



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Surety & Fidelity Association of America Elects Board Members and President Taylor Re-Elected Chair; Covington Elected President

MAY 20, 2019, WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Surety & Fidelity Association of America (SFAA) elected its executive committee, board of directors and president at the 111th Annual Meeting held in Washington, D.C. on May 16.

Larry Taylor was re-elected as Chair of the Board. Mr. Taylor is the President of Merchants Bonding Company Group. He joined Merchants Bonding Company TM in 1989 and became the company's President in 1996.

John Welch was re-elected to Vice Chair of the Board of Directors. Mr. Welch has been President and Chief Executive Officer of CNA Surety Corp., an affiliate of CNA Financial Corporation, since June 17, 2003.

Also elected to the Executive Committee were:

Bob Murray, Executive Vice President & Head of Surety, Zurich North America

Stephen Ruschak, President & Chief Executive Officer, The Guarantee Company of North America USA

Thomas M. Kunkel, President, Bond & Specialty Insurance, The Travelers Companies

Tim Mikolajewski, President of Global Surety, Liberty Mutual Group

In addition to those companies, representatives from SFAA member companies elected to serve on the Board include:

John Phinney, Chief Underwriting Officer, AIG Property Casualty

Stephen Haney, President, North American Surety, Chief Underwriting Officer for Global Surety, Chubb Surety

Gary T Dunbar, President, Bond Division, Great American Insurance Group

James Kawiecki, President, Hanover Surety, The Hanover Insurance Group

Rick Ciullo, Chief Operating Officer, Hartford Bond, The Hartford Insurance Group

Nancy Giardano-Ramos, Vice President, Head of Bonds, Main Street America Group

John Knox, Jr., Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Markel Surety Corporation

Antonio C. Albanese, Vice President- Head of Surety, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

Alan Pavlic, President & Chief Operating Officer, Old Republic Surety Company

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Steve Anderson, Senior Vice President, Head of North American Surety, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions
Dennis Baus, National Surety Leader, Westfield Insurance Group

Shawn Lynch, Senior Vice President, Transatlantic Re, also was elected as the reinsurance representative on the Board.

J. Lee Covington II was elected as SFAA President.

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The Surety & Fidelity Association of America (SFAA) is a trade association of more than 425 insurance companies that write 98 percent of surety and fidelity bonds in the U.S. SFAA is licensed as a rating or advisory organization in all states and it has been designated by state insurance departments as a statistical agent for the reporting of fidelity and surety experience.