

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) P.O. BOX 14498, DES MOINES, IA 50306-3498
PHONE: (800) 678-8171 FAX: (515) 243-3854

202200003 B: BD V: 9 P: 109 BOND
07/11/2022 03:43 PM Total Pages: 5 Fee: 0.00
Sasna Kellon, County Clerk - Clay County, Texas

TEXAS OFFICIAL BOND AND OATH FOR COUNTY AUDITOR

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Clay

Bond No. TX5944250

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Randal Smith, as Principal, and the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (Mutual), a corporation duly licensed to do business in the State of Texas, as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto the District Judge for the County of Clay State of Texas, his/her successors in office, in the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

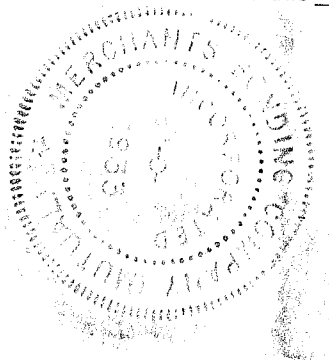
THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION is such, that, whereas, the above bounden Principal was on the 5th day of July, 2022, duly Appointed to the office of County Auditor in and for Clay County in the State of Texas, for a term commencing on the 5th day of July, 2022 and expiring on the 5th day of July, 2024.

Now, therefore, if the said Principal shall faithfully perform the duties of county auditor, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that regardless of the number of years this bond may remain in force and the number of claims which may be made against this bond, the liability of the Surety shall not be cumulative and the aggregate liability of the Surety for any and all claims, suits, or actions under this bond shall not exceed the amount stated above. Any revision of the bond amount shall not be cumulative.

PROVIDED, FURTHER, that this bond may be canceled by the Surety by sending written notice to the party to whom this bond is payable stating that, not less than thirty (30) days thereafter, the Surety's liability hereunder shall terminate as to subsequent acts of the Principal.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2022.



Randal Smith Principal

By: Randal Smith
Randal Smith

Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual)

By: Kay Blair
Kay Blair Attorney-in-Fact

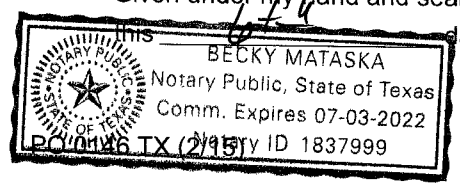
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRINCIPAL

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Clay

Before me, Becky Mataska, a notary public, on this day personally appeared Randal Smith known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Henrietta day of July, 2022.



Clay County, Texas.

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., both being corporations of the State of Iowa (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

Kay Blair

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to sign its name as surety(ies) and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof, on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

This Power-of-Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual) on April 23, 2011 and amended August 14, 2015 and adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., on October 16, 2015.

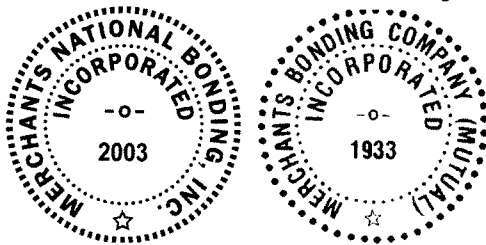
"The President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer or any Assistant Secretary or any Vice President shall have power and authority to appoint Attorneys-in-Fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof."

"The signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile or electronic transmission to any Power of Attorney or Certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the Company, and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually fixed."

In connection with obligations in favor of the Florida Department of Transportation only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact includes any and all consents for the release of retained percentages and/or final estimates on engineering and construction contracts required by the State of Florida Department of Transportation. It is fully understood that consenting to the State of Florida Department of Transportation making payment of the final estimate to the Contractor and/or its assignee, shall not relieve this surety company of any of its obligations under its bond.

In connection with obligations in favor of the Kentucky Department of Highways only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact cannot be modified or revoked unless prior written personal notice of such intent has been given to the Commissioner-Department of Highways of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at least thirty (30) days prior to the modification or revocation.

In Witness Whereof, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and sealed this 17th day of June, 2022.

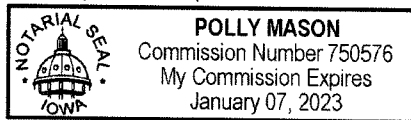


MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.

By *Larry Taylor*
President

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 17th day of June, 2022, before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is President of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.; and that the seals affixed to the foregoing instrument are the Corporate Seals of the Companies; and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors.



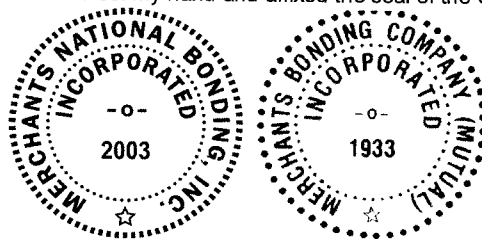
Polly Mason

Notary Public

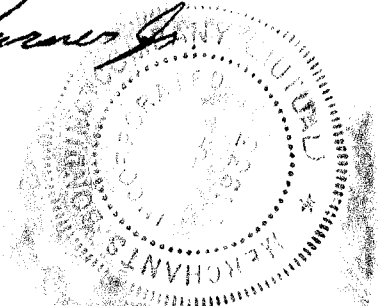
(Expiration of notary's commission does not invalidate this instrument)

I, William Warner, Jr., Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY executed by said Companies, which is still in full force and effect and has not been amended or revoked.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Companies on this 17th day of June, 2022.



William Warner Jr.
Secretary



MERCHANTS 
BONDING COMPANYTM

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P.O. BOX 14498 • DES MOINES, IOWA 50306-3498 • (800) 678-8171 • (515) 243-3854 FAX

TEXAS ENDORSEMENT

The following has been added, and supersedes any provision to the contrary.

The following actions shall be commenced within 2 years and 1 day from the date the cause of action first accrues:

1. Any claim, action, suit or proceeding against the Surety.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Have a complaint or need help?

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company first. If you can't work out the issue, the Texas Department of Insurance may be able to help.

Even if you file a complaint with the Texas Department of Insurance, you should also file a complaint or appeal through your insurance company. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual)

To get information or file a complaint with your insurance company:

Call: Compliance Officer at 800-678-8171

Toll-free: 1-800-678-8171

Email: regulatory@merchantsbonding.com

Mail: P.O. Box 14498, Des Moines, IA 50306-3498

To get insurance information you may also contact your agent:

Higginbotham Insurance Agency Inc

Call: (817) 336-2377

Mail: PO Box 908 Fort Worth, TX 76101

The Texas Department of Insurance

To get help with an insurance question or file a complaint with the state:

Call with a question: 1-800-252-3439

File a complaint: www.tdi.texas.gov

Email: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Mail: MC 111-1A, P.O. Box 149091, Austin, TX 78714-9091

FILED AND RECORDED

Instrument Number: 202200003 B: BD V: 9 P: 109

Filing and Recording Date: 07/11/2022 03:43:13 PM Recording Fee: 0.00

I hereby certify that this instrument was FILED on the date and time stamped heron and RECORDED in the OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS of Clay County, Texas.



Sasha Kelton

Sasha Kelton, County Clerk
Clay County, Texas

ANY PROVISION CONTAINED IN ANY DOCUMENT WHICH RESTRICTS THE SALE, RENTAL, OR USE OF THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED THEREIN BECAUSE OF RACE OR COLOR IS INVALID UNDER FEDERAL LAW AND IS UNENFORCEABLE.