

# Merchants



## BONDING CO.

— Mutual —

Inst # 1996-09591

03/25/1996-09591  
12:50 PM CERTIFIED  
SHELBY COUNTY JUDGE OF PROBATE  
002 MCD 17.00

### NOTARY BOND

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
County of JEFFERSON  
KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS;

BOND No. AL-3284

That we ALICE R. CATON, as Principal,  
and MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), a corporation duly licensed to do business in the State of  
IOWA as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto the State of ALABAMA  
in the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), for the payment of which well and truly to be made and done, we bind  
ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, firmly by these presents, and we hereby waive our rights to  
claim personal property exempt under the laws of ALABAMA

Sealed with our seals, and dated this 22 day of MARCH, 19 96  
WHEREAS, the above-named Principal has been duly appointed Notary Public STATE AT LARGE  
(State at Large of XXXXXX) beginning the 22 day of MARCH 1996  
19 96; for the term of four years in Precinct No.        in and for said County.

NOW, THEREFORE, the condition of this bond is that if the named Principal shall faithfully discharge the duties of  
the office of Notary Public during his/her continuance therein, then this obligation shall be null and void; otherwise, it  
shall remain in full force and effect.

Countersigned

By: Richard E. Thompson

Resident Agent

RICHARD E. THOMPSON  
P. O. BOX 598510 BIRMINGHAM, AL 35259

Address

Approved and filed this

25 day of

March

, 19 96

By: Alice R. Caton

ALICE R. CATON

Principal

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)

By: Richard E. Thompson

RICHARD E. THOMPSON, Attorney-in-Fact

Patricia Lopez Submick  
Judge of Probate

By: \_\_\_\_\_

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

### OATH OF OFFICE

I, ALICE R. CATON, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the  
United States and the Constitution of the State of ALABAMA, so long as I continue to be a citizen thereof; and  
that I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter, to the best of my  
ability, so help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th  
day of February, 19 96

Chandray Lucas  
Notary Public

Alice R. Caton  
Principal

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)  
504-523-9450

# Merchants Bonding Company (MUTUAL)

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Men By These Presents, that the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Iowa, and having its principal office in the City of Des Moines, County of Polk, State of Iowa, hath made, constituted and appointed, and does by these presents make, constitute and appoint

Richard E. Thompson or Alvin B. Bresler

of Birmingham and State of Alabama its true and lawful Attorney-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred in its name, place and stead, to sign, execute, acknowledge and deliver in its behalf as surety any and all bonds, undertakings, recognizances or other written obligations in the nature thereof, subject to the limitation that any such instrument shall not exceed the amount of:

TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100THS (\$2,500,000.00) Dollars

and to bind the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such bond or undertaking was signed by the duly authorized officers of the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), and all such acts of said Attorney-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power-of-Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Amended Substituted and Restated By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) on October 3, 1992.

ARTICLE II, SECTION 8. - The Chairman of the Board or President or any Vice President or Secretary 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.

ARTICLE II, SECTION 9. - The signature of any authorized officer and the Seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile 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 Witness Whereof, MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) has caused these presents to be signed by its Vice-President and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed, this 13th day of October, 19 95

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)



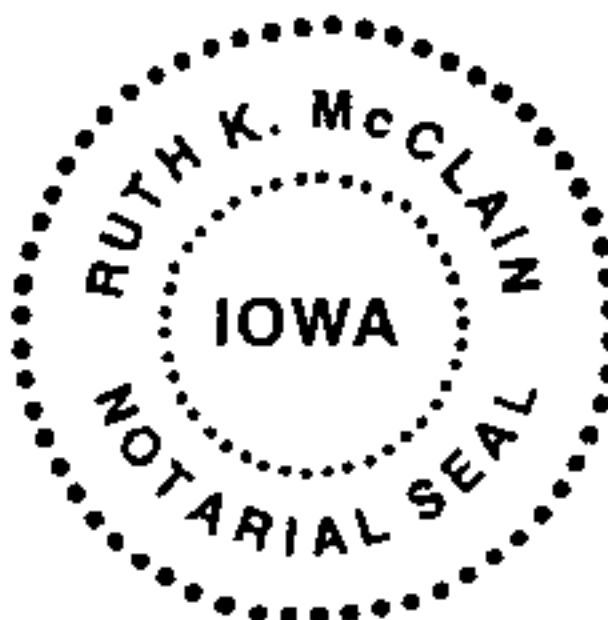
By

*Larry Taylor*  
Vice President

STATE OF IOWA  
COUNTY OF POLK ss.

On this 13th day of October, 19 95, before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is Vice-President of the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), the corporation described in the foregoing instrument, and that the Seal affixed to the said instrument is the Corporate Seal of the said Corporation and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of said Corporation by authority of its Board of Directors.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal at the City of Des Moines, Iowa, the day and year first above written.



*Ruth K. McClain*  
Notary Public, Polk County, Iowa

My Commission  
Expires 2-19-98

STATE OF IOWA  
COUNTY OF POLK ss.

I, William Warner, Jr., Secretary of the MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY, executed by said MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), which is still in force and effect.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Company on this 22 day of MARCH, 19 96

*William Warner Jr.*  
Secretary

This Power-of-Attorney expires 12-31-97



03/25/1996-09591  
12:50 PM CERT 11-1211  
SHELBY COUNTY JUDGE OF PROBATE  
002 MCO 17.00