



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 253
[2009 Assembly Bill 347]

Internet Sale of Unclaimed Property

Under *current law*, a sheriff is required to hold a public auction to sell the following unclaimed property that has remained unclaimed for one year:

- Personal property other than money or securities of a deceased person who was a patient at any county institution at the time of death or whose body was taken in charge by the coroner or medical examiner.
- Personal property left at the county jail after the prisoner has been discharged, transferred, or committed.
- Personal property, found or stolen, which comes into the hands of the sheriff.

Also under *current law*, by August 1 annually, the sheriff shall post a notice in three public places in the county, briefly describing the property and listing the date and named place where the property will be sold. On or before September 1 annually, the sheriff shall remit the proceeds of the auction or general sale to the county treasurer.

2009 Wisconsin Act 253 allows the sheriff to sell the unclaimed property on an *Internet site*, in addition to selling the property at a specified physical location.

Effective date: 2009 Wisconsin Act 253 took effect on May 22, 2010.

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May 24, 2010

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.