



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS

1140 19th Street, NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: 202.686.3700

Fax: 202.686.3656

www.nasbp.org

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Contact: Kathy Hoffman at khoffman@nasbp.org, 202.464.1175

NASBP SELECTS MARYLAND EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT FOR 2016-2017

WASHINGTON, DC—Lynne W. Cook, Senior Vice President at Early, Cassidy and Schilling, Inc. of Rockville, Maryland, has been installed as the President of the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP), an international trade association headquartered in Washington, DC, serving a membership of firms employing licensed surety bond producers.

At the NASBP Annual Meeting held last month in Colorado Springs, CO, Cook stated that during her presidency 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, and it continues to help build the future of our nation," Cook said.

Cook's initiatives are timely. "With limited federal funding for infrastructure, public-private partnership (P3) projects are increasingly pursued at federal, state and local levels," said Mark H. McCallum, NASBP's Chief Executive Officer. "The Association's top legislative issue is advocating that P3 agreements require bonds on the design-build or construction portion of a project to preserve precious taxpayer funds and to protect downstream businesses," McCallum said. "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, during her term Cook plans to deliver enriching, substantive programs for new professionals in the industry. "Ensuring that the surety industry has an abundant talent pool is one of the industry's most pressing concerns," Cook said. "We need to provide programs that interest new professionals in our industry and that warrant the expense to their management." Addressing the needs of the Association's 5-15 Leadership Committee, composed of early-career bond producers, who represent new, emerging leaders in the industry, is critical, she said.

The culmination of Cook's presidency will be the Association's 75th 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. Defining Our Future."

During her 16-year involvement with NASBP, Cook has served on the NASBP Board and as Chair on the NASBP Commercial Surety Committee. She also has served on many NASBP Committees. Among them are Professional Development & Education, Small & Emerging Business, Membership, Industry Relations, Annual Meeting Program, Ethics, and Finance.

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.