

3

# NOT AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT



**PUBLIC OFFICIAL BOND**  
State Form 55947 (11-15)  
Approved by State Board of Accounts, 2015  
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

GINA PIMENTEL  
RECORDER  
STATE OF INDIANA  
LAKE COUNTY  
FILED FOR RECORD

**2021-073178**

11:47 AM 2021 Dec 28

Bond number 61916377

Gene Ward, as Principal, and  
WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, as Surety, as well as all heirs, executors, and  
administrators of the Principal and Surety, are bound, jointly and severally, to the State of Indiana, in the  
amount of \$ 5,000.00, if subparagraph (b) is violated. In all other respects, the following  
conditions apply to this Public Official Bond.

- a) The Principal is duly elected, commissioned, appointed, or employed as Police Commissioner  
for Town of Merrillville in the State of Indiana.
- b) The Principal shall faithfully perform and fulfill his or her duties of the position named in subparagraph  
(a); including compliance with IC 5-11 and paying over on demand to the persons entitled or authorized  
to receive the same, all moneys that may come into his or her hands during the term of this Public  
Official Bond.
- c) The term of this Public Official Bond is for a one (1) year term beginning on the 1st day of  
January, 2022 and ending on the 31st day of December, 2022.
- d) This Public Official Bond cannot be continued, extended, or renewed as provided by IC 5-4-1-18(m).
- e) This Public Official Bond complies with IC 5-4-1-18, and any conflict between this bond and the Indiana  
Code shall be resolved in favor of the statutory provisions.
- f) The Legislature may change, modify, or repeal any relevant law now in force and exact any and all laws  
during the existence of this Public Official Bond, but this Public Official Bond will remain in full force and  
effect, except for that which was directly altered by the change in law.

Gene Ward

J. O. Manns  
Paul J. Juchter

By Paul T. Bruflat  
Paul T. Bruflat, Vice President



Attorney in Fact

Accepted and approved this 5th day of November, 2021

NC  
MK

State of Indiana, Lake County, ss:

Personally appeared before me, Gene Ward in and for said County and State aforesaid, Gene Ward who being sworn, upon his or her oath says: "I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Indiana, and I will faithfully, honestly, and impartially fulfill the duties of the office of Police Commissioner to the best of my skill and ability."

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 5th day of November, 2021

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand affixed the seal of said State of Indiana at Lake this the day and year above written.

I, Kelly White Gibson of the State of Indiana do certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the official oath of Gene Ward in and for said County as the same is endorsed on his or her commission.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said State of Indiana, at Lake County this 5th day of November, A.D. 2021  
Kelly White Gibson  
Kelly White Gibson, Clerk Treasurer

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRINCIPAL

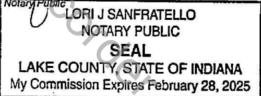
State of Indiana, Lake County, ss:

Personally appeared before me, Gene Ward

Principal upon the bond appearing on the reverse side hereof and acknowledges the execution of said bond This 5th day of November, 2021

February 28, 2025  
Expiration date of commission, (if Notary Public)(month, day, year)

Lori J Sanfratello  
Notary Public



ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SURETY

State of Indiana, South Dakota Minnehaha County, ss:

Comes now WESTERN SURETY COMPANY by Paul T. Brufat, Vice President its agent, surety upon the bond appearing on the reverse side hereof and acknowledges the execution of said bond this 14th day of October, 2021 and confirms compliance with IC 5-4-1-18(f)

June 18, 2025  
Expiration date of commission, (if Notary Public)(month, day, year)

P. Dahl  
Notary Public



# NOT AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

## 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

Paul T. Brufat 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 POLICE COMMISSIONER TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE

bond with bond number 6106377

for Gene Ward  
 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, Secretary, any Vice President, 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.

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 14th day of October 2021.

ATTEST

P. Leitheiser  
 P. Leitheiser, Assistant Secretary

WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

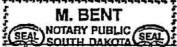
By Paul T. Brufat  
 Paul T. Brufat, Vice President



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA }  
 COUNTY OF MINNEHAHA } ss

On this 14th day of October, 2021, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Paul T. Brufat and P. Leitheiser

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.



M. Bent  
 Notary Public

My Commission Expires March 2, 2026

To validate bond authenticity, go to [www.cnasurety.com](http://www.cnasurety.com) > Owner/Obligee Services > Validate Bond Coverage.

