

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS

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## NASBP ELECTS SAN FRANCISCO EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT FOR 2020-2021

**Bethesda, MD**—Last week the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) elected Mark Munekawa, Senior Vice President-Surety of Woodruff-Sawyer & Co. in San Francisco, CA as the 2020-2021 NASBP President. NASBP is a national trade association headquartered in Bethesda, MD, serving a membership of firms employing licensed surety bond producers.

"Mark's MBA in business analysis and his 40-years of experience in the surety industry, which has included succeeding in surety during an economic down cycle, make him well-prepared to lead the Association in the months ahead," according to Mark McCallum, NASBP Chief Executive Officer.

McCallum said Munekawa also has a longstanding reputation for setting goals and reaching them. "Many national construction trade and professional associations and sureties have already worked with Mark Munekawa and know his approach is one where he rolls up his sleeves and does what needs to be done for the benefit of other professionals and the industry he serves," McCallum said.

Munekawa stated, "The coronavirus pandemic will require changes within the surety industry, and we have to stay engaged with all our stakeholders and stay very visible." His theme during his presidency will be "Must Be Present to Win." "Though we may not be able to be physically present, the industry must continue to be actively involved with clients and industry stakeholders, and NASBP is key to helping us do that," Munekawa said.

"The pandemic has forced us to think about how we do business, what we are providing to our clients, and how we are going to deliver our services, our advice, and our products in the future," Munekawa said. "What is paramount is that we still maintain our values, integrity, and traditions that have served our clients, our industry, and other stakeholders so well in the past." "This can and will be done as we adopt new methods and technologies that reflect the changes in our business operating environment," he added.

Munekawa said the Association's public relations campaign, "Be Guaranteed To Succeed," now has an even more important role in helping NASBP members market the importance of surety to construction businesses, public and private owners, architects, and lenders. "I believe that, when we get on the other side of this pandemic crisis, the infrastructure will be one way by which the federal and local governments will seed the economy with funds to kickstart it again," Munekawa said. "When that occurs and money is being put into the economy through infrastructure, we have to make sure that people understand the value of surety bonds," he said. "Now is the time to make sure surety bonds are understood as the best means to ensure that government dollars are properly invested and that expected returns to the economy and to local communities are realized."

As President, Munekawa also plans to ask for help from NASBP members who work on the commercial side with bonds for professional licenses and other types of financial obligations protecting consumers and the government's interest. "NASBP members will need to be active and involved at all levels of government—federal, state, and local—to get the message out how these bonds ensure that commerce is transacted in a transparent and fair way," Munekawa said.

"These are going to be difficult times, but we need to stay focused on doing what's smart and what's right for our Association and our industry," Munekawa said.

Also, NASBP elected Tracy Tucker as NASBP First Vice President. Tucker is President of the Tucker Agency, Ltd. in Fort Worth, TX. Nicholas L. Newton was elected NASBP Second Vice President. Newton is President of Newton Bonding in Stillwater, MN. Patrick T. Pribyl was elected NASBP Third Vice President. Pribyl is Senior Vice President of Lockton Companies, LLC of Kansas City, MO. In addition, John N. Bustard will serve as NASBP Immediate Past President. Bustard is Senior Vice President of King & Neel, LLC in Honolulu, HI.

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 Committee. Jenni Waggoner of M.J. Schuetz Insurance Services, Inc. in Indianapolis, IN was elected to represent the Directors-At-Large. Christopher J. Como of Como & Nicholson, Inc. in Monroe, CT was elected to represent the Regional Directors. Corban Enns of Surety Solutions, LLC in Salem, OR was elected to represent the 5-15 Leadership Committee.

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.