



## **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](http://www.nasbp.org)

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Contact: Kathy Hoffman at [khoffman@nasbp.org](mailto:khoffman@nasbp.org), 202-464-1175

## **NASBP SELECTS SAN FRANCISCO EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT FOR 2015-2016**

**WASHINGTON, DC**—Susan Hecker, Executive Vice President and National Director of Contract Surety for Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. in San Francisco, has been installed as the President of the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP), an international trade association headquartered in Washington, DC serving a membership of firms employing licensed surety bond producers.

At the NASBP Annual Meeting held last month in San Diego, Hecker stated that during her presidency she plans to focus on leadership training both for new people who are entering the surety industry and for those who have been in the industry for some time. One way she plans to address this is by creating a new NASBP committee comprised of early career surety underwriters, which will mirror the Association's existing 5-15 Leadership Circle Committee, composed of early career bond producers. NASBP formed the 5-15 Committee in 2007 to represent those new, emerging leaders in the industry who work on the agency side of the business.

Hecker urged surety company executives to embrace this new NASBP committee and to encourage their young underwriters to participate. Hecker said, "NASBP seeks to build a closer nexus between early career producers and underwriters for the benefit of the surety industry. We want to promote meaningful collaborations and encourage career-long leadership development," she said.

"Susan's initiatives address a concern shared by producers and underwriters alike—training and transferring knowledge to a new generation of talent for the surety industry," according to Mark H. McCallum, NASBP's Chief Executive Officer. "Under Susan's leadership, NASBP is tackling this issue aggressively and in multiple ways," McCallum said.

In fact, Hecker has planned a one-day leadership conference for surety professionals on October 22. It is geared not only to emerging leaders but to surety professionals at all stages of their careers so they can advance the development of their executive leadership skills. "I'm trying to create ways people can further develop professionally—a component necessary to have fully engaged people working on behalf of industry issues," Hecker said. "Fully engaged people translate into thriving surety businesses," she added.

During her decades of involvement with NASBP, Hecker has served on the NASBP Membership Committee and chaired the NASBP Government Relations Committee. She served two terms on the NASBP board as a Director-At-Large before being selected as a Vice President of the Association.

*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.*