



Digital Signatures on Surety Bonds

The Bureau of Insurance has traditionally considered surety bonds as original when they are complete with a seal (raised or printed) and wet signature. This practice was adopted by the Bureau when the registration responsibility transferred to us from the Virginia State Bar.

Traditionally, the Bureau holds all surety companies to the higher standard of requiring a seal (raised or printed).

Companies who wish to implement digital signatures during the COVID-19 public health emergency may do so, along with a SURETY BOND SEAL ADDENDUM which contains an electronic corporate seal and states the following:

“Due to logistical issues associated with the use of traditional seals during this COVID-19 pandemic, [Company] has authorized its Attorney-in-Fact to affix [Company’s] corporate seal to any bond executed on behalf of [Company] by any such Attorney-in-Fact by attaching this Addendum to said bond.

To the extent this Addendum is attached to a bond that is executed on behalf of [Company] by its Attorney-in-Facts, [Company] hereby agrees that the seal below shall be deemed affixed to said bond to the same extent as if its raised corporate seal was physically affixed to the face of the bond.”