

Texas



Western Surety Company

AT 2:13 O'CLOCK P.

DEC 12 2024

ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO CO. TEXAS

DEPL

OFFICIAL BOND AND OATH

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of Hidalgo } ss

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

BOND No. 15235098

That we, Robert M. Contreras, as Principal, and WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, a corporation duly licensed to do business in the State of Texas, as Surety, are held and bound unto Hidalgo County Judge, his successors in office, in the sum of Five Thousand and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00), for the payment of which we hereby bind ourselves and our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, by these presents.

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2024.

THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION IS SUCH, That whereas, the above bounden Principal was on the 5th day of November, 2024, duly Elected (Elected—Appointed) Justice of The Peace Pct2 to the office of PL1 in and for Hidalgo County, State of Texas, for a term of four year s commencing on the 1st day of January, 2025.

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 ⁴

faithfully and impartially discharge the duties required by law and promptly pay to the entitled party all money that comes into his hands during the term of office.

then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

NEVER, that regardless of the number of years this bond may remain in force and the number of claims made against this bond, the liability of the Surety shall not be cumulative and the aggregate liability of any and all claims, suits, or actions under this bond shall not exceed the amount stated above. Any amount shall not be cumulative.

OTHER, that this bond may be cancelled 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.



Robert M. Contreras Principal
WESTERN SURETY COMPANY
By Larry Kasten Larry Kasten, Vice President

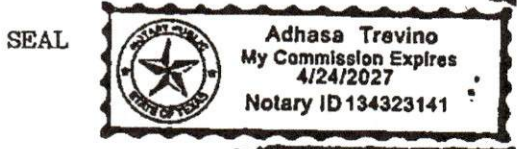
AT 2:13 FILED O'CLOCK P. M
DEC 12 2024
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS
BY [Signature] DEPUTY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRINCIPAL

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of Hidalgo } ss

Before me, Adhasa Trevino on this day, personally appeared Robert M. Contreras, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Pharr, Texas, this 12th day of December, 2024.



Adhasa Trevino
Hidalgo 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

_____ County, Texas

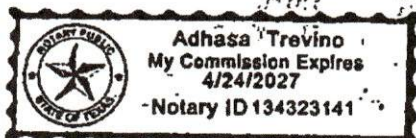
OATH OF OFFICE
(General)

I, Robert M. Contreras, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of Justice of the Peace Pct 2 PL1, 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 Robert M. Contreras

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Pharr, Texas, this 12th day of December, 2024.

SEAL



Adhasa Trevino
Hidalgo County, Texas

AT 2:13 P. M. FILED O'CLOCK
DEC 12 2024
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO CO. TEXAS
DEPUTY

Western Surety Company

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of South Dakota, and authorized and licensed to do business in the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the United States of America, does hereby make, constitute and appoint

Larry Kasten of Sioux Falls,
State of South Dakota, its regularly elected Vice President,
as Attorney-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred upon him to sign, execute, acknowledge and deliver for and on its behalf as Surety and as its act and deed, the following bond:

One Justice of The Peace Pct2 P11, County of Hidalgo

bond with bond number 15235098

for Robert M. Contreras

as Principal in the penalty amount not to exceed: \$ 5,000.00

Western Surety Company further certifies that the following is a true and exact copy of Section 7 of the by-laws of Western Surety Company duly adopted and now in force, to-wit:

Section 7. All bonds, policies, undertakings, Powers of Attorney, or other obligations of the corporation shall be executed in the corporate name of the Company by the President, Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, or any Vice President, or by such other officers as the Board of Directors may authorize. The President, any Vice President, Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, or the Treasurer may appoint Attorneys-in-Fact or agents who shall have authority to issue bonds, policies, or undertakings in the name of the Company. The corporate seal is not necessary for the validity of any bonds, policies, undertakings, Powers of Attorney or other obligations of the corporation. The signature of any such officer and the corporate seal may be printed by facsimile.

This Power of Attorney may be signed by digital signature and sealed by a digital or otherwise electronic-formatted corporate seal under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company by unanimous written consent dated the 27th day of April, 2022:

"RESOLVED: That it is in the best interest of the Company to periodically ratify and confirm any corporate documents signed by digital signatures and to ratify and confirm the use of a digital or otherwise electronic-formatted corporate seal, each to be considered the act and deed of the Company"

In Witness Whereof, the said WESTERN SURETY COMPANY has caused these presents to be executed by its Vice President with the corporate seal affixed this 23rd day of August, 2024.

ATTEST

L. Bauder
L. Bauder, Assistant Secretary



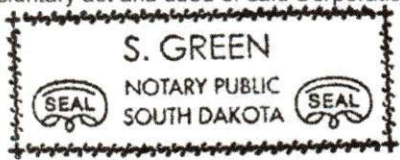
WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

Larry Kasten
Larry Kasten, Vice President

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
COUNTY OF MINNEHAHA) ss

On this 23rd day of August, 2024, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Larry Kasten and L. Bauder

who, being by me duly sworn, acknowledged that they signed the above Power of Attorney as Vice President and Assistant Secretary, respectively, of the said WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, and acknowledged said instrument to be the voluntary act and deed of said Corporation.



My Commission Expires February 12, 2027

S. Green
Notary Public

To validate bond authenticity, go to www.cnasurety.com > Owner/Obligee Services > Validate Bond Coverage.



AT 2:13 FILED O'CLOCK P. M.
DEC 12 2024
 ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., COUNTY CLERK
 HIDALGO CO. TEXAS
 BY [Signature] DEPUTY

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
 County of _____ } ss

The foregoing bond of _____ as
 _____ in and for _____ County and State of Texas, this day
 approved in open Commissioner's Court.

ATTEST: _____ Date _____,
 _____ Clerk _____ County Judge,
 County Court _____ County _____ 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
 _____.

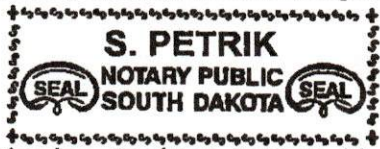
WITNESS my hand and the seal of the County Court of said County, at office in _____,
 Texas, the day and year last above written.

 Clerk
 By _____ Deputy County Court _____ County

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SURETY
 (Corporate Officer)

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA }
 County of Minnehaha } ss

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State on this 23rd day of August,
2024, personally appeared Larry Kasten to me known to be the identical
 person who subscribed the name of WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, Surety, to the foregoing instrument as the
 aforesaid officer and acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his free and voluntary act and deed, and as the
 free and voluntary act and deed of such corporation for the uses and purposes therein set forth.



My Commission Expires August 11, 2028

[Signature]
 Notary Public

Figure: 28 TAC § 1.601(a)(2)(B)

Have a complaint or need help?

If you have a problem with a claim or your premium, call your insurance company or HMO 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 or HMO. If you don't, you may lose your right to appeal.

Western Surety Company, Surety Bonding Company of America or Universal Surety of America

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

Call: Customer Service at 1-605-336-0850

Toll-free: 1-800-331-6053

Email: uwservices@cnasurety.com

Mail: P.O. Box 5077, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5077

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: Consumer Protection, MC: CO-CP, Texas Department of Insurance, P.O. Box 12030, Austin, TX 78711-2030

Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?

Si tiene un problema con una reclamacion o con su prima de seguro, llame primero a su compania de seguros o HMO. Si no puede resolver el problema, es posible que el Departamento de Seguros de Texas (Texas Department of Insurance, por su nombre en ingles) pueda ayudar.

Aun si usted presenta una queja ante el Departamento de Seguros de Texas, tambien debe presentar una queja a traves del proceso de quejas o de apelaciones de su compania de seguros o HMO. Si no lo hace, podria perder su derecho para apelar.

Western Surety Company, Surety Bonding Company of America or Universal Surety of America

Para obtener informacion o para presentar una queja ante su compania de seguros o HMO:

Llame a: Servicio al Cliente al 1-605-336-0850

Telefono gratuito: 1-800-331-6053

Correo electronico: uwservices@cnasurety.com

Direccion postal: P.O. Box 5077, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5077

El Departamento de Seguros de Texas

Para obtener ayuda con una pregunta relacionada con los seguros o para presentar una queja ante el estado:

Llame con sus preguntas al: 1-800-252-3439

Presente una queja en: www.tdi.texas.gov

Correo electronico: ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov

Direccion postal: Consumer Protection, MC: CO-CP, Texas Department of Insurance, P.O. Box 12030, Austin, TX 78711-2030

Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated
Government Code (Refs & Annos)
Title 2. Judicial Branch (Refs & Annos)
Subtitle A. Courts
Chapter 27. Justice Courts (Refs & Annos)
Subchapter A. General Provisions

V.T.C.A., Government Code § 27.001

§ 27.001. Bond

Currentness

Each justice of the peace must give a bond payable to the county judge, in an amount of not more than \$5,000, and conditioned that the justice will:

- (1) faithfully and impartially discharge the duties required by law; and
- (2) promptly pay to the entitled party all money that comes into the justice's hands during the term of office.

Credits

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 480, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

V. T. C. A., Government Code § 27.001, TX GOVT § 27.001

Current through the end of the 2023 Regular, Second, Third and Fourth Called Sessions of the 88th Legislature, and the Nov. 7, 2023 general election.

Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated
Constitution of the State of Texas 1876 (Refs & Annos)
Article XVI. General Provisions

Vernon's Ann.Texas Const. Art. 16, § 1

§ 1. Official Oath

Effective: November 26, 2001

Currentness

Sec. 1. (a) All elected and appointed officers, before they enter upon the duties of their offices, shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:

“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, so help me God.”

(b) All elected or appointed officers, before taking the Oath or Affirmation of office prescribed by this section and entering upon the duties of office, shall subscribe to the following statement:

“I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election at which I was elected or as a reward to secure my appointment or confirmation, whichever the case may be, so help me God.”

(c) Members of the Legislature, the Secretary of State, and all other elected and appointed state officers shall file the signed statement required by Subsection (b) of this section with the Secretary of State before taking the Oath or Affirmation of office prescribed by Subsection (a) of this section. All other officers shall retain the signed statement required by Subsection (b) of this section with the official records of the office.

Credits

Amended Nov. 8, 1938; Nov. 6, 1956; Nov. 7, 1989; Nov. 6, 2001, eff. Nov. 26, 2001.

Editors' Notes

INTERPRETIVE COMMENTARY

2018 Main Volume

This section provides that members of the legislature and all state officials before taking office must subscribe to an oath of office exacting their support of the state and federal constitutions. It also provides that these officials must further swear that in their election they abstained from bribery of voters either directly or indirectly by offering or promising money or any valuable consideration for votes.

The oath of office first appeared in the Constitution of 1845 (Art. 7, § 1), and contained a statement that the official had never participated in a duel. Dueling had been considered in need of some legislative curbing which it was thought that the oath supplied. While dueling was generally accepted, it was felt that holders of public office should be above dueling for the practice of challenging to a duel tended to interfere with candor of speech in legislative gatherings. In all succeeding constitutions, including the present constitution, this declaration on dueling appeared. The impossibility for a duelist to hold office in the state did much to render the “code of honor” an extinct custom, and this portion of the oath of office became outworn and useless and was thus abandoned in 1938 when the present oath of office was adopted.

The clause requiring a denial of bribery first appeared in the present constitution and was the direct outcome of the official corruption which had reached alarming proportions during the reconstruction period. It has been seriously questioned whether such a provision in an oath of office is of much effect, for it has been pointed out that men who bribe will have little hesitancy about falsification.

There was a time when oaths embarrassed falsehood. They may still be of some use in courts, when the judge can caution witnesses, and the perils of perjury can be emphasized. But taken upon entering office, oaths now accomplish little else than to lend dignity to the entrance upon public service and to honorable men bring home the seriousness of their responsibilities.

Notes of Decisions (66)

Vernon's Ann. Texas Const. Art. 16, § 1, TX CONST Art. 16, § 1
Current through the end of the 2021 Regular and Called Sessions of the 87th Legislature.

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