## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS



7735 Old Georgetown Road, Suite 900 Bethesda, MD 20814

Tel: 240.200.1270

Fax: 240.200.1295 www.nasbp.org

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Contact: Kathy Hoffman at khoffman@nasbp.org, 240.200.1278

## NASBP ELECTS ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT FOR 2022-2023

**Bethesda, MD**—Last week the <u>National Association of Surety Bond</u> <u>Producers (NASBP)</u> elected Nick Newton, President of Newton Bonding, an AssuredPartners Agency, in St. Paul, MN, as the 2022-2023 NASBP President. NASBP is a national trade association headquartered in Bethesda, MD, serving a membership of firms employing licensed surety bond producers.

"Nick's over 30-year career working with contract and commercial surety both on the agency and company sides of the surety industry has prepared him well for leading the Association and industry," according to Mark H. McCallum, NASBP Chief Executive Officer. "In addition, by having formed his own agency, Nick knows first-hand the concerns that NASBP members have about managing an agency's operations and personnel," added McCallum.

Newton's theme is "NASBP with Passion and Purpose," a motto he plans to apply in pursuit of several initiatives during his presidency. Newton wants to help the Association attract more people to become involved in the surety industry and the Association. "There's a talent shortage both on the agency side as well as on the surety company side," Newton said. "NASBP is in the process of making a greater outreach to those considering a surety industry career and those considering a career switch to the surety industry."

In addition, Newton fully supports recent efforts NASBP and the industry have taken related to digital bonding and blockchain technology. For years, Newton helped lead NASBP initiatives regarding surety industry automation and technology. He was Chair of the Association's Automation & Technology Committee that created the Association's Toolkit template forms frequently used by NASBP members. "At that time, you could see that technology was starting to play a part in the industry, and I wanted to be in on anything that could make me more efficient," he said.

"I am ecstatic about the progress the surety industry has made and the large number of producers, sureties, technology consultants, and industry partners involved in the <u>RiskStream Collaborative</u>," Newton said. "Everyone's commitment to participate in the process to automate, streamline, and digitize multi-party surety work processes and documents is essential," he said. "It's important that we are part of this effort, which frames how technology is used in our industry," he added.

Newton plans to continue the Association's "Be Guaranteed to Succeed"
Public Relations Campaign that promotes a positive industry image of NASBP and surety bonding and provides NASBP members tools through its NASBP Producer Communications Toolkit and Contractor Bonding Education & Mentoring Program. "One problem that we will always face is that our industry's existence was introduced through legislation, and it could be eliminated the same way," Newton said. "It's essential that the industry continue to educate legislators and the general public about why surety bonding is important and beneficial."

Newton enjoys serving as a faculty member of the NASBP William J. Angell Surety School and plans to continue NASBP's emphasis on the professional development needs of fellow surety professionals. "I've taught at every single NASBP School in the last seven years," he said. "It's a passion of mine."

NASBP elected Patrick T. Pribyl as NASBP First Vice President. Pribyl is National Surety Team Leader of Lockton Companies in Kansas City, MO. Zach Mendelson was elected NASBP Second Vice President. Mendelson is Principal, Bonds/Insurance/Construction of EPIC | Edgewood Partners Insurance Center in Pittsburgh, PA. Robert Coon was elected NASBP Third Vice President. Coon is Vice President - Surety at Scott Insurance in Greensboro, NC. In addition, Tracy Tucker will serve as NASBP Immediate Past President. Tucker is President of Tucker Agency, Ltd. in Fort Worth, TX.

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 5-15 Leadership Committee. Rusty Lear, Executive Vice President, Director of Surety of Flood and Peterson, in Greeley, CO, was elected as Ex Officio to represent the Directors-At-Large. Tyler McIntyre, Vice President of Surety of PayneWest Insurance, Inc. in Missoula, MT, was elected as Ex Officio to represent the Regional Directors. Mark R. Duggan, Vice President, Unit Manager of Lockton Companies, LLC in Memphis, TN, was elected as Ex Officio to represent the 5-15 Leadership Committee.

Founded in 1942, the <u>National Association of Surety Bond Producers</u> (NASBP), <u>https://www.nasbp.org/home</u>, 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.