



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS

1140 19th Street, NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: 202.686.3700

Fax: 202.686.3656

www.nasbp.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 1, 2015

Contact: Kathy Hoffman at khoffman@nasbp.org, 202-464-1175

NASBP NOW OFFERS FIRST CE-ACCREDITED, ONLINE ETHICS COURSE DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY BY AND FOR SURETY BOND PRODUCERS

WASHINGTON, DC—Recognizing that ethical behavior is crucial to preserving not only the trust on which transactions are based, but also the public's trust in the surety industry as a whole, the National Association of Surety Bond Producers is pleased to offer the online course *Ethics for Surety Bond Producers*, the first ethics course created by surety bond producers for surety bond producers.

"This unique course directly addresses one of my goals as President: to help the industry build thriving businesses. I can't think of a better way to build a thriving business than to create a corporate culture based on sound ethical decision-making skills and practices by showcasing real-world scenarios that bond producers face every day," said NASBP President Susan Hecker, who is Executive Vice President and National Director of Contract Surety for Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. in San Francisco.

This course is based on presentations and materials generously donated by Thomas Tropp, Vice President of Corporate Ethics and Sustainability at NASBP member firm Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Other NASBP members also contributed numerous real-world scenarios.

Because the three-party relationships in surety bonding create situations that are more complex than traditional two-party insurance relationships, NASBP members and associates supplied real-life examples of ethical dilemmas they have encountered, enabling NASBP to offer the first course accredited for Continuing Education (CE) credits based directly on surety bond professionals' everyday business life.

"The Ethics Committee was pleased to incorporate into this groundbreaking course the association's Code of Ethics, which calls upon surety bond producers to continually improve their professional skills, uphold the dignity and honor of the surety profession, and maintain high standards of personal conduct," said Nicholas Newton, Chairman of the NASBP Ethics Committee and President of Newton Bonding, in Stillwater, Minnesota. The Ethics Committee had direct oversight of all aspects of the course creation.

This learning module is self-paced and has been submitted for three ethics CE credits to all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Most states require three ethics CE credits every two years for licensed bond producers.

Ethics for Surety Bond Producers is available through WebCE, the leading national supplier of continuing education courses for licensed insurance professionals. The course, which costs \$75 per student, is open to all NASBP members, associates and affiliates, as well as

non-members who work in the industry and members of the public – such as construction industry professionals – who have an interest in learning more about the complex relationships and roles of surety bond producers.

For more information, please contact the NASBP Professional Development Department at: profdev@nasbp.org or 202-636-3700.

Founded in 1942, the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) is the association of and resource for surety bond producers and allied professionals. NASBP members specialize in providing surety bonds for construction contracts and other purposes to companies and individuals needing the assurance offered by surety bonds.

#