

MEGA AUCTIONS

California Abandoned Personal Property After Eviction

A Statute-Driven Overview for California Attorneys

When the Statute Applies

Under California Civil Code § 1983, personal property remaining after termination of tenancy, lawful eviction, or service and posting of a Notice of Belief of Abandonment is governed by California's abandoned property statutes. Once possession is recovered or abandonment is established, statutory obligations apply before the property may be sold or disposed of.

Governing Framework

California abandoned personal property is regulated under California Civil Code §§ 1983–1991 and § 1993 (commercial property provisions).

Valuation Determines the Compliance Path

Residential property exceeding \$700 in aggregate value (Civil Code § 1988) and commercial property exceeding \$2,500 (Civil Code § 1993) require statutory disposition, which may include public auction.

Notice & Holding Requirements

Pursuant to Civil Code §§ 1984–1985, the landlord must serve a Notice of Right to Reclaim Abandoned Property. Holding periods are 15 days if personally served or 18 days if mailed.

Public Sale & Publication

When required, sale must occur at public auction with notice published in a newspaper of general circulation.

Lease Provisions

Lease provisions addressing abandoned property do not substitute for compliance with California statutory requirements.

Role of MEGA Auctions

MEGA Auctions acts as a neutral third party providing appraisal, documentation, and public auction services. MEGA Auctions does not provide legal advice.

Timing Considerations

MEGA Auctions is most effective when engaged immediately after eviction or service of a Notice of Belief of Abandonment.

Key Takeaway

California abandoned personal property is a statutory process. Valuation, documentation, and timing drive defensible outcomes.

This document is informational only and does not constitute legal advice.