

EXHIBIT

9

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Form #2201 Rev. 05/2020
submit to:
SECRETARY OF STATE
Government Filings Section
P O Box 12887
Austin, TX 78711-2887
512-463-6334
512-463-5569 - Fax
Filing Fee: None



STATEMENT OF OFFICER

This space reserved for office use

FILED
AT 9:30 o'clock A.M.
JAN 22 2024
TRACY SMITH
COUNTY CLERK
HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS

Statement

I, Andy Endsley, 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.

Title of Position to Which Elected/Appointed: Fire Marshal, Emergency Management Coordinator and Director of Homeland Security

Execution

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing statement and that the facts stated therein are true.

Date: January 22, 2024

Andy Endsley
Signature of Officer



FILED
AT 9:32 o'clock AM
JAN 22 2024
TRACY SMITH
COUNTY CLERK
HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS

OATH OF OFFICE

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS,
I, Andy Endsley, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will
faithfully execute the duties of the office of Fire Marshal, Emergency Management
Coordinator and Director of Homeland Security 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.

Andy Endsley
Signature of Officer

State of Texas
County of Hopkins

SWORN TO and subscribed before me this 22nd day of January, 20 24.



Robert Newsom
Signature of Person Administering Oath

Robert Newsom

Printed Name

Hopkins County Judge
Title



Western Surety Company

AT **FILED**
9:30'clock A.M.
JAN 22 2024
TRACY SMITH
COUNTY CLERK
HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS

CONTINUATION CERTIFICATE

Western Surety Company hereby continues in force Bond No. 65274137 briefly

described as FIRE MARSHALL COUNTY OF HOPKINS COUNTY

for ANDY ENDSLEY

_____ , as Principal,

in the sum of \$ FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 Dollars, for the term beginning

January 01 , 2024 , and ending January 01 , 2026 , subject to all

the covenants and conditions of the original bond referred to above.

This continuation is issued upon the express condition that the liability of Western Surety Company under said Bond and this and all continuations thereof shall not be cumulative and shall in no event exceed the total sum above written.

Dated this 3rd day of January , 2024 .

WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

By Larry Kasten
Larry Kasten, Vice President



THIS "Continuation Certificate" MUST BE FILED WITH THE ABOVE BOND.

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 FIRE MARSHALL COUNTY OF HOPKINS COUNTY

bond with bond number 65274137

for ANDY ENDSLEY

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.

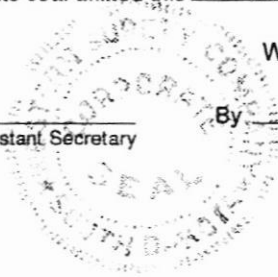
This Power of Attorney may be signed by digital signature and sealed by a digital or otherwise electronic-formatted corporate seal under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company by unanimous written consent dated the 27th day of April, 2022:

"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 3rd day of January, 2024

ATTEST

L. Bauder
L. Bauder, Assistant Secretary

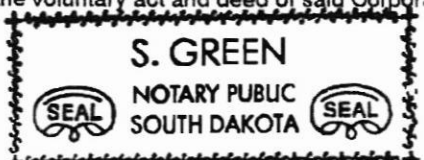


WESTERN SURETY COMPANY
By Larry Kasten
Larry Kasten, Vice President

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA }
COUNTY OF MINNEHAHA } ss

On this 3rd day of January, 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.



S. Green
Notary Public

My Commission Expires February 12, 2027

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

