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## NASBP ELECTS FORT WORTH, TEXAS EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT FOR 2021-2022

**Bethesda, MD**—Last week the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) elected Tracy Tucker, President of Tucker Agency Ltd. in Fort Worth, TX, as the 2021-2022 NASBP President. NASBP is a national trade association headquartered in Bethesda, MD, serving a membership of firms employing licensed surety bond producers.

"Tracy's 40-year career and highly successful agency make him an ideal candidate to lead the Association and industry," according to Mark McCallum, NASBP Chief Executive Officer. "Tracy is a well-known leader in the surety and construction industries and has established an excellent reputation of working hard to accomplish his company's and clients' goals—both of which will serve him well during his term as President," added McCallum.

Tucker stated, "Our business is morphing at warp speed with industry advancements." "To be effective in harnessing new opportunities to advance our Association and industry, we will need to collaborate, more than ever, with other industry organizations, like SFAA, AGC, AIA, ASA, CFMA, ConsensusDocs, ICISA, The Institutes, and XBRL," he said.

Tucker's theme during his presidency will be "Better Together," capturing the approach he believes the Association and industry will need to address issues, such as adopting technology to a greater degree, continuing to promote a positive industry image, and training more young surety professionals to be leaders of our industry.

His desire to encourage the industry to move toward more technology adoption and process efficiency is timely. "Bond obligees and public officials are looking toward the surety industry for guidance, which is why a unified voice from the surety industry is so critical now," McCallum said.

Tucker believes it is important to continue efforts encouraging those requiring bonds to reexamine the ways in which they would accept bonds and to move away from exclusively requiring hardcopies with wet-ink signatures and impressed seals. Tucker is supportive of the Association's participation in a blockchain work group that has been formed by the International Credit Insurance and Surety Association (ICISA) in conjunction with The Institutes RiskStream Collaborative. "The work group's initial focus on the power of attorney-in-fact registration and verification process is just the beginning of this critical effort," Tucker said.

Tucker plans to continue the Association's efforts in promoting a positive industry image with the NASBP "Be Guaranteed to Succeed" Public Relations Campaign. "We need to continue sharing the Campaign message with bond producers and their clients," Tucker said. "The NASBP PR Campaign is changing the way surety bond producers and others talk about the industry and providing greater awareness of the importance of surety bonds to stakeholders."

Tucker is encouraged that restrictions due to the pandemic are lifting and that NASBP plans to hold the 2021 Summer Session of the NASBP William J. Angell Surety School and its fall meetings, one in Chicago and one in San Diego.

NASBP elected Nicholas L. Newton as NASBP First Vice President. Newton is President of AssuredPartners of MN, LLC dba Newton Bonding in St. Paul, MN. Patrick T. Pribyl was elected NASBP Second Vice President. Pribyl is Senior Vice President of Lockton Companies in Kansas City, MO. Zach Mendelson was elected NASBP Third Vice President. Mendelson is Principal of EPIC | Edgewood Partners Insurance Center in Pittsburgh, PA. In addition, Mark Munekawa will serve as NASBP Immediate Past President. Munekawa is Senior Vice President of Woodruff-Sawyer & Co. in San Francisco, CA.

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. Michael Byrd of HUB International Insurance Services in Albuquerque, NM, was elected to represent the Directors-At-Large. Lourdes Landa of McGriff in Anaheim, CA, was elected to represent the Regional Directors. Steven Tucker of Tucker Agency, Ltd. in Fort Worth, TX, was elected to represent the 5-15 Leadership Committee.

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