



## **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS**

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### **NASBP SELECTS 2016-2017 OFFICERS**

**WASHINGTON, DC**—The National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) has elected Lynne W. Cook, Senior Vice President at Early, Cassidy and Schilling, Inc. in Rockville, Maryland, as the 2016-2017 NASBP President.

At the NASBP Annual Meeting held last month in Colorado Springs, CO, Cook stated that she plans to focus on educating project owners about the important protections surety bonding provides them. "The thoroughness of surety prequalification simply is without parallel; surety remains the product of choice," Cook said. Cook also plans to deliver a forum that examines the multitude of ways the surety product provides value to the end-user. "Surety has been key in moving the country forward in its investments in infrastructure and the built environment," Cook said.

"The Association's top legislative issue is advocating that public-private partnership (P3) agreements require bonds on the design-build or construction portion of a project to preserve precious taxpayer funds and to protect downstream businesses," said Mark H. McCallum, NASBP's Chief Executive Officer. "Cook's educational campaign will reinforce the message to owners that it is imperative that bonds from certified or admitted corporate sureties are required and that bonding requirements are not waived or reduced for infrastructure projects," he said.

In addition, Cook plans to deliver enriching, substantive programs for new professionals in the industry. The culmination of Cook's presidency will be the Association's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration held in Boca Raton, FL during the NASBP Annual Meeting, April 23-26 2017, with the fitting theme, "Building the Bonds of Surety—Honoring Our Past, Celebrating Our Future."

Also, NASBP elected Howard Cowan as NASBP First Vice President. Cowan is President of the Cowan-Hill Bond Agency Inc. in Lubbock, TX. Robert E. Shaw was elected as NASBP Second Vice President. Shaw is President of Skillings Shaw & Associates, Inc. in Lewiston, ME. John N. Bustard was elected NASBP Third Vice President. Bustard is Executive Vice President of King & Neel, Inc. in Honolulu, HI. In addition, Susan Hecker will serve as NASBP Immediate Past President. Hecker is Executive Vice President and National Director of Contract Surety for Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. in San Francisco.

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. Mark Munekawa, Senior Vice President of Surety of Woodruff-Sawyer & Co. in San Francisco, CA, was elected to represent the Directors-At-Large. Christian Downey, President of Downey and Company in Albuquerque, NM, was elected to represent the Regional Directors. Chad Martin, Contract Bond Agent of TIS Insurance Services, Inc. in Knoxville, TN, 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.*