FACT SHEET

Kentucky Executive Branch Procurement

Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee
Research Report No. ###

Highlighted Conclusions

- The majority of procurement processes appear to follow guidelines.
- Cited authorities are sometimes incorrect, and at least three awards exceeded approved maximums.
- Small purchase authority was exceeded in at least three instances, and purchase splitting may have been used to exceed small purchase limits.
- Some contracts were modified and extended across decades, which may impede competitiveness.
- Emergency contracts may have exceeded emergency conditions.
- Reviewed noncompetive awards had minimal justification, and over a quarter of negatively reviewed vendors continued to receive awards.

Highlighted Recommendations

- eMARS should provide a consistent, validated list of authorities rather than a blank text field.
- eMARS should include a hard stop mechanism to prevent small purchases from exceeding approved maximums.
- FAC should implement a screening process to flag purchase splitting.
- FAC should review options in eMARS to prevent payments from exceeding approved amounts.
- Long-running awards should be reviewed at regular intervals or otherwise opened for competitive bidding.
- FAC should require documentation that an emergency remains ongoing before an emergency award can be expanded without competition.
- FAC should require a justification to award work to negatively reviewed vendors.
- The General Assembly may wish to consider requiring annual performance evaluations for all ongoing awards.

Key Numbers



500K awards and delivery-order records appeared in the data



435 emergency awards exceeded 2 years



9,233 "not practicable or feasible to bid" awards in eMARS



723 vendors received further work after a negative evaluation