

00360-BID BOND FORM

Date: 12/15/2020

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That Foret Contracting Group, LLC of Thibodaux, Louisiana, as Principal, and Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual), as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto the Ascension Parish Government (Obligee), in the full and just sum of five (5%) percent of the total amount of this quote, including all alternates, lawful money of the United States, for payment of which sum, well and truly be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally firmly by these presents.

Surety represents that it is listed on the current U. S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service list of approved bonding companies as approved for an amount equal to or greater than the amount for which it obligates itself in this instrument or that it is a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with at least an A - rating in the latest printing of the A. M. Best's Key Rating Guide. If surety qualifies by virtue of its Best's listing, the Bond amount may not exceed ten percent of policyholders' surplus as shown in the latest A. M. Best's Key Rating Guide.

Surety further represents that it is licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana and that this Bond is signed by surety's agent or attorney-in-fact. This Bid Bond is accompanied by appropriate power of attorney.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH that, whereas said Principal is herewith submitting its proposal to the Obligee on a Contract for:

**ANIMAL SHELTER RENOVATIONS
SORRENTO, LA (PM-20-06-009)**

NOW, THEREFORE, if the said Contract be awarded to the Principal and the Principal shall, within such time as may be specified, enter into the Contract in writing and give a good and sufficient bond to secure the performance of the terms and conditions of the Contract with surety acceptable to the Obligee, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise this obligation shall become due and payable.

Foret Contracting Group, LLC
PRINCIPAL (BIDDER)
BY: [Signature]
AUTHORIZED OFFICER-OWNER-PARTNER

Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual)
SURETY
BY: [Signature]
AGENT OR ATTORNEY-IN-FACT (SEAL)
Meghann Turner, Attorney-in-Fact

MERCHANTS
BONDING COMPANY™
POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., both being corporations of the State of Iowa (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually, Garrett Turner; Mary Catherine Turner; Meghann Turner

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to sign its name as surety(ies) and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof, on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

This Power-of-Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual) on April 23, 2011 and amended August 14, 2015 and adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., on October 16, 2015.

"The President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer or any Assistant Secretary or any Vice President 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."

"The signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile or electronic transmission 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 connection with obligations in favor of the Florida Department of Transportation only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact includes any and all consents for the release of retained percentages and/or final estimates on engineering and construction contracts required by the State of Florida Department of Transportation. It is fully understood that consenting to the State of Florida Department of Transportation making payment of the final estimate to the Contractor and/or its assignee, shall not relieve this surety company of any of its obligations under its bond.

In connection with obligations in favor of the Kentucky Department of Highways only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact cannot be modified or revoked unless prior written personal notice of such intent has been given to the Commissioner-Department of Highways of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at least thirty (30) days prior to the modification or revocation.

In Witness Whereof, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and sealed this 11th day of February, 2020

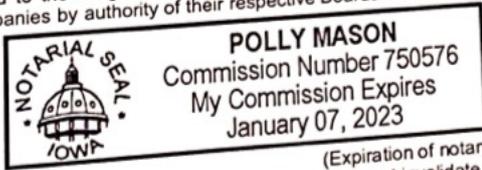


MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.

By *Larry Taylor*
President

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 11th day of February 2020, before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is President of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.; and that the seals affixed to the foregoing instrument are the Corporate Seals of the Companies; and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors.



Polly Mason
Notary Public

(Expiration of notary's commission does not invalidate this instrument)

I, William Warner, Jr., Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY executed by said Companies, which is still in full force and effect and has not been amended or revoked.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Companies on this 15th day of December, 2020.



William Warner Jr.
Secretary

00340-BIDDER'S NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT
(FURNISH WITH BID PACKAGE)

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally came and appeared BENTON A. FORET who after being by me duly sworn, deposed and said that he is the fully authorized MEMBER of FORET CONTRACTING GROUP, L.L.C. (Herein after referred to as "BIDDER") the party who submitted a quote for ASCENSION PARISH GOVT ANIMAL SHELTER ^{RECONSTRUCTION} which quote was received by ASCENSION PARISH, LOUISIANA on 12/15/2020 and said affiant further said:

- (1) That bidder employed no person, corporation, firm, asocial, or other organization, either directly or indirectly, to secure public contract under which he received payment, other than persons regularly employed by the affiant whose services in connection with the construction, alteration, or demolition of the public building or project or in securing the public contract were in the regular course of their duties for bidder, and
- (2) That no part of the contract price received by bidder was paid or will be paid to any person, corporation, firm, association, or other organization for soliciting the contract, other than the payment of their normal compensation to persons regularly employed by the affiant whose services in connection with the construction, alteration, or demolition of the public building or project were in the regular course of their duties for bidder.
- (3) Said bidder is genuine and the bidder has not colluded, conspired or agreed directly or indirectly with any other bidder to offer a sham or collusive quote.
- (4) Said bidder has not in any manner directly or indirectly agreed with any other person to fix the quote price of affiant or any other bidder, or to fix any overhead profit or cost element of said quote price, of that of any other bidder, or to induce any other person to refrain from bidding.
- (5) Said quote is not intended to secure an unfair advantage of benefit from Ascension Parish, Louisiana or in favor of any persons interested in the proposed contract.

- (6) All statement contained in said quote are true and correct.
- (7) Neither affiant nor any member of his company has divulged information regarding said quote or any data relative thereto to any person, firm, or corporation.

By: Benton A. Foret
(Signature)

BENTON A. FORET
(Type or Print Name)

MEMBER
(Type or Print Title)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 15th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2020.

Eugene N. Roth
Notary Public

Eugene N. Roth
Notary #008406

