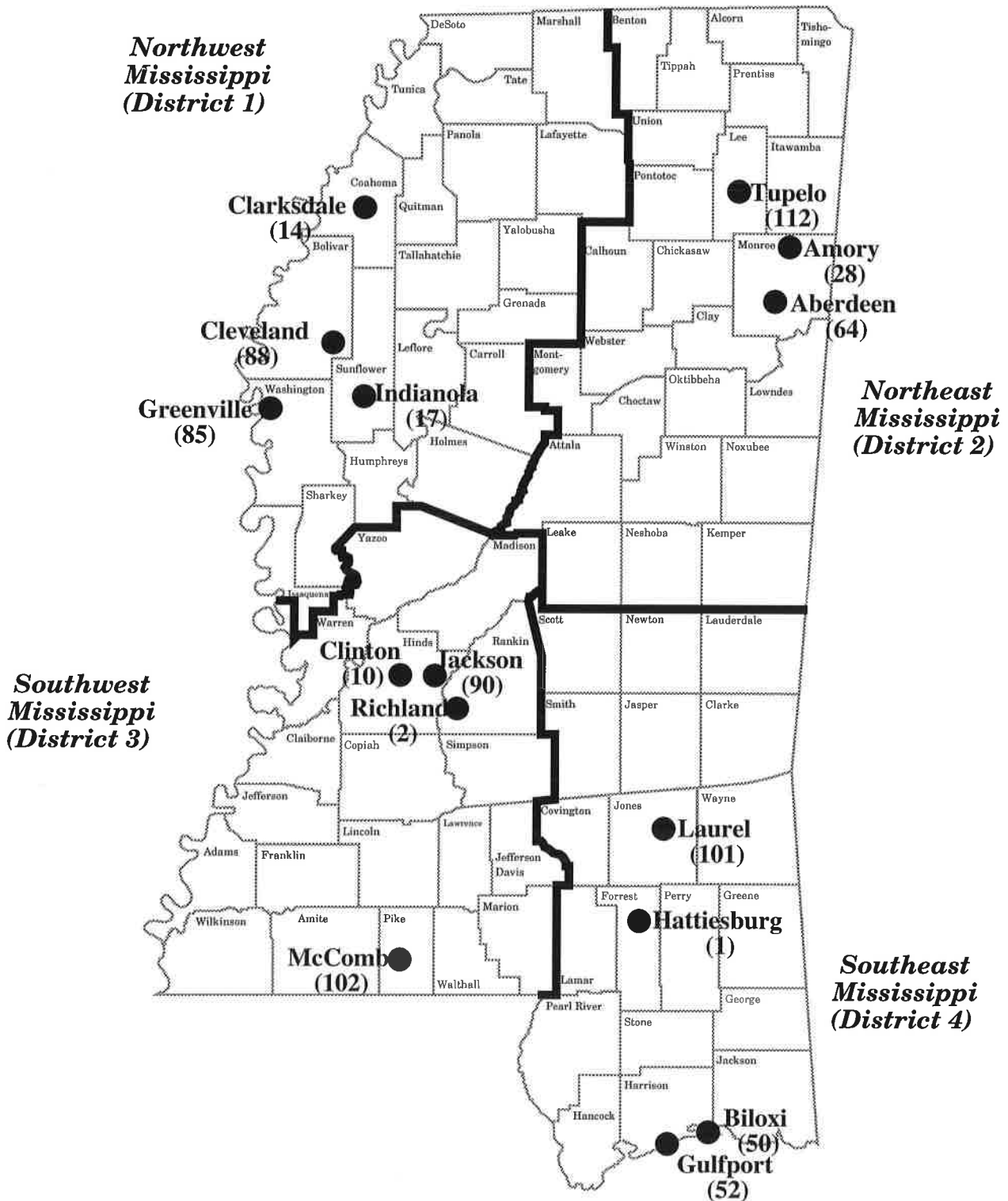
Exhibit 5, page 12, presents the savings percentages resulting from the state contracting for the thirty-four items compared by PEER. Exhibit 6, page 13, presents the state contract prices and minimum and maximum retail prices obtained by PEER. The Appendix, page 16, presents results of PEER's 816 pricing comparisons.

Factors which give DFA's state contract prices an advantage over retail prices include:

- greater "market buying power" of the state through assurance of multiple purchasers;

Exhibit 3

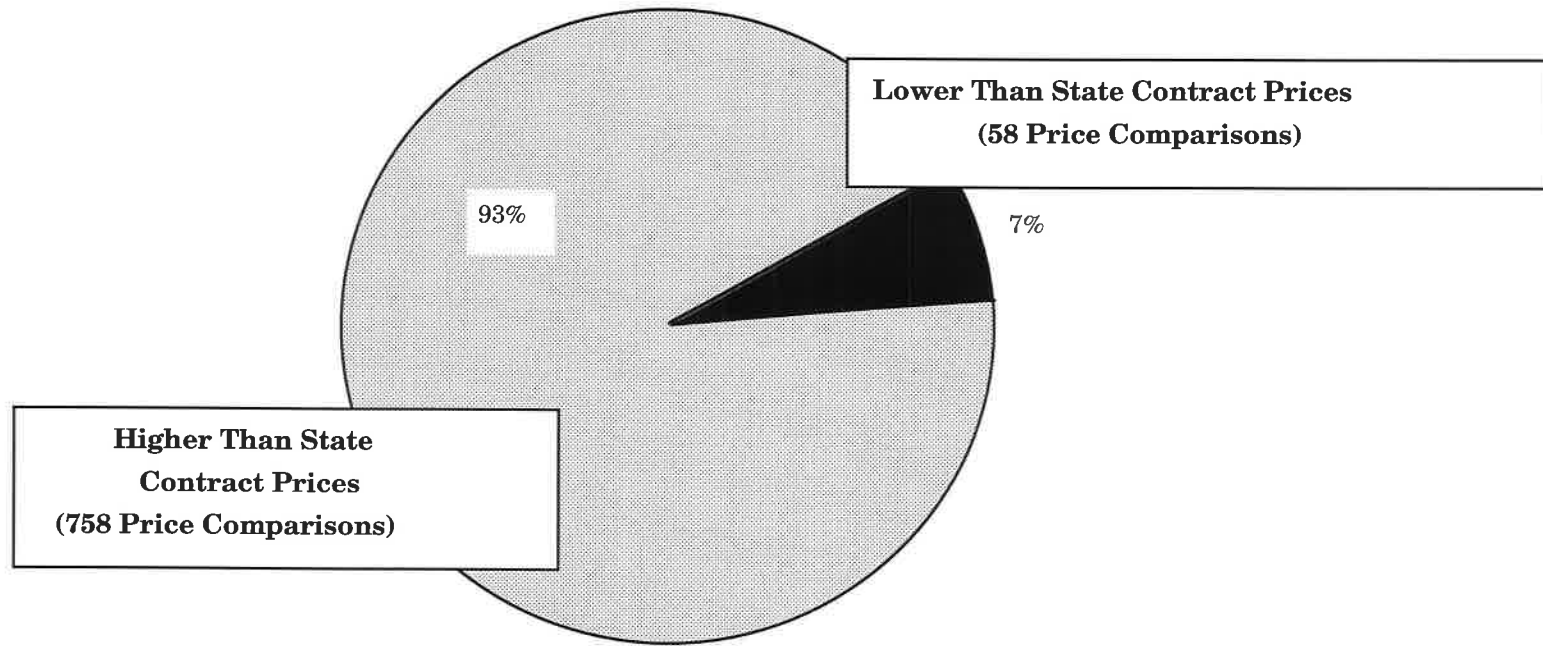
PEER Statewide Survey Locations and Number of Obtained Prices



SOURCE: Department of Finance and Administration and PEER Survey

Exhibit 4

**Outcome of 816* Price Comparisons: State Contract Price
vs. Retail "Shelf" Price**

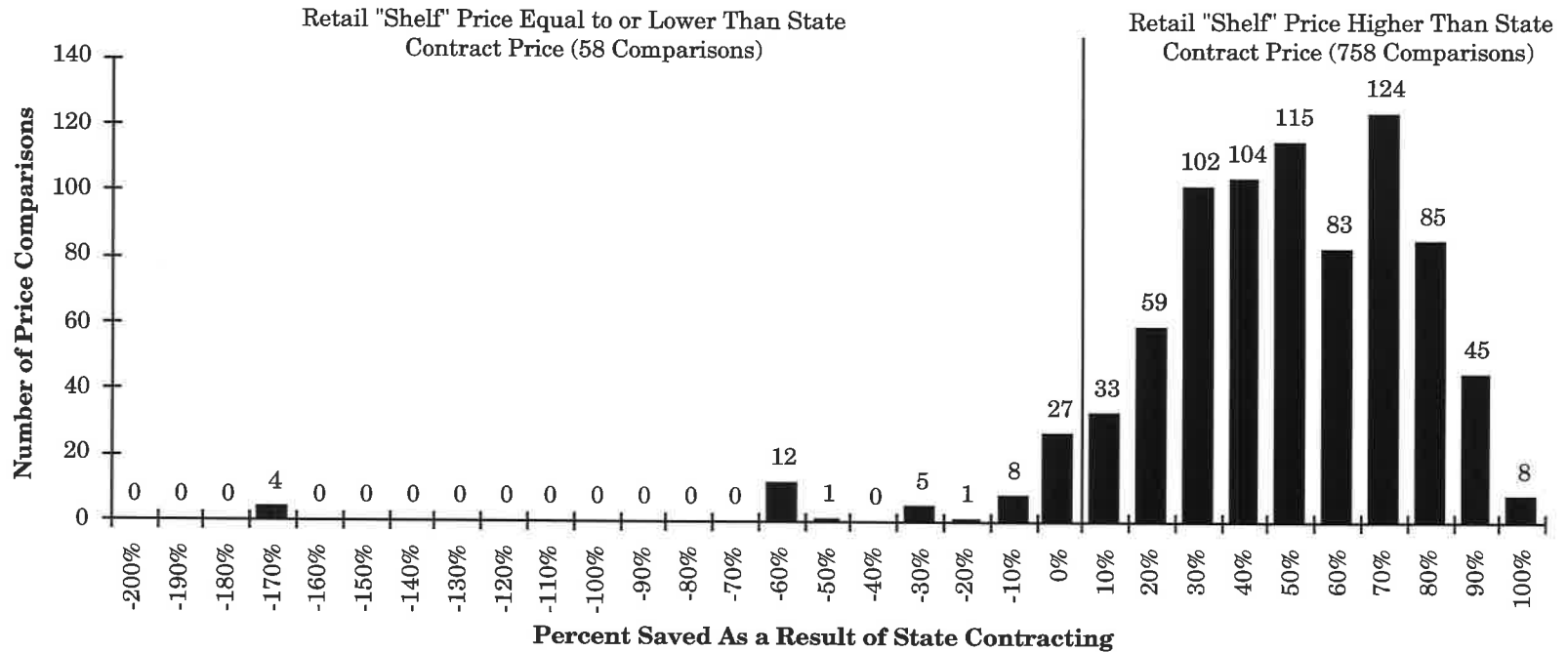


* PEER compared 24 retail "shelf" prices with the state contract price for each of 34 commodity items.

SOURCE: PEER on-site survey.

Exhibit 5

Percent Saved As a Result of State Contracting in 816 Price Comparisons (24 Retail "Shelf" Prices Compared to State Contract Price for Each of 34 Commodity Items)



SOURCE: PEER On-site survey.

Exhibit 6

Commodity Items for Which PEER Obtained Unit Price Comparisons

Item Description	State Contract Price	Retail "Shelf" Prices	
		<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
12-volt battery, 535 cranking amps	\$23.00	\$31.26	\$79.95
12-volt battery, 430 cranking amps	21.60	33.49	68.95
12-volt battery, 750 cranking amps	29.00	41.37	84.95
radial passenger tire	41.71	39.89	99.99
police radial tire	46.25	49.76	154.60
light truck tire	51.44	52.44	112.99
medium truck/bus tire	144.51	121.96	270.50
medium truck/bus tube	11.71	9.20	20.96
laser printer toner cartridge	65.65	65.92	135.00
Maxell computer floppy disk	3.69	3.65	17.37
Sony computer floppy disk	4.89	4.70	18.95
cool white electrical lamp, 34-watt	0.70	0.88	3.80
electric lamp, 60-watt	0.24	0.15	1.36
ballasts	7.19	9.99	26.95
electronic desktop calculator	74.97	99.95	209.00
envelopes	8.45	6.09	25.11
staple remover	0.22	0.25	1.28
executive office stapler	6.82	5.16	24.95
adding machine paper	0.26	0.33	1.06
paper clips	0.08	0.08	2.50
staples	1.49	1.68	5.19
mechanical pencil lead	0.32	0.27	2.30
wood cased pencil	0.54	0.54	8.40
ball point pen	0.65	0.73	11.88
roller ball point pen	2.90	2.88	16.68
dry erase marker	2.72	2.75	12.69
highlighter marker	1.79	1.99	13.44
permanent marker pen	5.82	2.09	15.48
watermarked No. 1 bond paper	5.60	6.59	78.40
No. 4 bond paper, letter size	4.90	2.95	20.60
No. 4 bond paper, legal size	6.23	3.84	26.18
No. 4 xerographic paper	5.46	3.41	13.94
mending transparent tape	0.47	0.65	3.13
general purpose masking tape	0.52	0.53	5.25

SOURCE: PEER pricing comparisons.

- direct contracts with product manufacturers, thus reducing or eliminating wholesaler costs;
- contracts with specifications which require the item prices to include all freight, installation, transportation, or warranty costs; and,
- purchasing in bulk quantities (e.g., by the dozen, case, or thousand).

The reader should note that retail prices obtained by PEER represent only the prices available for the thirty-four items in selected retail stores on the particular days surveyed by PEER. Due to the volatile and competitive nature of retail pricing, it is possible that state agencies and governing authorities could obtain retail prices lower than state contract prices. However, based on PEER's pricing comparisons, it is not likely that state agencies or governing authorities would obtain retail prices lower than state contract prices to any significant degree.

PEER's pricing comparisons also illustrate that state agencies, which are bound by DFA's exclusive state contracts, could possibly locate lower retail prices if they had the same purchasing flexibility afforded to governing authorities.

Recommendation

Using the experience and resident expertise of its staff, the Department of Finance and Administration should submit a written report to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee no later than December 1, 1995, addressing whether the Legislature should amend MISS. CODE ANN. Section 31-7-12 (1972) to eliminate differences in purchasing requirements for state agencies and governing authorities.

Appendix *

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District I				Cleveland & Clarksdale			Greenville & Indianola		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
1	GNB Automotive Battery, 550 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 535 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	\$23.00	\$37.94	\$76.99	\$79.95	\$49.97	\$37.84	\$59.99
2	GNB Automotive Battery, 450 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 430 Cold Cranking Amps, 50 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	21.60	37.84	66.99	59.95	39.99	35.84	39.99
3	GNB Automotive Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	29.00	49.96	57.96	76.99	69.97	47.96	49.99
4	General Tire, Ameri Tech 4, P235/75R15, 0037668 (Each Price)	Radial Passenger Tire, All Season Tread, Whitewall, Polyester, Steel Belts, Standard Load	41.71	42.99	55.46	72.12	54.49	57.50	53.95
5	General Tire, XP2000 AS, P225/70HR15, 0033723 (Each Price)	Police Radial Tire, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Polyester, Steel Belts (Minimum Law Enforcement Certification: 50 Miles @ 130 MPH)	46.25	64.99	73.89	154.60	85.63	151.99	82.95
6	Goodyear Workhorse Rib, 7.50-16, D8, 312-099-090 (Each Price)	Light Truck Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Nylon or Polyester, Tubeless, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	51.44	100.00	79.66	99.95	79.17	88.99	91.39
7	Goodyear, Custom Xtra Grip Hi-Miler, 10.00-20, F12, 122-252-620 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Mud & Snow Tread, Nylon, Tube Type, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	144.51	143.00	246.01	253.95	170.69	253.95	180.21
8	Firestone Transport, 10.00-R20, 512-257 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tube, Heavy Duty, Black, Butyl, For Flat Base Rims, Radial	11.71	14.89	20.96	12.50	14.50	15.11	9.20
9	Canon R640002 or Hewlett Packard 92295A (Each Price)	Laser Printer Toner Cartridge For Canon SX Engine, Model R640002 SX	65.65	130.00	84.00	107.00	130.00	65.95	85.49
10	Maxell (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/DD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 1.0 MB, 10 Per Box	3.69	6.97	17.37	11.78	5.97	15.73	3.65
11	Sony (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/HD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 2 MB, 10 Per Box	4.89	6.97	18.95	11.96	9.99	6.97	4.70
12	Sylvania F40 CW/SS/30 34 Watt (low) Electric Lamp, Fluorescent Light Bulb (Each Price)	F40 CW/SS 34 Watt (low), Cool White Electrical Lamp, 30 Per Package	0.70	2.24	1.26	1.76	2.24	0.88	1.15
13	Sylvania 60A (Each Price)	60A, 60 Watt, 130 Volt Electric Lamp, Inside Frosted, 120 Per Package	0.24	0.34	0.66	0.46	0.34	1.31	0.36
14	Universal Model (2) (Each Price)	Model (2) F40T12/RS Ballasts, 430 M.A., 120 Volts/60 Hz	7.19	9.99	11.13	14.67	12.50	13.10	16.08
15	Monroe Electronic Desktop Calculator, 122PD (Each Price)	Electronic Desktop Calculator, Ribbon Type Printer, Minimum Speed-4.0 Lines Per Second	74.97	169.00	209.00	160.00	156.75	139.95	133.43
16	No. 10 National Envelopes, 9 1/2" x 4 1/8" (Price - Per 1000 Envelopes)	Envelopes, No. 10, 24 Lbs. , 500 Per Box, 5 Boxes Per Carton	8.45	11.88	11.26	9.90	24.31	6.09	14.00
17	Charles Leonard Staple Remover, Omni 0608-2, 8 In. (Each Price)	8 In. Staple Remover	0.22	0.97	0.99	1.10	1.28	0.25	0.45
18	Bates Office Executive Stapler, Black, N9500D-BK (Each Price)	Office Executive Stapler, Black	6.82	17.81	22.46	15.00	21.21	12.50	5.16

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

*Appendix **

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District I				Cleveland & Clarksdale			Greenville & Indianola		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
19	PMC Adding Machine Paper, 2-1/4 In., 7786 (Price Per Roll)	Adding Machine Paper, White, Premium Grade, Lint Free, At Least 160 FT Per Roll	\$0.26	\$0.35	\$0.65	\$0.65	\$0.35	\$0.37	\$0.56
20	Officemate Paper Clips (OFMPC1), (Price Per Box)	Paper Clips, Regular Lite Wire, Size 1, 100 Per Box	0.08	0.82	0.32	0.28	0.58	0.08	0.11
21	ACCO Staples (35450) (Price Per Box)	Staples, 1/4 In., Premium Grade, 5000 Per Box	1.49	1.95	1.88	2.14	1.90	2.19	2.09
22	Pentel C505 .5MM Point, Hi-Polmer Extra Strong, 60 MM Length (Price Per Tube)	Mechanical Pencil Refill Lead	0.32	1.36	2.30	1.00	1.36	0.27	0.59
23	Eberhard-Faber Castell 12201, No. 2, Made of 60% Recyclable Products (Price Per Dozen)	Wood Cased Pencil, Thin Black Lead, First Grade (For Accounting Use)	0.54	2.64	2.96	1.05	2.25	0.54	0.70
24	Scripto S700MBK, Black Medium Point (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Ball Point Pens Without Eraser, Plastic Barrel	0.65	10.44	3.06	11.88	1.04	0.73	1.05
25	BIC REBID, Black Ink, .4-.5MM Point Diameter or Line Width Max. (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Roller Ball Point Pens, Plastic Barrel, Cap With Metal Pocket Clip	2.90	8.28	3.06	15.48	15.20	2.88	7.08
26	Pentech (N-51008) (Price Per Set)	Dry Erase Marker for Use on Whiteboards, Set of Eight Colors, Broad Tip	2.72	8.16	5.40	8.76	4.50	2.75	6.98
27	Berol 7600 Series, Slim Pocket Size, Yellow (Price Per Dozen)	Highlighter Markers, Broad Tip, Washable Ink, Approx. 5.50 Inch Container With Cap	1.79	13.44	11.76	10.68	8.06	1.99	5.88
28	Sanford 30001, Black Ink (Price Per Dozen)	Permanent Marker Pens W/Plastic Cap/Clip, Slim Barrel, Plastic Fiber Tip, Fine Point	5.82	7.44	11.16	13.08	11.12	2.09	5.88
29	Badger Tanonka, 251,000 to 1,750,000 Sheets (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	Watermarked No. 1 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.60	10.17	58.00	36.00	13.50	10.30	6.59
30	A to Z Premium, 1,000 to 251,000 Sheets (Price - Per 1,000 Sheet Sets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	4.90	13.30	10.00	11.34	11.55	2.95	6.40
31	A to Z Premium (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 14 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	6.23	16.90	13.00	18.00	14.55	3.84	9.80
32	Hammermill Tidal DP 16200-8 (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Xerographic Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.46	13.94	13.30	10.00	9.97	3.41	12.76
33	3M Scotch Tape, 3/4 Inch x 1296 Inch Roll W/O Dispenser, 810-34-1296 (Price Per Roll)	Mending Transparent Tape, Etched Acetate Film, Pressure Sensitive, 3M Only	0.47	1.24	1.92	2.12	1.24	1.41	1.30
34	3M, 1 Inch Wide (2312-1) (Price Per Roll)	General Purpose Masking Tape, 60 Yard Roll, 3M Only	0.52	1.47	5.25	3.60	1.37	0.53	2.81

SOURCE: PEER field survey.

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

Appendix *

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District II				Aberdeen & Amory			Tupelo		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
1	GNB Automotive Battery, 550 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 535 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	\$23.00	\$62.00	\$37.84	\$40.66	\$37.84	\$59.99	\$64.95
2	GNB Automotive Battery, 450 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 430 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	21.60	50.00	37.95	37.84	45.95	59.99	63.95
3	GNB Automotive Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	29.00	76.00	47.95	54.35	47.96	79.99	84.95
4	General Tire, Ameri Tech 4, P235/75R15, 0037668 (Each Price)	Radial Passenger Tire, All Season Tread, Whitewall, Polyester, Steel Belts, Standard Load	41.71	60.00	68.96	67.95	49.99	50.13	99.99
5	General Tire, XP2000 AS, P225/70HR15, 0033723 (Each Price)	Police Radial Tire, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Polyester, Steel Belts (Minimum Law Enforcement Certification: 50 Miles @ 130 MPH)	46.25	80.00	88.95	80.91	89.99	49.76	96.99
6	Goodyear Workhorse Rib, 7.50-16, D8, 312-099-090 (Each Price)	Light Truck Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Nylon or Polyester, Tubeless, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	51.44	75.00	109.46	89.16	105.99	52.44	112.99
7	Goodyear, Custom Xtra Grip Hi-Miler, 10.00-20, F12, 122-252-620 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Mud & Snow Tread, Nylon, Tube Type, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	144.51	155.00	221.58	199.99	145.51	194.89	215.04
8	Firestone Transport, 10.00-R20, 512-257 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tube, Heavy Duty, Black, Butyl, For Flat Base Rims, Radial	11.71	14.00	12.50	14.99	12.50	15.53	18.50
9	Canon R640002 or Hewlett Packard 92295A (Each Price)	Laser Printer Toner Cartridge For Canon SX Engine, Model R640002 SX	65.65	135.00	96.30	75.85	79.99	75.85	78.50
10	Maxell (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/DD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 1.0 MB, 10 Per Box	3.69	5.97	13.70	13.40	5.77	9.59	7.00
11	Sony (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/HD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 2 MB, 10 Per Box	4.89	6.97	12.90	13.41	6.97	10.95	6.75
12	Sylvania F40 CW/SS/30 34 Watt (low) Electric Lamp, Fluorescent Light Bulb (Each Price)	F40 CW/SS 34 Watt (low), Cool White Electrical Lamp, 30 Per Package	0.70	2.24	2.95	1.24	2.24	1.92	1.69
13	Sylvania 60A (Each Price)	60A, 60 Watt, 130 Volt Electric Lamp, Inside Frosted, 120 Per Package	0.24	0.46	0.52	0.44	0.34	0.15	0.30
14	Universal Model (2) (Each Price)	Model (2) F40T12/RS Ballasts, 430 M.A., 120 Volts/60 Hz	7.19	19.89	26.95	15.50	14.98	15.50	15.95
15	Monroe Electronic Desktop Calculator, 122PD (Each Price)	Electronic Desktop Calculator, Ribbon Type Printer, Minimum Speed-4.0 Lines Per Second	74.97	209.00	116.10	119.50	178.00	154.25	119.50
16	No. 10 National Envelopes, 9 1/2" x 4 1/8" (Price - Per 1000 Envelopes)	Envelopes, No. 10, 24 Lbs. , 500 Per Box, 5 Boxes Per Carton	8.45	13.84	15.50	25.11	13.84	17.00	12.50
17	Charles Leonard Staple Remover, Omni 0608-2, 8 In. (Each Price)	8 In. Staple Remover	0.22	0.97	1.10	1.25	0.97	0.55	0.35
18	Bates Office Executive Stapler, Black, N9500D-BK (Each Price)	Office Executive Stapler, Black	6.82	24.95	16.97	19.96	7.96	19.96	13.10

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

*Appendix **

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District II				Aberdeen & Amory			Tupelo		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
19	PMC Adding Machine Paper, 2-1/4 In., 7786 (Price Per Roll)	Adding Machine Paper, White, Premium Grade, Lint Free, At Least 160 FT Per Roll	\$0.26	\$0.35	\$0.83	\$1.06	\$0.35	\$0.48	\$0.35
20	Officemate Paper Clips (OFMPC1), (Price Per Box)	Paper Clips, Regular Lite Wire, Size 1, 100 Per Box	0.08	0.29	2.50	0.27	0.41	0.16	0.15
21	ACCO Staples (35450) (Price Per Box)	Staples, 1/4 In., Premium Grade, 5000 Per Box	1.49	5.19	2.79	2.44	2.44	2.79	1.75
22	Pentel C505 .5MM Point, Hi-Polmer, Extra Strong, 60 MM Length (Price Per Tube)	Mechanical Pencil Refill Lead	0.32	1.36	1.00	1.65	1.36	0.80	0.50
23	Eberhard-Faber Castell 12201, No. 2, Made of 60% Recyclable Products (Price Per Dozen)	Wood Cased Pencil, Thin Black Lead, First Grade (For Accounting Use)	0.54	0.99	8.40	2.07	0.99	1.85	0.90
24	Scripto S700MBK, Black Medium Point (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Ball Point Pens Without Eraser, Plastic Barrel	0.65	1.04	4.80	1.50	1.04	1.25	1.80
25	BIC REBID, Black Ink, 4-.5MM Point Diameter or Line Width Max. (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Roller Ball Point Pens, Plastic Barrel, Cap With Metal Pocket Clip	2.90	8.28	16.68	10.59	8.28	13.34	6.00
26	Pentech (N-51008) (Price Per Set)	Dry Erase Marker for Use on Whiteboards, Set of Eight Colors, Broad Tip	2.72	5.14	12.69	12.30	7.94	10.15	7.00
27	Berol 7600 Series, Slim Pocket Size, Yellow (Price Per Dozen)	Highlighter Markers, Broad Tip, Washable Ink, Approx. 5.50 Inch Container With Cap	1.79	6.96	9.48	9.00	6.72	6.95	6.00
28	Sanford 30001, Black Ink (Price Per Dozen)	Permanent Marker Pens W/Plastic Cap/Clip, Slim Barrel, Plastic Fiber Tip, Fine Point	5.82	8.16	15.48	5.10	8.76	9.80	6.36
29	Badger Tanonka, 251,000 to 1,750,000 Sheets (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	Watermarked No. 1 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.60	35.90	35.10	21.00	30.17	21.00	30.16
30	A to Z Premium, 1,000 to 251,000 Sheets (Price - Per 1,000 Sheet Sets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	4.90	7.65	6.00	6.48	6.48	6.00	7.70
31	A to Z Premium (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 14 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	6.23	8.64	8.40	9.78	9.78	8.40	9.80
32	Hammermill Tidal DP 16200-8 (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Xerographic Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.46	7.86	7.00	7.65	6.26	7.00	6.55
33	3M Scotch Tape, 3/4 Inch x 1296 Inch Roll W/O Dispenser, 810-34-1296 (Price Per Roll)	Mending Transparent Tape, Etched Acetate Film, Pressure Sensitive, 3M Only	0.47	1.32	3.13	2.26	1.32	1.79	0.65
34	3M , 1 Inch Wide (2312-1) (Price Per Roll)	General Purpose Masking Tape, 60 Yard Roll, 3M Only	0.52	1.37	1.95	5.16	2.70	2.70	1.72

SOURCE: PEER field survey.

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

Appendix *

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District III				Jackson Area			McComb		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
1	GNB Automotive Battery, 550 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 535 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	\$23.00	\$39.97	\$47.96	\$31.26	\$37.84	\$69.95	\$63.00
2	GNB Automotive Battery, 450 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 430 Cold Cranking Amps, 50 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	21.60	34.99	37.84	33.49	59.95	52.00	68.95
3	GNB Automotive Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	29.00	69.99	57.96	41.37	47.96	79.95	83.00
4	General Tire, Ameri Tech 4, P235/75R15, 0037668 (Each Price)	Radial Passenger Tire, All Season Tread, Whitewall, Polyester, Steel Belts, Standard Load	41.71	39.89	49.97	39.96	72.64	46.58	39.95
5	General Tire, XP2000 AS, P225/70HR15, 0033723 (Each Price)	Police Radial Tire, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Polyester, Steel Belts (Minimum Law Enforcement Certification: 50 Miles @ 130 MPH)	46.25	69.34	101.97	62.96	81.13	99.92	104.64
6	Goodyear Workhorse Rib, 7.50-16, DB, 312-099-090 (Each Price)	Light Truck Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Nylon or Polyester, Tubeless, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	51.44	82.64	84.96	59.19	99.95	89.95	65.00
7	Goodyear, Custom Xtra Grip Hi-Miler, 10.00-20, F12, 122-252-620 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Mud & Snow Tread, Nylon, Tube Type, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	144.51	121.96	253.95	220.00	185.55	233.95	216.09
8	Firestone Transport, 10.00-R20, 512-257 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tube, Heavy Duty, Black, Butyl, For Flat Base Rims, Radial	11.71	19.00	17.00	18.14	13.85	10.87	12.00
9	Canon R640002 or Hewlett Packard 92295A (Each Price)	Laser Printer Toner Cartridge For Canon SX Engine, Model R640002 SX	65.65	84.99	65.95	66.78	85.60	86.20	66.91
10	Maxell (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/DD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 1.0 MB, 10 Per Box	3.69	6.49	5.97	3.65	5.97	12.34	6.19
11	Sony (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/HD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 2 MB, 10 Per Box	4.89	5.99	4.70	4.66	6.97	15.16	7.69
12	Sylvania F40 CW/SS/30 34 Watt (low) Electric Lamp, Fluorescent Light Bulb (Each Price)	F40 CW/SS 34 Watt (low), Cool White Electrical Lamp, 30 Per Package	0.70	0.90	2.24	3.80	2.74	2.70	3.80
13	Sylvania 60A (Each Price)	60A, 60 Watt, 130 Volt Electric Lamp, Inside Frosted, 120 Per Package	0.24	0.20	0.29	0.25	0.34	0.60	0.88
14	Universal Model (2) (Each Price)	Model (2) F40T12/RS Ballasts, 430 M.A., 120 Volts/60 Hz	7.19	18.08	23.00	20.60	12.50	14.50	12.00
15	Monroe Electronic Desktop Calculator, 122PD (Each Price)	Electronic Desktop Calculator, Ribbon Type Printer, Minimum Speed-4.0 Lines Per Second	74.97	167.20	167.20	167.20	167.20	169.00	189.00
16	No. 10 National Envelopes, 9 1/2" x 4 1/8" (Price - Per 1000 Envelopes)	Envelopes, No. 10, 24 Lbs., 500 Per Box, 5 Boxes Per Carton	8.45	8.98	9.70	6.09	11.88	7.34	12.78
17	Charles Leonard Staple Remover, Omni 0608-2, 8 In. (Each Price)	8 In. Staple Remover	0.22	0.69	0.78	0.25	0.97	0.88	0.49
18	Bates Office Executive Stapler, Black, N9500D-BK (Each Price)	Office Executive Stapler, Black	6.82	10.99	8.96	12.50	7.96	19.96	10.99

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

*Appendix **

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District III				Jackson Area			McComb		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
19	PMC Adding Machine Paper, 2-1/4 In., 7786 (Price Per Roll)	Adding Machine Paper, White, Premium Grade, Lint Free, At Least 160 FT Per Roll	\$0.26	\$0.33	\$0.49	\$0.37	\$0.52	\$0.86	\$0.83
20	Officemate Paper Clips (OFMPC1), (Price Per Box)	Paper Clips, Regular Lite Wire, Size I, 100 Per Box	0.08	0.10	0.40	0.08	0.41	0.36	0.18
21	ACCO Staples (35450) (Price Per Box)	Staples, 1/4 In., Premium Grade, 5000 Per Box	1.49	2.79	1.89	2.44	2.55	2.00	3.49
22	Pentel C505 .5MM Point, Hi-Polmer, Extra Strong, 60 MM Length (Price Per Tube)	Mechanical Pencil Refill Lead	0.32	0.66	0.49	0.27	1.36	0.80	0.55
23	Eberhard-Faber Castell 12201, No. 2, Made of 60% Recyclable Products (Price Per Dozen)	Wood Cased Pencil, Thin Black Lead, First Grade (For Accounting Use)	0.54	0.75	1.00	0.54	1.49	2.80	2.29
24	Scripto S700MBK, Black Medium Point (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Ball Point Pens Without Eraser, Plastic Barrel	0.65	0.88	1.16	0.73	1.04	2.88	1.25
25	BIC REBID, Black Ink, .4-.5MM Point Diameter or Line Width Max. (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Roller Ball Point Pens, Plastic Barrel, Cap With Metal Pocket Clip	2.90	5.99	7.13	2.88	8.28	13.34	8.28
26	Pentech (N-51008) (Price Per Set)	Dry Erase Marker for Use on Whiteboards, Set of Eight Colors, Broad Tip	2.72	7.95	7.94	2.75	7.94	10.36	9.30
27	Berol 7600 Series, Slim Pocket Size, Yellow (Price Per Dozen)	Highlighter Markers, Broad Tip, Washable Ink, Approx. 5.50 Inch Container With Cap	1.79	4.96	4.50	1.99	5.09	7.58	10.68
28	Sanford 30001, Black Ink (Price Per Dozen)	Permanent Marker Pens W/Plastic Cap/Clip, Slim Barrel, Plastic Fiber Tip, Fine Point	5.82	7.39	7.41	2.09	7.58	11.04	7.80
29	Badger Tanonka, 251,000 to 1,750,000 Sheets (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	Watermarked No. 1 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.60	31.00	6.59	34.48	78.40	28.56	26.00
30	A to Z Premium, 1,000 to 251,000 Sheets (Price - Per 1,000 Sheet Sets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	4.90	6.99	2.95	7.50	12.14	6.79	10.67
31	A to Z Premium (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 14 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	6.23	16.14	3.84	10.50	12.50	8.99	12.67
32	Hammermill Tidal DP 16200-8 (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Xerographic Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.46	6.60	5.92	3.41	6.26	13.20	8.52
33	3M Scotch Tape, 3/4 Inch x 1296 Inch Roll W/O Dispenser, 810-34-1296 (Price Per Roll)	Mending Transparent Tape, Etched Acetate Film, Pressure Sensitive, 3M Only	0.47	1.44	1.99	1.41	1.32	2.41	1.79
34	3M , 1 Inch Wide (2312-1) (Price Per Roll)	General Purpose Masking Tape, 60 Yard Roll, 3M Only	0.52	2.81	1.49	0.53	1.37	1.64	1.49

SOURCE: PEER field survey.

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

Appendix *

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District IV				Biloxi & Gulfport Area			Laurel & Hattiesburg		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
1	GNB Automotive Battery, 550 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 535 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	\$23.00	\$37.84	\$60.00	\$37.84	\$39.97	\$37.84	\$59.99
2	GNB Automotive Battery, 450 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 430 Cold Cranking Amps, 50 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	21.60	55.00	54.95	37.84	39.97	37.84	39.99
3	GNB Automotive Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps (Each Price)	12 Volt Battery, 750 Cold Cranking Amps, 60 Month Warranty, Free Installation @ Dealer Locations	29.00	59.96	80.00	59.96	49.97	59.96	79.99
4	General Tire, Ameri Tech 4, P235/75R15, 0037668 (Each Price)	Radial Passenger Tire, All Season Tread, Whitewall, Polyester, Steel Belts, Standard Load	41.71	39.96	46.00	69.85	75.99	79.99	55.99
5	General Tire, XP2000 AS, P225/70HR15, 0033723 (Each Price)	Police Radial Tire, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Polyester, Steel Belts (Minimum Law Enforcement Certification: 50 Miles @ 130 MPH)	46.25	75.00	88.80	82.69	104.00	149.99	76.93
6	Goodyear Workhorse Rib, 7.50-16, D8, 312-099-090 (Each Price)	Light Truck Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Conventional Tread, Blackwall, Nylon or Polyester, Tubeless, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	51.44	91.02	70.00	67.03	97.00	99.95	74.00
7	Goodyear, Custom Xtra Grip Hi-Miler, 10.00-20, F12, 122-252-620 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tire, Bias Ply or Bias Belted, Mud & Snow Tread, Nylon, Tube Type, Minimum Load Range As Indicated	144.51	175.46	180.00	178.00	270.50	194.36	170.00
8	Firestone Transport, 10.00-R20, 512-257 (Each Price)	Medium Truck/Bus Tube, Heavy Duty, Black, Butyl, For Flat Base Rims, Radial	11.71	18.00	15.00	16.00	15.11	12.39	12.50
9	Canon R640002 or Hewlett Packard 92295A (Each Price)	Laser Printer Toner Cartridge For Canon SX Engine, Model R640002 SX	65.65	84.99	76.00	65.95	65.92	83.64	74.76
10	Maxell (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/DD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 1.0 MB, 10 Per Box	3.69	5.77	5.97	3.65	7.99	3.65	5.77
11	Sony (Price Per Box)	3-1/2 In. DS/HD Floppy Disk, Write Enable, 2 MB, 10 Per Box	4.89	7.99	6.89	4.70	10.99	4.70	7.00
12	Sylvania F40 CW/SS/30 34 Watt (low) Electric Lamp, Fluorescent Light Bulb (Each Price)	F40 CW/SS 34 Watt (low), Cool White Electrical Lamp, 30 Per Package	0.70	2.87	2.69	1.65	3.18	2.24	1.19
13	Sylvania 60A (Each Price)	60A, 60 Watt, 130 Volt Electric Lamp, Inside Frosted, 120 Per Package	0.24	0.34	0.34	1.25	1.36	0.34	0.34
14	Universal Model (2) (Each Price)	Model (2) F40T12/RS Ballasts, 430 M.A., 120 Volts/60 Hz	7.19	14.25	19.99	13.85	15.73	12.45	14.00
15	Monroe Electronic Desktop Calculator, 122PD (Each Price)	Electronic Desktop Calculator, Ribbon Type Printer, Minimum Speed-4.0 Lines Per Second	74.97	99.99	152.96	99.95	199.95	158.03	141.68
16	No. 10 National Envelopes, 9 1/2" x 4 1/8" (Price - Per 1000 Envelopes)	Envelopes, No. 10, 24 Lbs. , 500 Per Box, 5 Boxes Per Carton	8.45	12.70	8.52	6.09	6.09	9.70	12.70
17	Charles Leonard Staple Remover, Omni 0608-2, 8 In. (Each Price)	8 In. Staple Remover	0.22	0.78	0.69	0.25	0.25	0.78	0.97
18	Bates Office Executive Stapler, Black, N9500D-BK (Each Price)	Office Executive Stapler, Black	6.82	12.99	11.20	12.50	12.50	8.96	12.06

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

*Appendix **

PEER Price Comparison Survey Data

Department of Finance & Administration District IV				Biloxi & Gulfport Area			Laurel & Hattiesburg		
Item	State Contract Brand	State Contract Specifications	State Price	Price One	Price Two	Price Three	Price One	Price Two	Price Three
19	PMC Adding Machine Paper, 2-1/4 In., 7786 (Price Per Roll)	Adding Machine Paper, White, Premium Grade, Lint Free, At Least 160 FT Per Roll	\$0.26	\$0.35	\$0.33	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$0.66	\$0.35
20	Officemate Paper Clips (OFMPC1), (Price Per Box)	Paper Clips, Regular Lite Wire, Size 1, 100 Per Box	0.08	0.40	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.40	0.41
21	ACCO Staples (35450) (Price Per Box)	Staples, 1/4 In., Premium Grade, 5000 Per Box	1.49	2.53	2.80	2.78	1.68	2.79	1.82
22	Pentel C505 .5MM Point, Hi-Polmer, Extra Strong, 60 MM Length (Price Per Tube)	Mechanical Pencil Refill Lead	0.32	1.19	0.65	0.27	0.27	0.49	1.36
23	Eberhard-Faber Castell 12201, No. 2, Made of 60% Recyclable Products (Price Per Dozen)	Wood Cased Pencil, Thin Black Lead, First Grade (For Accounting Use)	0.54	0.72	0.84	0.54	0.54	0.86	0.77
24	Scripto S700MBK, Black Medium Point (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Ball Point Pens Without Eraser, Plastic Barrel	0.65	0.99	0.75	0.73	0.73	1.16	0.92
25	BIC REBID, Black Ink, 4-.5MM Point Diameter or Line Width Max. (Price Per Dozen)	Nonretractable, Nonrefillable Roller Ball Point Pens, Plastic Barrel, Cap With Metal Pocket Clip	2.90	5.99	7.56	2.88	2.88	7.68	5.76
26	Pentech (N-51008) (Price Per Set)	Dry Erase Marker for Use on Whiteboards, Set of Eight Colors, Broad Tip	2.72	7.95	8.45	2.75	2.75	8.45	7.20
27	Berol 7600 Series, Slim Pocket Size, Yellow (Price Per Dozen)	Highlighter Markers, Broad Tip, Washable Ink, Approx. 5.50 Inch Container With Cap	1.79	6.72	4.96	1.99	1.99	9.48	6.72
28	Sanford 30001, Black Ink (Price Per Dozen)	Permanent Marker Pens W/Plastic Cap/Clip, Slim Barrel, Plastic Fiber Tip, Fine Point	5.82	11.34	7.58	2.09	2.09	8.88	7.20
29	Badger Tanonka, 251,000 to 1,750,000 Sheets (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	Watermarked No. 1 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.60	25.98	17.00	6.59	6.59	38.42	23.26
30	A to Z Premium, 1,000 to 251,000 Sheets (Price - Per 1,000 Sheet Sets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	4.90	6.00	6.30	2.95	2.95	20.60	7.30
31	A to Z Premium (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Bond Paper, 8 1/2 x 14 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	6.23	8.80	8.89	3.84	3.89	26.18	9.30
32	Hammermill Tidal DP 16200-8 (Price Per 1000 Sheets)	No. 4 Xerographic Paper, 8 1/2 x 11 Inch, 20 Lb., 5000 White Sheets Per Case	5.46	6.26	6.60	3.41	3.41	7.94	6.26
33	3M Scotch Tape, 3/4 Inch x 1296 Inch Roll W/O Dispenser, 810-94-1296 (Price Per Roll)	Mending Transparent Tape, Etched Acetate Film, Pressure Sensitive, 3M Only	0.47	1.32	1.49	1.41	1.41	2.09	1.32
34	3M, 1 Inch Wide (2312-1) (Price Per Roll)	General Purpose Masking Tape, 60 Yard Roll, 3M Only	0.52	2.67	1.37	0.53	0.55	2.67	1.37

SOURCE: PEER field survey.

*Prices in gray blocks are retail prices equal to or lower than state contract prices.

PEER Staff

Director

John W. Turcotte

Administrative Division

Steve Miller, General
Counsel and Controller

Shirley Anderson
Ann Hutcherson
Mary McNeill

Planning and Support Division

Max Arinder, Chief
Analyst

Odharnaith Coyne
Sam Dawkins
Myrtle Jones
Larry Landrum
Kathleen Sullivan
Bonita Sutton
Ava Welborn

Operations Division

James Barber, Chief
Analyst

Mitchell Adcock
Ted Booth
Michael Boyd
Louwill Davis
Barbara Hamilton
Kevin Humphreys
Clarence Jones
Kelly Lockhart
Joyce McCants
Omar Nelson
David Pray
Katherine Stark
Pam Sutton
Linda Triplett
Larry Whiting
