# A short history of the North Carolina Bail Agents Association

and why it is important to YOU

## The North Carolina Bail Bondsman



The NCBAA came about as the result of the unfair treatment of NC bondsmen, especially in regards to **FORFEITURES** 



Prior to the NCBAA there were only two laws for setting aside forfeiture:

- (1)The defendant's appearance was impossible
- (2) The failure to appear was not the defendant's fault

Both of those laws were weak and the decision for setting aside a forfeiture was **TOTALLY AT THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE**.



As a result, bondsmen were paying out a lot of money to **THE SCHOOL BOARD.** 

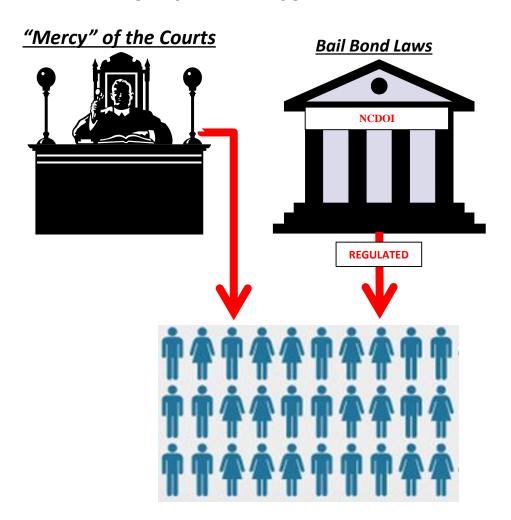


Because of the hostile bail environment at that time, there were very few bondsmen in NC.

THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE regulates bondsmen according to the *laws on the books*, even if those laws were outdated and nonsensible to everyday bail bond business. Without specific laws or if the law is vague, DOI regulates on "opinion" or "policy."

The bondsman's fate in paying **FORFEITURES** hung on the ruling of the judge and there was never a guarantee of a forfeiture set aside,

NOT EVEN IF THE BONDSMAN HAD SURRENDERED THE DEFENDANT.



#### BONDSMEN HAD NO LAWS IN THEIR FAVOR.

Their only hope was to CHANGE THE LAWS.

But, <u>NO ONE</u> was working on behalf of BONDSMEN to get better bail bond laws.

Even when bondsmen formed **REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**, they could only deal with matters on a local level.



#### **BOTTOM LINE**

They were still at the "mercy" of the court with no State laws in their favor.

#### CHANGE WAS NEEDED, BUT WHAT AND HOW?

In 1992 bondsmen came together to create a State Association for all NC bail bondsmen.

#### **North Carolina Bail Agents Association**

The NCBAA would work for two goals:

- (1) Better laws for setting forfeitures aside
- (2) Better laws to improve working conditions for all the bondsmen of NC

To accomplish those goals, a plan was needed to provide UNITY, a VOICE, and a PRESENCE



#### **FUNDING WAS NEEDED**

But, funding would have to come from **NC BONDSMEN**<u>NO ONE</u> else would help or even cared about **BETTER BAIL BOND LAWS** 

In 1994 NCBAA got **LAWS** passed requiring pre-licensing for those who wanted a bail bond license and continuing education for all NC bondsmen.



The **TUITION** for those classes provided funding for **NCBAA** to work for "**BETTER BAIL BOND LAWS**" and a way for all licensees to equally support the Association.

These laws were **NCBAA**'s first step in promoting **PROFESSIONALISM IN THE BAIL INDUSTRY OF NC**.

#### THE SUCCESS OF NC BONDSMEN in funding the NCBAA

has hit the mark again and again each year, now with **OVER 60 BAIL BOND LAWS** helping NC Bondsmen make and save more money and protect their livelihood.

### NCBAA IS CONSIDERED THE VOICE"



of NC bondsmen by those in the NC legislature and with the NCDOI and, because of its success, one of the **top bail bond associations in the nation** by the PBUS (Professional Bail Agents of the United States).

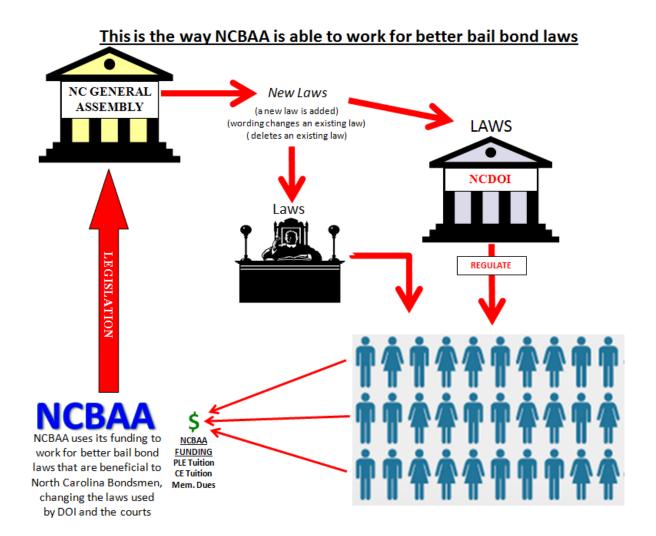


#### WORK AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING IS ON-GOING

The **NCBAA** works each year to provide **BAIL BOND LEGISLATION** that is *beneficial* to the bail industry of NC and NC BAIL BONDSMEN.

**NCBAA** is always working to protect NC bondsmen against the threat of **TAX-PAID PRETRIAL RELEASE** 

NC Bondsmen now have "THE PROCESS", through the NCBAA, to change the laws, to get BETTER BAIL BOND LAWS that are beneficial and practical to modern bail bond business. LAWS that protect their livelihood, LAWS that help them make and save more money, and LAWS that change the way they are treated by the Court and DOI.



#### FUNDING IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF THE NCBAA

Success in getting BETTER BAIL BOND LAWS is the direct result of funding provided by the BONDSMEN OF NORTH CAROLINA

Support of the NCBAA is support for NC Bondsmen