

Harris County Bail Bond Board Meeting

**Harris County Bail Bond Board Meeting**

06/12/2018

**Q&A**  
**Reporting**

1225 North Loop West, Suite 327  
Houston, TX 77008  
713-467-7900

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HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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10 HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD  
11 MEETING MINUTES  
12 1001 Preston Street, 9th Floor  
13 JUNE 12, 2018  
14 1:39 p.m.  
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1 A P P E A R A N C E S  
2 Mike Fields, Chairman  
3 William Pastor, designee for Glenn Strickland  
4 Michael Butera, designee for District Attorney Kim Ogg  
5 Bill Henderson, designee for Ed Emmett  
6 Sergeant Meade, designee for Sheriff Ed Gonzalez  
7 Orlando Sanchez, County Treasurer  
8 Honorable Armando Rodriguez  
9 Honorable Pena Garcia, des., for Judge E. Marshall  
10 Tommy Ramsey, County Attorney's Office  
11 Gregory Cox, Harris County Sheriff's Office  
12 Artra Lewis, Recorder, Harris County Sheriff's Office  
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S  
2 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Sitting for the District  
3 Attorney's Office is Mr. Mike Butera, sitting for the  
4 Honorable Orlando Sanchez is the Honorable Orlando  
5 Sanchez, sitting for Ed Emmett is Judge Bill Henderson,  
6 sitting in the Sheriff's Office -- Sergeant Meade is  
7 sitting in for the Sheriff's Office.  
8 And Judge, I'm so sorry.  
9 HONORABLE GARCIA: Esmeralda Pena Garcia  
10 sitting in for the City of Houston.  
11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you. And how are  
12 we taking record of this recording?  
13 We have a quorum. The first item of  
14 business is a reading and approval of the prior minutes.  
15 Do I have a motion?  
16 MR. HENDERSON: So moved.  
17 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second?  
18 MR. SANCHEZ: I would just have a  
19 correction on the minutes. It's David Chang, C-H-A-N-G,  
20 not Tran, in my office. Thank you, Judge.  
21 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you. With that  
22 amendment, do I have a modified motion?  
23 MR. HENDERSON: So moved.  
24 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Second?  
25 HONORABLE GARCIA: Second.

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,  
2 signify by saying aye.  
3 THE BOARD: Aye.  
4 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign.  
5 The motion carries.  
6 The first item of business on this  
7 month's agenda is old business. First is a request for  
8 a new license by Accredited Surety & Casualty  
9 Incorporated, Agent Sheba Muharib doing business as  
10 Aable Bail Bonds at 1620 Austin Street, Houston, Texas  
11 77002. This is a request for a new license. The phone  
12 number is (713) 659-2663. This is a two-year license.  
13 Ma'am, raise your right hand to be sworn.  
14 (Witness sworn.)  
15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you, ma'am. Now,  
16 you are present with counsel.  
17 Are there any issues on this license from  
18 the Sheriff's Office?  
19 SERGEANT MEADE: I just have one question  
20 about the phone number. Has the phone number ever been  
21 approved before for -- on a different license,  
22 different -- has it --  
23 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
24 SERGEANT MEADE: Oh, it has.  
25 MS. MUHARIB: It was under an old license

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<p>1 that is now dead.                  2 SERGEANT MEADE: And it's expired or                  3 there's no runoff or nothing on it?                  4 MS. MUHARIB: It's liability that's being</p>	<p>1 MR. MICHAEL: Yes, sir; yes, sir.                  2 MR. HENDERSON: Oh, okay.                  3 MR. MICHAEL: Sorry. Yeah, yes, sir.                  4 MR. BUTERA: For a different insurance</p>
<p>5 <del>fall off on it, yes.</del>                  6 SERGEANT MEADE: Okay. Was it -- what                  7 insurance company own that license? Was it any or was                  8 it a property license?                  9 MS. MUHARIB: It wasn't a property license.                  10 It was by First Community Insurance Company.                  11 MR. MICHAEL: It's been quite some time                  12 ago, though. It's been 12 -- almost 12 or almost 24                  13 months?                  14 MS. MUHARIB: Almost 24 months. I believe                  15 it was on or about 2000 -- July 2016.                  16 SERGEANT MEADE: Are there still people                  17 checking in on that number for that -- people that are                  18 still out on bond contacting --                  19 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.                  20 SERGEANT MEADE: -- through that -- okay.                  21 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.                  22 SERGEANT MEADE: So do you -- you don't                  23 have a paper surrendering the phone number from that                  24 insurance company?                  25 MS. MUHARIB: No, sir, not to my knowledge.</p>	<p>6 MR. MICHAEL: Yes, sir.                  7 MR. BUTERA: But you were licensed for that                  8 company.                  9 MR. MICHAEL: Correct.                  10 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.                  11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: There was no problem with                  12 that company, though, and everything was fine. That's                  13 just the nature of business.                  14 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.                  15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: You wanted to change                  16 insurance companies.                  17 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.                  18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All right. Is there -- I                  19 don't -- is there a rule that would prohibit the use of                  20 that number?                  21 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, the Board approved                  22 it under the insurance company, that license for the                  23 insurance company --                  24 MR. MICHAEL: The insurance company --                  25 SERGEANT MEADE: And it's still running</p>
<p>Page 6                  1 MR. MICHAEL: Shouldn't even -- when all                  2 she -- the only -- and this was some of the housekeeping                  3 issues that when we had come before the Board several                  4 months to make sure that there was nothing going on.                  5 The only thing that's going on with that                  6 number, people checking in, obviously she wouldn't want                  7 to cancel the phone number because she wants everybody                  8 in court to do the right thing. But that's all that's                  9 been going on with the phone number. It's slowly                  10 trickled down and so we're at the point now.                  11 MR. HENDERSON: Who's probably for the                  12 bonds?                  13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: The runoff?                  14 MS. MUHARIB: I am.                  15 MR. MICHAEL: She's still --                  16 MS. MUHARIB: I am.                  17 MR. MICHAEL: She's still -- she's still                  18 working on doing the court day so -- I mean, it's                  19 obviously winding down. She has no control over the                  20 time period for which it takes to wind it down. I mean,                  21 everybody would love for it to have been gone the next                  22 month. That's not realistic. It takes years to wind                  23 down.                  24 MR. HENDERSON: So that was the number she                  25 was using two years ago.</p>	<p>Page 8                  1 liability on -- so I'm ...                  2 MR. MICHAEL: The insurance company would                  3 not, in fact, own it, although it was approved by them.                  4 They would never have -- they never had a bill went to                  5 the phone company that -- it's in her name.                  6 SERGEANT MEADE: Sure, sure.                  7 MR. MICHAEL: Theoretically. I mean, I                  8 understand it was tied to that.                  9 SERGEANT MEADE: Sure.                  10 MR. MICHAEL: But they don't own it so ...                  11 SERGEANT MEADE: But the license when it                  12 was approved by the Board, it was approved along with                  13 that phone number.                  14 MR. MICHAEL: Correct.                  15 MR. BUTERA: Unfortunately, didn't -- I'm                  16 embarrassed to say -- bring a copy of my local rules                  17 because I grabbed the wrong folder.                  18 The point of that local rule regarding                  19 the phone number is just to dissuade any confusion when                  20 a defendant is calling in to make sure they know they're                  21 calling the right company and ...                  22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Right.                  23 MR. BUTERA: Maybe that's what the Sergeant                  24 is saying. Just because that phone number was                  25 associated with a different insurance company, you know.</p>

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1 But that -- because it was on a previous license -- I  
 2 don't know but ...  
 3 MR. MICHAEL: Well, obviously, we're put in  
 4 a very precarious position because I -- you want her to  
 5 continue doing what she's doing.  
 6 MR. BUTERA: Sure. Of course, sure.  
 7 MR. MICHAEL: And it's winding itself down.  
 8 MR. BUTERA: The solution to that would be  
 9 just to get a different for the new ...  
 10 SERGEANT MEADE: I thought it was expired.  
 11 I thought it was dead but ...  
 12 MR. MICHAEL: They're closed. It is -- it  
 13 is expired.  
 14 MR. BUTERA: Do you know how many --  
 15 SERGEANT MEADE: Is there a backline that  
 16 you have that hasn't been approved by the Board?  
 17 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: A rollover line,  
 18 anything. You can still have this number, but just put  
 19 the rollover line with this -- this new license number,  
 20 Fax line ...  
 21 MS. MUHARIB: Excuse me for a minute so I  
 22 can see if I ...  
 23 MR. HENDERSON: Is the former insurance  
 24 company --  
 25 MS. MUHARIB: Entering --

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1 MR. HENDERSON: -- responsible for the  
 2 bonds?  
 3 MS. MUHARIB: -- as a phone service so it  
 4 should be able to pull a backline up for that, if you  
 5 would give her a minute.  
 6 HONORABLE GARCIA: I'm sorry. I couldn't  
 7 hear.  
 8 MR. HENDERSON: She has an Internet --  
 9 MR. MICHAEL: She has an Internet provider  
 10 for that. She said she -- her sister's going to pull it  
 11 up right now. We'll get you another phone number.  
 12 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: So nothing -- nothing  
 13 prohibits it. If there's not an objection to it, then  
 14 is there a motion to approve the license?  
 15 Nothing prohibits the use of that number  
 16 according to the rule.  
 17 MR. SANCHEZ: I'll make a motion.  
 18 MR. PASTOR: I'll second.  
 19 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,  
 20 please signify by saying aye.  
 21 THE BOARD: Aye.  
 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed to -- by the same  
 23 sign. Several abstentions apparently.  
 24 The way it reads --  
 25 MR. MICHAEL: I looked at the rule as well

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1 and I didn't see anything prohibited.  
 2 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Yeah. I mean ...  
 3 MR. MICHAEL: And I understand -- I  
 4 understand the level of confusion but it has been a long  
 5 period of time and she wants to continue to make sure  
 6 everybody goes to court so that --  
 7 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: It would seem to me what  
 8 -- sorry to interrupt you, Michael.  
 9 That purpose of the rule is to keep a  
 10 person from doing shady business with one company,  
 11 having a number, you know, divorcing themselves from  
 12 that company, getting with another company, keeping the  
 13 same number so that can keep that business going. And  
 14 having that familiarity in the community, that's not the  
 15 case here.  
 16 Ms. Muharib has run her business, it  
 17 appears, honorably --  
 18 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 19 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: -- is running off the  
 20 liability in a responsible way and would like to use the  
 21 same number. There's nothing in the rules that  
 22 specifically prohibits it, you know. If I --  
 23 I think that if you were doing it for a  
 24 sinister purpose -- which I don't sense here -- I would  
 25 say shouldn't do it; but that's -- that's not what we

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1 have. But of course, the individual members are ...  
 2 MR. HENDERSON: I'll change my abstention  
 3 to a "yea".  
 4 MR. BUTERA: Yeah. Just for clarification,  
 5 I think the point of the rule is just to keep confusion  
 6 down and all numbers have to be approved by the Board.  
 7 If the Board approves this number, then you're certainly  
 8 fine to use it.  
 9 Best practice is maybe to come up with a  
 10 brand new number instead of writing on that number for  
 11 that license. It is admittedly, you know, totally,  
 12 totally gone but you were still running runoff on it so  
 13 maybe --  
 14 But I don't read the rule to prohibit.  
 15 So as long as it's approved by the Board so ...  
 16 MR. MICHAEL: And I'll think -- I'll tell  
 17 you what I've seen some other people do in other places.  
 18 They'll -- someone will allow a number to lapse and a  
 19 bondsman will go out and grab it and take it and then  
 20 try and attach it to a different company. So you call  
 21 what you think is ABC Bail Bonds when you're really  
 22 reaching some other guy that's taken it.  
 23 MR. BUTERA: Sure.  
 24 MR. MICHAEL: I think that's "fine", too,  
 25 what I've seen happen.

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<p>1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: We have such an honorable 2 bail bond business in Harris County. I can't imagine 3 that anyone would do such a scurrilous thing. 4 Well, they are several absentee votes and</p>	<p>1 FEMALE: It's my understanding that they 2 were past due which is why they were paid. 3 SERGEANT MEADE: Today. 4 FEMALE: I mean, they were paid because</p>
<p>5 1, 2 in favor. 6 HONORABLE GARCIA: I'm going to change mine 7 to a "favor". I want to -- 8 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All right. Then the 9 motion carries. 10 MR. SANCHEZ: Approved. 11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: The next item of business 12 is -- 13 MR. MICHAEL: Thank you very much. 14 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you -- is Financial 15 Casualty &amp; Surety, Incorporated, Agent Sheba Muharib 16 doing business as Able Bonds at 1620 Austin Street, 17 Houston, Texas 77002 with an origin date of 6/14/2016 18 and an expiration date of 6/30/2018. This is License 19 No. 74571. Phone number is (713) 956-2663. This is for 20 a two-year renewal. 21 Are there any issues from the Sheriff's 22 Office? 23 SERGEANT MEADE: I have a question for the 24 insurance company, not Ms. Sheba. 25 When your agents have a judgment, do you</p>	<p>5 they were notified of the judgment? 6 SERGEANT MEADE: Were you notified or were 7 the agents notified that you are aware of? 8 FEMALE: Yes. 9 SERGEANT MEADE: Also, they were notified 10 prior to paying it today. 11 FEMALE: Yes, they were. 12 SERGEANT MEADE: And they're just getting 13 around to being paid today. 14 FEMALE: I can't tell you when exactly that 15 agent was notified, not via from the Sheriff's Office or 16 the DA's Office or whomever because I'm not their 17 office. I know that FCS notified them but that's not my 18 position so I don't know the exact date and time that 19 they were notified or the communications that were held 20 prior to today's meeting because it's just -- that's not 21 what I do for the company. There's somebody who does 22 that. That isn't me. 23 SERGEANT MEADE: One more question. Has 24 this insurance -- your insurance company, have they ever 25 been denied a license for unpaid judgments?</p>
<p>Page 14 1 teach them how to read the 816 report? 2 FEMALE: Do I personally? 3 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, are the agents 4 familiar with the 816? 5 FEMALE: Yes. Yes, they should be. 6 SERGEANT MEADE: Okay. So when they 7 receive a judgment and they receive service in the mail, 8 right, is it within a day or two or from the judgment? 9 FEMALE: Did they -- I don't know when they 10 receive service from the judgment. 11 MR. PASTOR: The district clerk sends out a 12 letter generally. The district clerk will send us a 13 letter stating there's a judgment or your attorney 14 generally will notify you have a judgment. 15 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, as a bondsman, are 16 you required to keep up with your bonds, I mean, as far 17 as judgments come and do? 18 FEMALE: I would imagine yes, that that 19 would be part of your job as a bondsman to you know what 20 you have due. 21 SERGEANT MEADE: Was some judgments paid 22 today? 23 FEMALE: Yes, sir. 24 SERGEANT MEADE: Okay. And they were 25 passed due, right?</p>	<p>Page 16 1 FEMALE: No, no. 2 SERGEANT MEADE: Okay. Thank you. 3 MR. HENDERSON: And Judge, just for 4 clarification. My agenda says the original date is 5 6/14/2018 and you said it's 2016 was the original date? 6 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: That's what I have on ... 7 FEMALE: It's a typo on the agenda. 8 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: -- on my agenda. 9 MR. HENDERSON: Okay. So it's 2016? 10 FEMALE: Yes. 11 MR. BUTERA: Just to clarify some of 12 Sergeant Meade's questions. I think there were some 13 unpaid judgments but those have all been -- 14 FEMALE: They have all been paid. 15 MR. BUTERA: -- paid now. I think -- just 16 try to keep a better eye on the timeliness of those and 17 my -- for the future so ... 18 But yeah, everything is clear according 19 to our check now. So no issues from the DA's Office. 20 FEMALE: I agree. It would be my 21 preference that everything is always paid on time at the 22 agency. Obviously, that would be my preference. 23 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: What happened here? 24 FEMALE: It was outstanding but it's been 25 paid.</p>

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Her. What happened? Why  
 2 wasn't it done before today?  
 3 FEMALE: You would have to ask the agent  
 4 why he did not make the payment. I cannot speak for --  
 5 MR. HENDERSON: It's not this agent.  
 6 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: It's not this agent?  
 7 SERGEANT MEADE: No, sir. It's not this  
 8 agent. It's another agent.  
 9 MR. BUTERA: Well, some -- just to clarify,  
 10 some were yours, Ms. Muharib, some belonged to Anthony  
 11 Muharib and some were a third agent that I don't have in  
 12 front of me.  
 13 FEMALE: I think it was Siera --  
 14 (inaudible.) Siera.  
 15 SERGEANT MEADE: I believe so, yes.  
 16 MR. BUTERA: So there were a handful.  
 17 There were three agents, Financial Casualty & Surety  
 18 agents who had unpaid judgments. I saw some were paid  
 19 yesterday, I believe.  
 20 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 21 MR. BUTERA: You guys took care of this  
 22 yesterday.  
 23 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 24 MR. BUTERA: And I believe some were past  
 25 due. In fact, I think they were all past due in varying

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1 degrees. Some were due back in May. Some were due  
 2 earlier this month. You don't think any of yours were?  
 3 MS. MUHARIB: I don't think so.  
 4 MR. BUTERA: Okay.  
 5 MR. PASTOR: Does the Sheriff's Office --  
 6 MR. BUTERA: I don't have it in front of  
 7 me.  
 8 MR. PASTOR: Doesn't the Sheriff's Office  
 9 notify --  
 10 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, but you know ...  
 11 MR. PASTOR: -- the agent, if it's overdue  
 12 also?  
 13 SERGEANT MEADE: We do it as a courtesy.  
 14 MR. PASTOR: Right.  
 15 SERGEANT MEADE: Here's the problem.  
 16 That's why I'm asking about people who are looking at  
 17 the 816. Are they relying on the sheriff's department  
 18 to go back behind their business and do their bonding  
 19 business?  
 20 FEMALE: We have a person whose sole  
 21 position or her job, basically, is to monitor judgments  
 22 and make sure that the agents are paying those. You  
 23 know, sometimes you're in a situation where you can't  
 24 obviously be -- put the agent in the car and drive him  
 25 down to the courthouse to pay it. But we do have

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1 somebody who monitors the 816B and notifies the agents  
 2 and ...  
 3 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, who's ultimately  
 4 responsible for the forfeiture? Is it the agent or is  
 5 it the insurance company? Because the insurance company  
 6 is the one that's truly licensed, right?  
 7 FEMALE: Well, yes, sir. We -- it is our  
 8 license for the agent. The agent is responsible for  
 9 paying their forfeiture. In a situation where there's a  
 10 forfeiture that needs to be paid and has not been paid,  
 11 we will step in and make that payment.  
 12 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: If I may interject.  
 13 Borrowing anything unusual, you should get your license  
 14 here in just a few moments. But it's worthwhile to  
 15 chase this down because, you know, there's been a lot  
 16 going on in the county with RV and everything else. My  
 17 concern is not to point fingers or lay blame but to get  
 18 to the root of what's causing the holdup with the  
 19 payments.  
 20 FEMALE: And of course, I can't speak  
 21 for somebody else.  
 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Right. No. And I -- so  
 23 I'm asking --  
 24 SERGEANT MEADE: We're not --  
 25 FEMALE: Yeah, yeah.

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: I'm asking Ms. Muharib.  
 2 FEMALE: Okay.  
 3 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: What is there something  
 4 systemic that's causing a holdup with the payments? Is  
 5 it just a function of finances with your business or is  
 6 it some other issue?  
 7 I see -- I see some of these deals here.  
 8 Some are -- nothing is horribly behind, right?  
 9 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 10 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: It's May or something  
 11 like that. We're -- you know, I'm not wanting to put  
 12 the Scarlet Letter on you.  
 13 I'm just wondering is there something we  
 14 can do to make this system easier to get to -- get  
 15 through?  
 16 MS. MUHARIB: I just really would like to  
 17 answer these questions after I'm licensed but okay.  
 18 There is a 816 report which comes out and  
 19 they have a date on it. What happens primarily is that  
 20 the dates on there are kind of based upon when they  
 21 become final in the judge's chambers, a final judgment.  
 22 So we kind of play hit or miss trying to find out when  
 23 that date is.  
 24 I've had three different people in my  
 25 forfeiture department and we have not as of yet got a

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<p>1 system that let's us know that this is going to be due 2 this exact day. It comes out -- the date that's on the 3 816, I believe, is always -- it always shows up in a D 4 status prior to the date.</p>	<p>1 a cost bill giving you the specific amount due. So 2 that's a double check, your cost bill and the 816 both 3 tell you what's due in each case and when it's due. 4 MS. MUHARIB: If I may say, the one that</p>
<p>6 before the 816? 7 When it first becomes a forfeiture, 8 there's an estimated date on there and then the date 9 that we're estimating on, it always comes up, it shows 10 up as a D status before our estimated date. 11 MR. BUTERA: So no need to estimate any</p>	<p>6 that comes. 7 MR. BUTERA: Okay. 8 MS. MUHARIB: We've already paid it. 9 MR. BUTERA: Yeah. The district clerk 10 issue would generally -- it should go out as soon as 11 they get the judgment.</p>
<p>12 dates. Just for everyone's knowledge, I guess -- 13 MS. MUHARIB: Yes. 14 MR. BUTERA: The 816, the only time a case 15 ends up on the 816 is when there is a final judgment 16 entered.</p>	<p>12 MS. MUHARIB: We've always paid them before 13 that. And they're in D status before we even receive 14 it. 15 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, there is problems 16 with the 816.</p>
<p>17 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh. 18 MR. BUTERA: And then there is a column 19 that calculates the due date based on the date the 20 judgment was entered. For a property bondsman -- 21 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Now, Mike, that due date 22 is the last possible date to pay? 23 MR. BUTERA: That's correct.</p>	<p>17 MS. MUHARIB: So it's kind of estimating. 18 MR. BUTERA: Well ... 19 SERGEANT MEADE: I mean, sometimes they 20 give them 20 days for the insurance company to give them 21 the extra, not 11 days. 22 MR. BUTERA: Any -- yeah. Date calculation 23 problems with the 816 are beyond giving more time as 24 opposed to less so ...</p>
<p>24 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Okay. 25 MR. BUTERA: You can always pay before that</p>	<p>25 MS. MUHARIB: I've asked my agents to not</p>
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<p>1 date, right? But -- 2 MS. MUHARIB: Yes. 3 MR. BUTERA: That due date is the final 4 date where beyond that point is considered in default 5 and the sheriff, under the code, would have the right to 6 stop either the individual or the corporation from 7 writing anymore bail. For a normal judgment for a 8 property bondsman, that's 30 days after the date the 9 judgment is entered. For an insurance company --</p>	<p>1 look at the 816 in regards to that because we always 2 miss it. 3 MR. BUTERA: That's dangerous but -- 4 MS. MUHARIB: You said it's dangerous to 5 not look at it -- 6 MR. BUTERA: Well ... 7 MS. MUHARIB: No. For us, when we were 8 looking at it and trying to figure it out, we were 9 coming in very late and we had forfeitures that we 10 weren't expecting to be due. We had estimated them way 11 after the due date.</p>
<p>10 MS. MUHARIB: Yes. 11 MR. BUTERA: -- license -- 12 MS. MUHARIB: Okay, yes. 13 MR. BUTERA: It's eleven days after the 14 date the judgment is entered unless a motion for new 15 trial is filed in which case, there's more time given. 16 So these dates would be based on the 17 entry of the final judgment.</p>	<p>12 So we've been going by the final judgment 13 date and just preparing. Now, I think we've had the 14 couple of errors on the ones we paid yesterday. They 15 were bill of cost, right? Yeah. So ... 16 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: So you're going on the 17 date the NISI is entered. 18 MS. MUHARIB: I think we've been going on 19 the date the NISI was entered, but we've since learned 20 within the last three months that we should be counting 21 from the final judgment date.</p>
<p>18 MS. MUHARIB: Yes. 19 MR. BUTERA: The 816 report is reliable. I 20 mean, it bases that off the date of the judgment being 21 entered. But beyond the 816, you're getting cost bills 22 and should be getting cost bills from the District 23 Clerk's Office.</p>	<p>22 MR. BUTERA: Correct. Yes. So the date -- 23 MS. MUHARIB: And I think that's different. 24 MR. BUTERA: -- the NISI being entered -- 25 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh.</p>
<p>24 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh. 25 MR. BUTERA: Each individual case generates</p>	<p>25 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh.</p>



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1 MR. BUTERA: -- you can have a judgment  
 2 entered within a week, a month, based on, you know,  
 3 remitted a request.  
 4 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 5 MR. BUTERA: The actual due date of the  
 6 final judgment is based on the day the Court signs the  
 7 final judgment and that's the way it's always been.  
 8 MS. MUHARIB: But -- yeah. I think that  
 9 something happens where it's not exactly 11 days.  
 10 Again, we have not gotten -- we have been trying since  
 11 I've been in business to get the exact dates so that we  
 12 don't -- nothing pops up on us, that we're prepared for  
 13 every financial obligation we have; but we're still  
 14 learning. So I'll come and hang out down there with you  
 15 guys --  
 16 MR. BUTERA: Yeah.  
 17 MS. MUHARIB: -- and make sure I can get  
 18 it...  
 19 MR. BUTERA: Just to let you know where we  
 20 get these dates are the same resources that y'all have,  
 21 right? We use the 816 and we use the JIMS data.  
 22 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh.  
 23 MR. BUTERA: So when we're pulling all  
 24 these judgments before the Bail Bond Board --  
 25 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.

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1 MR. BUTERA: -- it's the same thing y'all  
 2 have access to.  
 3 MS. MUHARIB: Yes.  
 4 MR. BUTERA: We're not we doing any kind  
 5 of --  
 6 MS. MUHARIB: Yes. I don't deny that, yes.  
 7 MR. BUTERA: -- proprietary reports or  
 8 anything. So we're looking at that JIMS data, we're  
 9 looking at the 816 to see what they are.  
 10 MS. MUHARIB: Uh-huh.  
 11 MR. BUTERA: You know, we're looking at all  
 12 the bondsmen in the county and y'all are looking at your  
 13 subset of cases. So you know, maybe be more active in  
 14 monitoring that.  
 15 MS. MUHARIB: Will do.  
 16 MR. BUTERA: But I just think the Sarge was  
 17 getting at, some of those were pass due like mid --  
 18 mid-May so ...  
 19 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, it's frustrating. I  
 20 mean, when you have these past due judgments and you  
 21 shut down the insurance company and say you have ten  
 22 agents. You also have families that work for those  
 23 agents. They're out of jobs, their money, weekends.  
 24 They don't work, they don't get paid.  
 25 FEMALE: Understood.

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1 SERGEANT MEADE: It's a lot at stake.  
 2 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: So you're not alone; but  
 3 you know, we want to clear it up. If there's something  
 4 better that we could do --  
 5 MS. MUHARIB: Okay.  
 6 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Or encourage the clerk's  
 7 office or anybody to do, we would -- you know, we would  
 8 certainly want to do that.  
 9 MS. MUHARIB: Okay.  
 10 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a motion with  
 11 respect to this license?  
 12 MR. BUTERA: I'll make a motion.  
 13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second?  
 14 MR. HENDERSON: I'll second.  
 15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,  
 16 please signify by saying aye.  
 17 THE BOARD: Aye.  
 18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign...  
 19 Motion carries. See; I told you.  
 20 FEMALE: Thank you.  
 21 MS. MUHARIB: Thank you.  
 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you, ma'am. And  
 23 thank you for your help.  
 24 Next item of new business is a request  
 25 for renewal of license by Bankers Insurance Company,

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1 Agent Edith Guerrero doing business as James Bond Bail  
 2 Bondz with a "Z", 2711 North Freeway, Houston, Texas  
 3 77009 with an original -- origin date? Excuse me -- of  
 4 7/8/2014 and an expiration date of 7/18/2018. This is  
 5 License No. 74558. Phone number: (713) 227-7676. This  
 6 is for a two-year renewal.  
 7 Now, ma'am, or sir -- whoever is the  
 8 agent. I'm assuming you are, Edith Guerrero. I don't  
 9 want to make any assumptions. It's a different time.  
 10 Raise your right hand, please, before I  
 11 step in my mouth anymore.  
 12 (Witness sworn.)  
 13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you, ma'am. This  
 14 is a request for renewal of license. Any issues from  
 15 the Sheriff's Office?  
 16 SERGEANT MEADE: No, sir.  
 17 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Any from the State?  
 18 MR. BUTERA: No.  
 19 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a motion?  
 20 MR. SANCHEZ: I'll move.  
 21 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second.  
 22 HONORABLE GARCIA: I second.  
 23 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,  
 24 please signify by saying aye.  
 25 THE BOARD: Aye.

## HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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<p>1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Motion carries. Thank 2 you, ma'am. 3 MALE: Thank you. 4 MS. GUERRERO: Thank you.</p>	<p>1 MR. BUTERA: Tommy, we can't hear you. 2 MR. RAMSEY: Oh, I'm sorry. 3 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And is this by -- in the 4 local government code or the government code? Where is</p>
<p>5 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Now, to the 6 renewal of license by Allegheny Casualty Company, Agent 7 Ricky Thomas Smith doing business as Allout Bail Bonds, 8 5225 Katy Freeway, Suite 206, Houston, Texas 77007 with 9 an origin date of 8/10/2010 and an expiration date of 10 8/20/2018. License No. 74514. Phone number is 11 (713) 861-6882. This is for a three-year renewal. 12 Ricky Thomas Smith, would you raise your 13 right hand please? 14 (Witness sworn.) 15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Thank you. Are there any 16 issues on this license from the -- 17 HONORABLE RODRIGUEZ: Mr. Chairman, is that 18 three years or two years? 19 MR. SANCHEZ: Three years -- three years? 20 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Three years. Did I say 21 two? My apologizes. 22 SERGEANT MEADE: Yes, sir. It says it on 23 the -- 24 HONORABLE GARCIA: It says here. 25 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All right. Any issues</p>	<p>6 MR. RAMSEY: This -- well, I'm (inaudible.) 7 the County's records policy. We're not -- (inaudible.) 8 It's under -- it's my understanding (inaudible.) 9 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: I don't -- I don't -- I 10 don't -- I don't know. 11 But there is no -- there's no black 12 letter law on the issue that you found? 13 MR. RAMSEY: Well, related to the minutes 14 and the transcripts, the retention period of those 15 permanent. Bondsmen applications, it's two years 16 following either the cancelation or renewal or otherwise 17 pending the license on which the application is -- 18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: So the first category is 19 governed by the government code and it's permanent. 20 That's -- that's the Texas Open Records Act? 21 MR. RAMSEY: Right. 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: That states that those -- 23 the transcripts, all of that's permanent. 24 MR. RAMSEY: Correct. 25 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And it's just our local</p>
<p>Page 30</p> <p>1 from the Sheriff's Office? 2 SERGEANT MEADE: No, sir. 3 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: From the State? 4 MR. BUTERA: No, your Honor. 5 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a motion to 6 approve this license? 7 HONORABLE RODRIGUEZ: Move to -- 8 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second? 9 HONORABLE GARCIA: Second. 10 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor, 11 please signify by saying aye. 12 THE BOARD: Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign. 14 Motion carries. 15 The last item of business is a discussion 16 by -- thank you, ma'am -- by Chief Schmidt on the 17 retention period for Bail Bond Board records. Records 18 include applications, bondsmen and bondrunners, minutes 19 and transcripts. 20 Mr. County Attorney, have you found any 21 law that governs the retention of these government 22 records? 23 MR. RAMSEY: Yes. On -- other than the 24 one (inaudible.) application -- and this is -- unless 25 there's (inaudible.) subject to some other --</p>	<p>Page 32</p> <p>1 retention record policy. 2 MR. RAMSEY: Correct. I'm sorry. I -- 3 that's (inaudible.) The -- the transcripts of the 4 meetings -- the transcripts (inaudible.) in the Opening 5 Meetings Act are, you know, those are required to be 6 maintained under the -- 7 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Ad infinitum. 8 MR. RAMSEY: Right. 9 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Okay. 10 MR. RAMSEY: Under the -- the backup 11 documentation -- in fact, the agenda itself, those are 12 subjected to the County policy but you know, those would 13 be discretionary for each individual county or court 14 but ... 15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And what has 16 traditionally or historically been our position on that? 17 MR. RAMSEY: And this is the -- this is the 18 law. The thing that I'm now making a note to double 19 check -- but I was under the impression the Board had 20 adopted the County's record retention policy. So that's 21 the first and foremost thing I need to check. 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Sure. 23 MR. RAMSEY: But that would be for 24 agenda -- for the agenda backup, like that, two years. 25 And then ultimately, it's -- it would be destroyed, the</p>

HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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1 -- what they call the (inaudible.)

2 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Sergeant Meade, I'm sure

3 that you have some idea why Chief Schmidt wanted to

4 address this issue.

5 SERGEANT MEADE: Yes, sir. We have a room,

6 just a mountain full of files from the 70s from

7 bondsmen. And you know, it's got to be a point, you

8 know, can we destroy them? At what point or --

9 The real estate is really limited on the

10 new building we're going to. You probably already seen

11 it. We have massive amounts of file cabinets.

12 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Sure.

13 SERGEANT MEADE: And like a bondrunner

14 application, that's not even required by statute to have

15 that; but we keep those, right? So --

16 And at what point do we stop? I mean, I

17 understand the minutes.

18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Well, let -- so let me

19 ask this question. And whoever is the keeper of the

20 sacred (inaudible.), if you could just give me the rule

21 on this.

22 Can we now give instruction to the

23 Sheriff's Office either by way of vote without it being

24 on the agenda, that hey: One, we're adopting the

25 County's document retention policy which would limit you

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1 to two years. And then two, let you then make whatever

2 decision you want to with respect to all of the other

3 information that you have that goes beyond two years.

4 Do you have the ability to do that

5 without putting it on the agenda or does this put it on

6 the agenda, this item, sufficiently so that we can vote

7 on it?

8 SERGEANT MEADE: We even discussed scanning

9 it. What are the possibilities of -- but then to scan

10 it, I think there's a certain protocol you have to

11 follow on it. And (inaudible.), I'd put it in a machine

12 and scanned it.

13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Well, I would suggest --

14 well, let -- first things first.

15 Do we have the ability to vote on

16 adopting, whether -- as opposed to having you go and

17 spend another month researching this. And I don't know

18 where you'd find it anyway. I don't know if there's

19 some database that contains all of the votes of the

20 Board that you can, you know, review by subject.

21 Can we vote here today to adopt the

22 County's records retention policy? Do you have that

23 ability given that we do have this item on the agenda?

24 MR. RAMSEY: I would -- personally, I feel

25 more comfortable with the more specific wording on that

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1 in terms of adopting the record retention policy.

2 Secondly, when I look back, I'm going to

3 be looking for, one, whether it's sufficient and

4 adopted. That in and of itself may not be a

5 requirement. It may be that the record retention

6 policy --

7 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Automatically applies.

8 MR. RAMSEY: Right.

9 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: My concern in looking at

10 the policy in the last one I saw -- I think was 2016 --

11 it doesn't even have a particular line item addressing

12 the Bail Bond Board and all of these specific things to

13 get to some idea of when we could destroy things. We're

14 sort of piggybacking on other mentions of other county

15 departments.

16 So that's my concern, is maybe we're not

17 even --

18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Required to keep it at

19 all.

20 MR. BUTERA: Contingence. Well -- or the

21 opposite, that no one considered how long we should be

22 keeping these things. So agreed, it seems kind of

23 absurd to have things from the 70s and maybe we're

24 hanging them around. But also on some of those

25 applications, those bondsmen went out of business not in

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1 good standing. There are still unpaid judgments because

2 those debts to the state are not forgivable. There's

3 outstanding liens or abstracts that may, at some

4 point -- I don't know -- bring the application up to be

5 relevant what they had sworn to or not. I can't imagine

6 that situation.

7 I'm just laying out that there are some

8 of those bondsmen who have ongoing legal issues relating

9 to the license they may have had long ago. All attempts

10 to collect or attempts to collection may have been

11 exhausted at this point certainly but you never know.

12 I'm not saying we adopt a you-never-know policy and keep

13 it all in there infinitely.

14 But I'm just laying out that there are

15 some questions to consider before we say, well, these

16 things we've considered without or kept without question

17 for 40 or 50 years. Let's just destroy them instantly

18 without thinking through those issues.

19 I can certainly get with Tommy and think

20 through or look at that policy and see if it addresses

21 those issues. And it may be an easy answer to that

22 question. I don't know.

23 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Does the Sheriff's Office

24 keep a record of who still owes money on those old

25 records? Do you know who they are?

HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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<p>1 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, we keep all the 2 files. And no, sir, I don't. And that's another -- 3 If it goes into collections or we -- 4 why -- you know or the Sheriff's Department, we're not 5 collecting the money. The sheriffs are.</p>	<p>1 MR. HENDERSON: I think as soon as they get 2 rid of these things, the better off they're going to be 3 so ... 4 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Yeah. I agree.</p>
<p>6 MR. BUTERA: No. But you're the person who 7 receives and is the custodian of the application. 8 Right? I mean, that's -- it's turned into you, you keep 9 it, you maintain it. That's the only reason that you're 10 involved in that.</p>	<p>6 August. 7 MR. HENDERSON: Let Tommy and Mike -- 8 Michael get together and figure out what -- what's a 9 good policy. 10 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: That sounds good to me.</p>
<p>11 So the 816 is the memorialization of all 12 the ... 13 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Outstanding.</p>	<p>11 What I -- I don't want it to get bogged down and you 12 know, unnecessarily a long discussion and you know, 13 death by committee, you know. We're going to do 14 something, let's just do it and get it done and move on.</p>
<p>14 MR. BUTERA: Yes, sir. 15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: So as long as the 16 information is on the 816, we're good; but the physical 17 paper, we don't necessarily have to keep.</p>	<p>15 MR. HENDERSON: Yeah. 16 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: This doesn't seem like a 17 big brainer. Now, I know the Sheriff's Office needs 18 that space so ...</p>
<p>18 SERGEANT MEADE: Well, if they have 19 properties for -- for instance, they have a piece of 20 property they own and then the Board approved it for 21 60,000 and we had that file. We're going to collect on 22 the right five to one ratio. I mean, we had that 23 record. It's not going to be on the 816 so ...</p>	<p>19 All right. Well, then we'll address it 20 next month. Will Glenn be here next month? 21 MR. PASTOR: Yes, he will. 22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Okay. Tell him not to 23 over think it.</p>
<p>24 MR. BUTERA: Many cases, that application 25 has original information that is not contained elsewhere</p>	<p>24 MR. PASTOR: He'll still have to run the 25 meeting.</p>
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<p>1 because it'll swear to here's the real property that I'm 2 pledging for the license. And that should certainly be 3 recorded as deeds of trust --</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Yes, he will. 2 MR. PASTOR: Okay. 3 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Okay. All right. Well, 4 thank you all.</p>
<p>4 SERGEANT MEADE: Sure. 5 MR. BUTERA: -- in the real property 6 records but we've had issues with that going back where 7 that's not always reliable. So you'll double check by 8 A, running a title report or trying to see what might be 9 out there but also referring back to the application to 10 see what was before the Board at that time.</p>	<p>5 Is there a motion to adjourn? 6 MR. HENDERSON: So move. 7 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Let's go. 8 (Meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.) 9 10</p>
<p>11 MR. HENDERSON: Judge, may I suggest that 12 we consider an item for next month as being the adoption 13 of a records retention policy?</p>	<p>11 12 13 14</p>
<p>14 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Can we get that put on 15 the agenda for -- what is next month? July? When is 16 our meeting next month?</p>	<p>15 16 17</p>
<p>17 MS. LEWIS: July -- 18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: I will not be here that 19 day. Not just late. I just won't be here.</p>	<p>18 19 20</p>
<p>20 MR. HENDERSON: You want us to wait till 21 you come back to (inaudible.)</p>	<p>20 21 22</p>
<p>22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: If you guys want to. 23 MR. HENDERSON: No.</p>	<p>22 23 24</p>
<p>24 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Okay. Well, then let's 25 not.</p>	<p>24 25</p>

HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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1 STATE OF TEXAS )  
2 COUNTY OF HARRIS )

3  
4 I, Trevor Causey, do hereby certify that the  
5 facts as stated by me in the caption hereto are true;  
6 that the above and foregoing transcript of the  
7 proceedings was taken in stenograph, reduced to  
8 typewriting under my direction, and is a full, true and  
9 correct transcript of the proceedings.

10 I further certify that I am not, in any  
11 capacity, a regular employee of the party in whose  
12 behalf this transcript was taken, nor in the regular  
13 employee of any attorney; and I certify that I am not  
14 interested in the cause, nor of kin or counsel to any of  
15 the parties.

16 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND, on this, the 8th day of  
17 August, 2018.



18  
19 Trevor Causey  
Notary Public in and for  
The State of Texas  
20 My Commission expires 5/24/2021  
21 Court Reporter's Clearinghouse  
Firm Registration No. 62  
22 1225 North Loop West, Suite 327  
Houston, Texas 77008  
23 Phone: 713 467-7900  
24  
25



HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - June 12, 2018

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14 interested in the cause, nor of kin or counsel to any of  
15 the parties.

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18 

19 Trevor Causey  
20 Notary Public in and for  
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