

STATE OF KANSAS

Office of the Attorney General

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Curt T. Schneider
Attorney General

March 28, 1978

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION NO. 78- 130

Mr. William A. Taylor, III
Cowley County Counselor
Post Office Box 731
Winfield, Kansas 67156

Re: Counties--Motor Vehicles--Purchase

Synopsis: There is no statutory requirement that motor vehicles purchased by a county be purchased through a competitive bidding system with the contract awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The county may negotiate a contract for the purchase of motor vehicles which it deems necessary, without the taking of competitive bids.

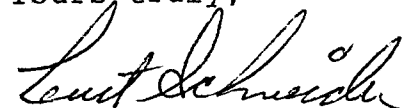
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Dear Mr. Taylor:

You inquire concerning the procedure which a county must follow in purchasing motor vehicles for county use. You advise that in the past, all vehicles purchased by Cowley County were purchased on a closed bid basis, with the purchase made from the lowest bidder.

There is no statutory requirement that motor vehicles purchased for the sheriff's department or for the road and bridge department be purchased through the use of sealed bid proposals and purchased from the lowest of the bidders. Thus, the county is free to negotiate the purchase of necessary motor vehicles, without resort to a competitive bidding procedure.

Yours truly,


CURT T. SCHNEIDER
Attorney General

CTS:JRM:kj