



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS

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NASBP SELECTS 2015-2016 OFFICERS

WASHINGTON, DC—The National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) has elected Susan Hecker, Executive Vice President and National Director of Contract Surety for Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. in San Francisco, as the 2015-2016 NASBP President.

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.

Also, NASBP elected as NASBP First Vice President Lynne W. Cook. Cook is Senior Vice President of Early, Cassidy & Schilling, Inc. in Rockville, MD. Howard Cowan was elected as NASBP Second Vice President. Cowan is President of the Cowan-Hill Bond Agency Inc. in Lubbock, TX. Robert E. Shaw was elected NASBP Third Vice President. Shaw is President of Skillings Shaw & Associates, Inc. in Lewiston, ME. In addition, Thomas M. Padilla will serve as Immediate Past President. Padilla is Senior Vice President of HUB International Insurance Services of Albuquerque, NM.

The NASBP Executive Committee is comprised of the officers listed above and three Ex Officio Members, who represent the NASBP Directors-At-Large, Regional Directors, and the 5-15 Leadership Circle. C. Wayne McCartha, President of McCartha, Cobb & Associates, Inc. in Columbia, SC, was elected to represent the Directors-At-Large. Nicholas Newton, Owner of Newton Bonding in Stillwater, MN, was elected to represent the Regional Directors. Brian Ayres, Senior Partner of L A Surety Solutions, LLC in Louisville, KY, represents the 5-15 Leadership Circle. Ayres was elected to the position last fall.

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.