

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

The Lauderdale County Commission convened at the Lauderdale County Courthouse in the City of Florence, Alabama, at 5:00 p.m. on the 8th day of June, 2020. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Lauderdale County Commission, Danny Pettus. Upon roll call, the following members answered present:

Danny Pettus	Chairman
Roger Garner	Commissioner, District 1
Brad Holmes	Commissioner, District 1
Fay Parker	Commissioner, District 2
Joe Hackworth	Commissioner, District 2
Legal Counsel:	
Christopher A. Smith	County Attorney

Chairman Pettus, upon declaration of a quorum being present, opened the meeting for the transaction of business.

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were delivered by Commissioner Holmes.

Awards and Presentations: None

Public Comments on Agenda items: None

Commissioner Holmes moved to add an item to today's agenda and add it as the first item and move every other agenda item down in order to take care of this at the outset of today's meeting. Commissioner Holmes stated that he would like to present a resolution to the Commission regarding removal and relocation of the Confederate soldier monument on the grounds of the Courthouse. Commissioner Holmes further stated that decisions must be made and the conversation must start today about the consequences of not taking action considering the current social unrest related to racial inequality and what certain monuments represent to many of our citizens. Commissioner Garner agreed that the conversation must begin, but without knowing many of the particulars involved in such a decision and the legal ramifications of making this decision he doesn't feel we are ready to move on this today. Commissioner Parker echoed Mr. Garner and stated that a committee needs to be established to consider all aspects of the law regarding moving the monument. Commissioner Hackworth stated that he appreciates Commissioner Holmes' move and seconded the motion. Commissioner Holmes further stated that he respects the concerns of the Commissioners who do not agree to move forward at this time, by adding this to today's agenda, but he wants to make a clear message to the community that we want to be part of the solution. Commissioner Holmes also stated that this is a pivotal moment for this County and we want to make a seat at the table for everyone and not just kick the can down the road and, though none of us in this room today made the decisions affecting this situation, we must acknowledge the story and be accountable for the actions we take moving forward and allow this item on today's agenda.

Brad Holmes – aye
Joe Hackworth – aye

William Garner – nay
Fay Parker – nay

There being no further discussion and upon a vote taken, motion failed. Agenda remains unamended.

Commissioner Parker moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner that all items listed on the regular business agenda be approved for immediate consideration.

Brad Holmes – nay

William Garner – aye

Joe Hackworth – aye

Fay Parker – aye

There being no further discussion and upon a vote taken, motion passed. Agenda is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth that the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Commission be approved for recording. There being no discussion and upon vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner Parker moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution to authorize the Lauderdale County Commission to enter into a Contract of Employment with the law firm of Webb & Eley for the sole purpose of assisting the Lauderdale County Commission in updating its personnel handbook. This will require an initial payment of eighteen hundred dollars and a rate of one hundred eighty dollars per hour and any budget amendment needed is herein approved. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and contract are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve a resolution the Lauderdale County Commission to purchase five non-contact Temperature Screening Kiosks from IDZONE. These kiosks will be used in multiple locations in order to identify the presence of fever as a symptom of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Kiosks will be purchased at a cost of fifteen thousand seven hundred fifty dollars and any budget amendment needed is herein approved. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Parker moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve a resolution to authorize renewal of our five-year contract and partnership with Tennessee Valley Authority in order to conduct litter removal on TVA lands located in Lauderdale County. The Lauderdale County Sheriff and the Lauderdale County Community Corrections Authority use work release prisoners to perform litter removal and TVA pays the County five thousand dollars annually for this service. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and contract are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve a resolution to nominate Lauderdale County Commission Chairman, Danny Pettus, to serve on the 2020-2021 ACCA Legislative Committee. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

In compliance with bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. LA 2020-1 "Various Print Bids". Bids were received and publicly read aloud on June 5th, 2020. Chairman Pettus asked Lauderdale County Administrator, Brenda Bryant, for her recommendation. Ms. Bryant stated that the bids were received from Herald Printing and Printers & Stationers, both of Florence, Alabama. Ms. Bryant recommended we go with the lowest bid for County Commission requisition books at a cost of three hundred eighty-two dollars for a quantity of fifty books from Herald Printing. Ms. Bryant also recommended the Probate address labels be re-bid as the Probate Department chose a different label than was listed in the bid specifications. This item will be re-bid. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker, to

follow Ms. Bryant's recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid for requisition books is awarded to Herald Printing of Florence, Alabama, and the bid for address labels will be re-bid. Bid tabulation sheet is recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Parker moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a request from the Lauderdale County Revenue Commissioner, Danny Hendrix, that one of his employees be allowed to be on regular FMLA due to an injury. All medical paperwork has been submitted and the employee will be allowed to return to work on July 22nd, 2020. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve a request from the Lauderdale County Sheriff, Rick Singleton, that one of his employees be allowed to be on regular FMLA. All medical paperwork has been submitted and the employee will be allowed to return to work on August 19th, 2020. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

The invoiced bills were audited, allowed, and ordered to be paid upon a motion by Commissioner Hackworth and seconded by Commissioner Parker. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

CHECKS ISSUED MAY 26, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 7, 2020

GENERAL-SPECIAL CHECK #56309-56347	\$546,538.32
AGRI-BUSINESS FUND CHECK #3801-3803	\$269.12
LEPA FUND CHECK #8392-8399	\$5,193.60
GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK #17472-17483	\$180,049.01
PUBLIC BLDG., R & B SPECIAL CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
PUBLIC HIGHWAY & TRAFFIC FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
AL. TRUST CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
RRR GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
REAPPRAISAL FUND CHECK #11827-11835	\$27,997.60
REAPPRAISAL MONEY MARKET CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
TOURISM, REC. & CONVENTION FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
RSVP FUND CHECK #17526-17534	\$5,211.72
CHILD PROTECTION FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00

SERIES 2001 DEBT SERVICE FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
CDBG FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
SOLID WASTE FUND CHECK #8026-8040	\$181,079.08
ACCOUNT PAYABLE FUND CHECK #42894-42956	\$271,729.41
FIRE PROTECTION FEE FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TAX FUND CHECK #1196-1197	\$467,126.50
TOBACCO TAX FUND CHECK #3087	\$10,535.00
TVA TAX FUND CHECK #N/A	\$0.00
TOTAL:	\$1,695,729.36

Scheduled Public Hearings: None

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment Period:

James (David) Carson
29 Auburn Street
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Carson stated that the leftist message is simple, "do what we tell you or else", and is a common mantra with no end and they will always want more. We cannot continue to be brainwashed, innocent bystanders and allow this to happen to our monument and our community.

Tori Bailey
1570 Woodmont Drive
Sheffield, Alabama

Ms. Bailey stated that, as a Commissioner from Colbert County, she admires Commissioner Holmes and his desire to relocate the Confederate Monument. Growing up here and having friends of all races as well as chairing the annual W.C. Handy Music Festival has allowed her to experience many opportunities to know who we can be as a community. She further stated that this area can be the "exception to the rule" for our county and our world by being better than we have been and awakening to the idea of having respect for those who do not look like us.

Reverend Billy Ray Simpson
Florence, Alabama

Reverend Simpson stated that this is his hometown and he is a Vietnam veteran and is absolutely appalled that, after all these years, we are still "stuck on stupid". He thanked Commissioner Holmes for his desire to move the monument and stated that it is discriminatory and stands for racism and anyone supporting it does, too. Mr. Simpson further stated that it is time for things to change and a paradigm shift, especially the mindset representing injustice.

Byron Spencer
521 Hermitage Drive
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Spencer stated that he has lived in Florence for three years and he understands the strong points regarding the confederacy. Mr. Spencer further stated that he wants to be part of bringing a message into the future that unites all people and we can make a small step forward, doing it the right way, and take pride in bringing forth the unity we need to uphold as Americans.

Jocelyn Borden
4337 Old Memphis Pike
Tuscumbia, Alabama

Ms. Borden stated she is a preschool teacher and feels that we could take a stand for all young people by removing the monument that represents inequality.

John Paul White
615 N Poplar
Florence, Alabama

Mr. White stated that he has never considered himself a racist but has never publicly tried to make a change. He further stated that he has tried to teach his children to treat everyone the same and asked everyone to consider what it is like to be of another race and consider their heritage, history and feelings. Mr. White stated that we all have the same rights and deserve to feel a part of this community and the monument needs to be taken down.

Millie Bainbridge
117 Easterly
Muscle Shoals, Alabama

Ms. Bainbridge stated that the rich background of black music in this area – such as the Father of the Blues, W.C. Handy, and Muscle Shoals Music – gives us reason to consider that this monument is a monument to racism and stands in a place of justice. Ms. Bainbridge further stated that not making a decision to remove it now and “kicking the can down the road” is a shame.

John Bowen
818 Prospect Street
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Boeing stated that he moved to Florence four years ago from Atlanta and wanted to thank the Commission for doing little to nothing to make a decision to take down this monument and causing some citizens to live in fear for what it means.

Catherine Strong
118 Cross Circle
Sheffield, Alabama

Ms. Strong stated that she is tired of the narrative and hateful rhetoric of inequality and injustice that monuments such as these represent. Ms. Strong further stated that we should not glorify the negative past this monument represents by allowing it to remain and we should be inclusive and progressive and choose people over the law.

Stephen Strong
118 Cross Circle
Sheffield, Alabama

Mr. Strong stated that, as a civil war reenactor, he understands well what this monument represents and hopes we can move forward and be proud of our future.

Carlie Cochran
1833 Kirk Street
Florence, Alabama

Ms. Cochran stated that we should follow the examples of our neighbors who are removing these monuments and we need to recognize that the consequences of not moving them is greater. Ms. Cochran further stated that we need to unite and provide a new message and a new narrative and stop living in the past, let it go and take it down.

Mayor Steve Holt
Florence, Alabama

Mayor Holt distributed materials to all the Commissioners, which included photographs of the Soldiers Resting Place in the Florence Cemetery. Mayor Holt stated that there is room for the monument to be relocated to this more fitting location. Mayor Holt further stated that private business funds have been pledged to take care of any expense or fines related to the removal and relocation of the monument from the Courthouse Square to the Florence Cemetery.

Senator Tim Melson
Florence, Alabama

Senator Melson thanked the Commission for their consideration and taking their time to weigh all comments and do diligent research in order to make a wise decision about this very important situation. Senator Melson also thanked them for not moving on an earlier proposal about this very matter some years ago and let the Commissioners know he would do anything he could to help them in this process.

Commissioner Holmes stated that racism is a condition of the heart and not the image of a building but that this particular building should be a neutral location for all citizens of Lauderdale County and it should be our policy to have no permanent fixtures representing any one side. Commissioner Holmes further stated that we are at a crossroads and we should realize that, as society and symbols change, we need to adapt and always be ready for what's next – ultimately providing a house of justice where law enforcement provides a neutral location within our City and our County for all its citizens.

Commissioner Parker stated that just because this item is not added to today's agenda that it is not the end of the discussion. Commissioner Parker further stated that he appreciates everyone's comments and expressions and that he is not trying to offend anyone by not making a decision on this today, but wants the Commission to make an informed decision regarding this.

Andy Frith
310 Roxy Drive
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Frith stated that comments made earlier were untrue as it relates to expenses being a burden to the taxpayer because the City of Florence has presented the existence of a source of funding that will take care of any fees associated with the removal and relocation of the monument.

Melissa Hardin
239 E Rasch Road
Florence, Alabama

Ms. Hardin stated that today's generation want action and it is time to realize the history of the past and its effect on the present and to look toward the future and make this necessary move in that direction because today's youth will not be silent and allow this to continue without protest.

E Bridges
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Bridges stated that we do not need to be blind and heartless and we need to look at the injustices felt by generations and make a change.

Joel Boatwright
Tannehill Drive
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Peoples stated that we cannot erase history and this sign of oppression is in the wrong spot and needs to be removed. Mr. Peoples further stated that the argument that it is somehow illegal to remove this monument is not a good one because some of the worst things that have ever happened have been legal and we do not want to be on the right side of wrong.

Will Trapp
Florence, Alabama

Will stated that the community needs to heal and there needs to be justice for all and this rock is unjust and needs to be removed.

Christy Britten

Christy stated that as a Museum Administrator she is of the belief that public art symbolizes who we are and this monument is not who we are and a reasonable effort needs to be made to change that.

J Whitehead
140 Taylor Road
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Whitehead stated that symbolism is powerful and this monument has created a wound that will never heal with such an open symbol of hate.

Another citizen stated that it is the civil duty of those who govern to make a diplomatic effort to uphold law and peace and defend the hurt and broken by considering everything that effects all people and make this decision not out of guilt but out of pride.

Commissioner Hackworth stated that he appreciates everyone who has spoken today for expressing their hearts. Commissioner Hackworth also thanked Mayor Holt for his attendance and the offer he presented to the Commission.

Cayla Sloan

Ms. Sloan stated that the monument needs to be removed immediately and without delay.

Tira Wages
405 N Poplar Street
Florence, Alabama

Ms. Wages stated that, as a local business owner, she has always thought of Florence as a beautiful place of unity and safety, but she no longer feels this way. Ms. Wages further stated that this monument is a sign of oppression and hate and is not a safe space for anyone who might be different and that we have a large population of those who do not feel safe. Ms. Wages also stated that in order for this city to thrive we need to take easy step one and take it down.

Jerry Randall
420 N Chestnut
Florence, Alabama

Mr. Randall stated that we need to follow the examples of other cities, such as Birmingham, Huntsville and Mobile, and find a way to make this happen and not be on the wrong side.

Commissioner Pettus stated that there are certain restrictions in applying to remove a monument and the law reads that there isn't even a way to apply to remove one that has been in place for over forty years. Commissioner Pettus further stated that he wants to look further into this and get all the information necessary to make this decision and no one is breaking the law here today to which Commissioner Holmes responded that he, respectfully, was ready to do so in this regard.

Trenda Owens
24 Smith Street
Florence, Alabama

Ms. Owens stated that if there is nothing within the law that allows applying to remove such a monument as this then what is there to discuss and asked why it has taken three years to figure out this excuse that continues to draw out this process.

There being no further business to come before the Commission and upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Hackworth, the meeting was duly adjourned until the next regular meeting subject to call.

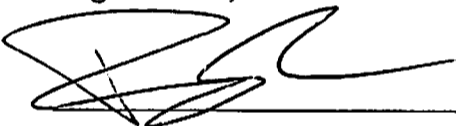
LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION



Danny Pettus, Chairman



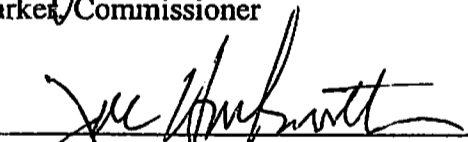
Roger Garner, Commissioner



Brad Holmes, Commissioner

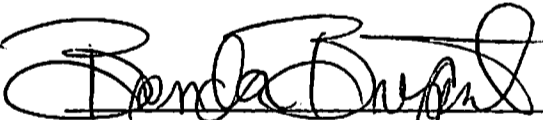


Fay Parker, Commissioner



Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Brenda Bryant, County Administrator

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

June 8th, 2020

A. OFFICIAL AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME
2. CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM
3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Commissioner Holmes
4. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS
Per Rules of Procedure there is a three-minute time limit

B. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Review and Motion to Consider Agenda Items
2. Approve minutes of last meeting
3. Resolution—Contract with Webb & Eley
4. Resolution—Temperature Kiosk
5. Resolution—Tennessee Valley Authority Contract
6. Resolution—ACCA Legislative Committee Nominee
7. BID NO LA-2020-1—" Various Print Bids"
8. Approval of Family Medical Leave Act
9. Audit and Approve Bills

C. SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS-*none*

D. STAFF REPORTS

E. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Per Rules of Procedure there is a three minutes' time limit

ADJOURN

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

RESOLUTION

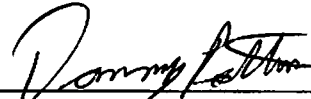
WHEREAS, the Lauderdale County Commission would like to enter into a contract with Webb & Eley, P.C., Attorneys at Law, for the limited purpose of assisting in updating its current personnel handbook; and

WHEREAS, compensation for the initial period of work shall be a flat fee of eighteen hundred dollars and after the initial draft is provided, all further work shall be done at a rate of one hundred eighty dollars per hour.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lauderdale County Commission approves the Contract of Employment between the Lauderdale County Commission and Webb & Eley, P.C., and authorizes any budget amendment necessary in the implementation of this agreement.

Done this the 8th day of June, 2020.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION



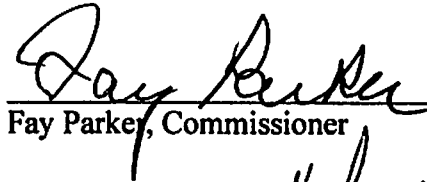
Danny Pettus, Chairman



Roger Garner, Commissioner

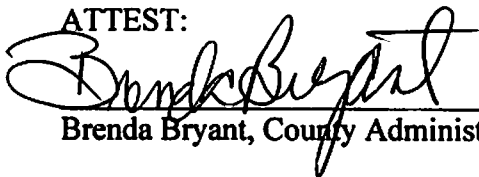


Brad Holmes, Commissioner



Fay Parkey, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Brenda Bryant, County Administrator



Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus epidemic, there is a rising demand for health and safety procedures in order to protect citizens and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Lauderdale County Commission wishes to purchase five temperature screening kiosks for multiple entry locations to help identify the presence of fever as a symptom of contagious illness, such as coronavirus.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lauderdale County Commission will purchase five temperature screening kiosks from IDZONE at a cost of fifteen thousand seven hundred fifty dollars and any budget amendment needed is herein approved.

Done this the 8th day of June, 2020.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION



Danny Pettus, Chairman



Roger Garner, Commissioner



Brad Holmes, Commissioner

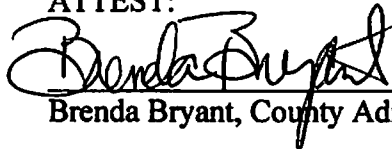


Fay Parker, Commissioner



Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Brenda Bryant, County Administrator

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Lauderdale County Commission would like to continue partnering with Tennessee Valley Authority in order to conduct litter removal on TVA lands located in Lauderdale County; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff and the Lauderdale County Community Corrections Authority use work release prisoners to perform this service and TVA pays the County five thousand dollars annually.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lauderdale County Commission approves Cooperative Agreement No. 6253124 with Tennessee Valley Authority, effective immediately and through March 1, 2025.

Done this the 8th day of June, 2020.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION



Danny Pettus, Chairman



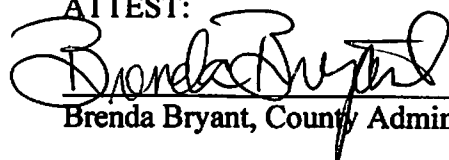
Roger Garner, Commissioner



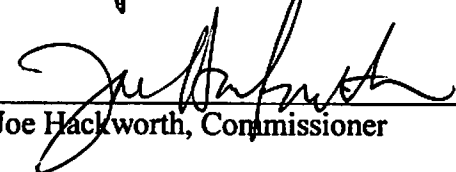
Brad Holmes, Commissioner



Fay Parker, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Brenda Bryant, County Administrator



Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

STATE OF ALABAMA §

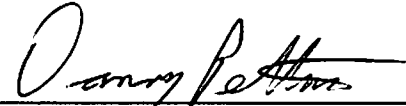
LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lauderdale County Commission nominates Danny Pettus, Chairman, to serve on the 2020-2021 ACCA Legislative Committee.

Done this the 8th day of June, 2020.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION



Danny Pettus, Chairman



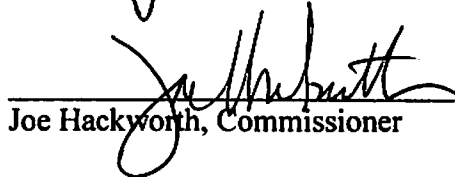
Roger Garner, Commissioner



Brad Holmes, Commissioner

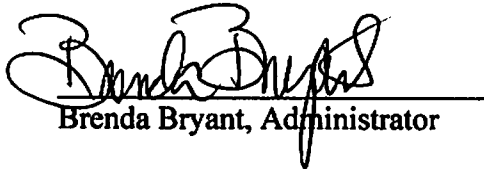


Fay Parker, Commissioner



Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Brenda Bryant, Administrator

LA-2020-1

BID ITEM: "Various Printing Jobs"
 OPENING: Friday, June 5, 2020
 DATE MAILED: Friday, May 22, 2020

COUNTY COMMISSION - REQUISITION BOOKS	PROBATE - ADDRESS LABELS	NO RESPONSE	LOW BID	NO BID
Data Pro Attn: Joe Smith 2106-A West Ferry Way Huntsville, AL 35801				
First Impressions 459 James Road Hampton Cove, AL 35763				
Herald Printing 328 N. Pine Street Florence, AL 35630	(5,000)- 484.50 (1,000)- 650.89			
Printer & Stationers 113 N Court Street Florence, AL 35630	(5,000)- 366.25			
Diversified Companies, LLC Attn: John Dawson 3721 Powers Court Chattanooga, TN 37416	Rebid in July Probate Chase & different label than		Bid Specs.	6-5-20 (12)
IMS Enterprises 3115 Northington Ct Florence, AL 35630				

Rebid in July - 2020
 Probate Chase &
 different label than
 Bid Specs. #3