

**Memorandum Of Understanding
Between The County Of Suffolk
By And Through Its Office Of Minority Affairs
And
The Surety & Fidelity Association Of America**

WITNESSETH

That the County of Suffolk is home to approximately 1.5 million people, nearly 20% of whom are made up of African-Americans, Latinos, Asian-Americans and other ethnic groups.

That under the Office of Minority Affairs, the African-American Advisory Board, the Hispanic Advisory Board, the Asian Advisory Board, and the Muslim Advisory Board, minority business development and civic participation is developed and encouraged.

That the Office of Minority Affairs is home to the County of Suffolk's Minority Business Enterprise Coalition and the Women's Enterprise Coalition. Both coalitions function to assist qualified women and minority owned businesses in effectively competing for bids, contracts, and procurement opportunities.

That the Surety & Fidelity Association of America (Association) is a licensed rating or advisory organization in all states, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico and has been designated by all state insurance departments, except Texas, as a statistical agent for the reporting of fidelity and surety experience.

That the Association:

- 1) represents member companies in matters of common interest before governmental agencies;
- 2) offers educational assistance on surety and other relevant topics;
- 3) takes an active role in diversity by assisting in educating emerging contractors on how to become bondable or increase their bonding capacity;
- 4) provides technical assistance and program support to municipalities in the areas of contractor development and bonding support.

That the Association is committed to working with the Office of Minority Affairs to promote the growth and development of women and minority-owned businesses in the County of Suffolk.

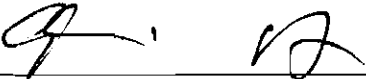
Now, in consideration of the foregoing, it is agreed as follows:

- A) The Association shall share and promote the goals of the Office of Minority Affairs in assisting qualified women and minority-owned businesses in competing

for bids, contracts, and other procurement opportunities by increasing access to bonding.

- B) The Association shall participate in programs designated by the Office of Minority Affairs to promote awareness of bonding education available through the Association.
- C) The Association shall assist with access to bonding opportunities and technical assistance specifically geared towards the needs of Suffolk County women and minority-owned businesses.
- D) The Association shall support the Office of Minority Affairs with seminars, workshops, or outreach activities to support and enhance women and minority-owned businesses effectively competing for bids, contracts and other procurement activities.
- E) The Office of Minority Affairs shall promote the Association's programs to women and minority owned businesses.
- F) The Office of Minority Affairs shall endeavor to increase access to bonding, bids, contracts and other procurement opportunities available to women and minority-owned businesses.
- G) The Office of Minority Affairs shall distribute information and appropriate promotional materials relating to the Association, its members and programs.
- H) The Association may use this memorandum of understanding to promote seminars, workshops, or outreach activities to support and enhance women and minority-owned businesses with bonding, bids, contracts and other procurement opportunities upon receiving the prior written consent of the Director of the Office of Minority Affairs. The Office of Minority Affairs may promote the Association's programs herein as determined by the Director at his discretion, upon receiving the prior written consent of the Association. Any data or information obtained during the course of this agreement shall not be made available to any third party without the prior written consent of the Office of Minority Affairs.
- I) It is mutually agreed between the Association and the Office of Minority Affairs that each party shall be responsible for its own expenses arising out of and in relation to the terms and conditions of this memorandum of understanding.
- J) This memorandum of understanding may be amended at any time by the parties in writing, or terminated by either party upon 30 days of posting of notice to the other party by regular mail and certified mail return receipt requested.

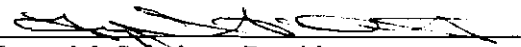
- K) Any communication pertaining to this memorandum of agreement shall be directed to the Director, Office of Minority Affairs, County of Suffolk, H. Lee Dennison building, 100 Veterans Memorial highway, P.O. Box 6100, Hauppauge, NY 11788; and for the Association: communication shall be directed to Lynn M. Schubert, President, The Surety & Fidelity Association of America, 1101 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 800 Washington , D.C. 20036.
- L) This memorandum of understanding shall be for a term of one year effective from the date hereof.
- M) This document is a memorandum of understanding only. It is only a declaration of intent. The agreement does not create any actionable rights or obligations which may be asserted by either party. It does not prohibit either party from entering into other similar relationships.
- N) Any portion of this agreement that conflicts with federal, state or local law shall be null and void.



Ed Perez, Director
Office of Minority Affairs
County of Suffolk County

10-12-2006

Date



Lynn M. Schubert, President
The Surety & Fidelity Association of America

10/4/06

Date