



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

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## **National Bond Producer Association Hires Noted Surety & Construction Law Expert as General Counsel**

**WASHINGTON, DC**—The National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP), a national association of firms employing surety bond producers who specialize in providing surety bonds for construction contracts and other purposes, announced today that Martha L. Perkins, Esq., a Partner with the Law Firm of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP, has left private practice and joined the Association as its General Counsel.

NASBP President Lawrence F. McMahon said, "This is a very positive and exciting development for the Association that enhances our staff capabilities and further positions NASBP to be an unparalleled advocate and resource for surety bond producers." "Perkins' familiarity with and legal expertise in the surety, insurance and construction industries makes her uniquely suited as the Association's General Counsel," he added.

Perkins is now the second in-house General Counsel at NASBP, as Mark McCallum left that position to assume his present responsibilities as the Chief Executive Officer in 2009. Monday, July 8, will mark Perkins' first day as General Counsel.

NASBP Chief Executive Officer Mark McCallum said, "I am extremely pleased, because for the last three years I have worked closely with Martha while she served as NASBP's outside legal counsel, addressing many key matters for the Association." "With Martha being onboard, the Association stands to benefit even more from her considerable legal experience addressing surety and construction matters. Her varied experience includes contract drafting and negotiation, risk management counseling, contract performance advice, claims analysis, and dispute resolution."

In her role as the NASBP General Counsel, Perkins will manage the day-to-day legal affairs of the Association and interface with various staff departments as needed to provide counsel and advice on a variety of matters impacting the interests and operations of the Association. Perkins also will act as a point of outreach and liaison to outside organizations on a variety of contract, risk management, and surety law matters.

Perkins was a Partner at the Mid-Atlantic Law Firm of Whiteford, Taylor, & Preston. Prior to that, she was a Partner with the Law Firm of Ernstom & Drete, LLP. She also has previous trade association experience having been an Associate General Counsel for seven years with the American Insurance Association. Perkins received B.A. and M.A.Ed. degrees from the University of North Carolina and a J.D. from the Mississippi College School of Law.

*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.*