

# MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) P.O. BOX 14498, DES MOINES, IA 50306-3498

PHONE: (800) 678-8171 FAX: (515) 243-3854

## TEXAS OFFICIAL BOND AND OATH

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Galveston

ss.

Bond No. 101545147

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Veronica Van Horn, 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 bound  
unto County of Galveston, his successors in office, in the sum of  
Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) DOLLARS, for the payment of which we  
hereby bind ourselves and our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, by these presents.

THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION is such, that, whereas, the above bounden Principal was on the 18th  
day of June, 2025, duly Appointed  
to the office of County Purchasing Agent in and for Galveston  
County in the State of Texas, for a term beginning the 18th day of June, 2025 and ending the 18th day of June, 2027.

Now, therefore, if the said Principal shall well and faithfully perform and discharge all the duties required of him by law as the aforesaid  
officer, and shall

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 18th day of June, 2025.

Veronica Van Horn

Principal

Veronica Van Horn

Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual)

By:

Stephanie Rippard Attorney-in-Fact

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRINCIPAL

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Galveston

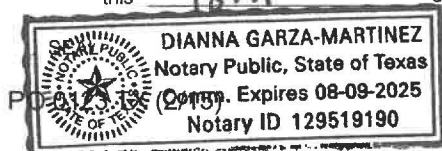
ss.

Before me, Dianna Garza-Martinez, a notary public, on this day personally appeared

Veronica Van Horn

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 Galveston county  
this 18th day of June, 2025



Dianna Garza-Martinez  
Galveston County, Texas.

OATH OF OFFICE  
(COUNTY COMMISSIONERS and COUNTY JUDGE)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State; and I furthermore solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly nor indirectly paid, offered, or promised to pay, contributed, nor promised to contribute any money, or valuable thing, or promised any public office or employment, as a reward for the giving or withholding a vote at the election at which I was elected; and I furthermore solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not be, directly or indirectly, interested in any contract with or claim against the County, except such contracts or claims as are expressly authorized by law and except such warrants as may issue to me as fees of office. So help me God.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed before me at \_\_\_\_\_, Texas, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL

OATH OF OFFICE  
(General)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State; and I furthermore solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly nor indirectly paid, offered, or promised to pay, contributed, nor promised to contribute any money, or valuable thing, or promised any public office or employment, as a reward for the giving or withholding a vote at the election at which I was elected. So help me God.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed before me at \_\_\_\_\_, Texas, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Galveston } ss

The foregoing bond of Veronica Van Horn as County Purchasing Agent in and for Galveston County and State of Texas, this day approved in open Commissioner's Court.

ATTEST:

Date July 7, 2025

Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk  
County Court | Galveston

Clerk

County

Mark Henry  
Galveston County Judge,  
County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of \_\_\_\_\_ } ss

I, \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk, in and for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing Bond dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, with its certificates of authentication, was filed for record in my office the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M., and duly recorded the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M., in the Records of Official Bonds of said County in Volume \_\_\_\_\_, on page \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the County Court of said County, at office in \_\_\_\_\_, Texas, the day and year last above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy County Court \_\_\_\_\_ County

# 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, and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY, an assumed name of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

**Stephanie Rippard**

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 By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of the Companies.

"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 18th day of June, 2025.



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

By

President

STATE OF IOWA  
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 18th day of June, 2025, 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), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY; 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.



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

Notary Public

I, Elisabeth Sandersfeld, Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY 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 18th day of June, 2025.



Secretary



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

### **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.

## FILED AND RECORDED

Instrument Number: *2025031801*

Recording Fee: 0.00

Number Of Pages: 5

Filing and Recording Date: 07/08/2025 4:04PM

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



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwight D. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk**  
**Galveston County, Texas**

NOTICE: It is a crime to intentionally or knowingly file a fraudulent court record or instrument with the clerk.

**DO NOT DESTROY** - *Warning, this document is part of the Official Public Record.*