AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

AND

THE SURETY & FIDELITY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

I. INTRODUCTION

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is by and between the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (the "District"), a municipal corporation acting by and through the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ("DSLBD") and THE SURETY & FIDELITY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, a District of Columbia non-profit corporation, or its designees, successors or assigns ("SFAA").

II. BACKGROUND

The District of Columbia aims to focus its local procurement power to support small business enterprises in the real estate and construction industries. These efforts will further the District’s commitment to creating a nurturing environment for small and local businesses. By leveraging city resources and strategic partnerships, the D.C. Government will ensure small and emerging contractors will have the tools needed to successfully navigate and compete for local business opportunities.

The mission of DSLBD is to support the development, economic growth, and retention of District-based businesses, and promote economic development throughout the District’s commercial corridors. Through advocacy, business development programs and technical assistance offerings, DSLBD seeks to maximize opportunities for Certified Business Enterprises (CBE) to participate in the District’s contracting and procurement process.

SFAA is a trade association consisting of companies that collectively write the majority of surety and fidelity bonds in the United States. The Model Contractor Development Program ® ("MCDP®") is a dual access to bonding strategy and involves working with surety producers and underwriters to make bonds more readily available while working with small and emerging contractors to prepare them for bonding transactions.

III. PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to establish a working partnership between DSLBD and SFAA to facilitate the implementation of the MCDP®.
allows both parties to directly respond to the challenges facing small and emerging contractors located in the District;

WHEREAS, through the MCDP®, SFAA will support DSLBD by providing surety bond education, identifying resources available for obtaining a first bond, and directly assisting small and emerging contractors in achieving bond readiness; and

WHEREAS, DSLBD will make the MCDP® available to the District-based small contractor community, promote the MCDP® to all interested parties, and act as a public liaison.

THEREFORE, the parties do mutually agree as follows:

IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DSLBD shall:

- Administer all activities related to recruitment and retention of participants in the MCDP®;
- Act as public liaison for MCDP® and coordinate all outreach activities;
- Store and maintain participant files and records for local surety team; and
- Ensure accountability of small contractor participation and eligibility requirements.

SFAA shall:

- Identify one or more local surety professional(s) to work as a volunteer bond readiness team for the MCDP®;
- Provide all workshop content, materials, and presenters;
- Provide local surety team members one-on-one counseling; and
- Provide bondable small and emerging contractors access to surety producers.

V. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This Agreement shall be in effect for a period of two (2) years from the date of execution and shall be amendable and renewable for additional one year periods by mutual consent. If either party wishes to terminate the Agreement prior to the end of the one year period, that party must provide a 30 day written notice to the other party.
Any promotional or marketing materials related to the MCDP® and/or this Agreement and/or bearing the DSLBD and/or SFAA name or logo must first be approved by DSLBD and SFAA before publication and/or dissemination.

This Agreement shall be construed to be in accordance with the laws of the District of Columbia without regard for conflicts of law principles.

The undersigned parties have understood and agreed to the requirements of this Agreement. Any modifications or corrections to this Agreement must be done in writing and agreed upon by both parties before changes are implemented. All subsequent additions, deletions or updates should be introduced with a track number for filing purposes.

AGREED TO AND EXECUTED THIS ___ DAY of ___.__., 2015

Muriel E. Bowser
Mayor
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Lynn M. Schubert
President
THE SURETY & FIDELITY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA