

MAINTENANCE BOND

BY THIS BOND WE, Meritgage Homes of Florida, Inc., as Principal, and Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, as Surety, are bound to Hernando County, Florida, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter "County", in the sum of (\$520,229.54*****) for the payment of which we bind ourselves, our heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents:

WHEREAS, the above-named Principal has applied, or will apply, to the County for approval of a plat of a certain area of land within Hernando County, Florida, to be known as Benton Hills Phase 1A (Project) and has agreed, or is required, as a condition to the approval of said plat by the County or pursuant to Land Development Regulations, to maintain all required, approved, or dedicated improvements, which improvements consist of, but are not necessarily limited to, roads, drainage, sewer and water lines, and all other improvements installed in connection with the Project; and,

WHEREAS, the approval of said plat by the County is further conditioned upon the furnishing of an adequate Surety Bond to the County pursuant to the County's Land Development Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CONDITION OF THIS BOND is such that if the Principal:

- A. Shall maintain all improvements within the project for a period of eighteen (18) months from the date established by the county for the beginning of the maintenance period; and
- B. During such maintenance period, shall provide any maintenance repairs required by the county to ensure the integrity of the improvements, as designed and constructed, is maintained, including but not limited to:
 - (1) Repair and/or replacement of pavement, culverts, catch basins, etc;
 - (2) Control of erosion, replacement of sod, removal of soil washed into the street or drainage system;
 - (3) Maintenance and/or replacement of regulatory signs and markings;
 - (4) Maintenance of sewer lines, force mains, lift stations and wastewater treatment plants if approved and maintenance of water plants and distribution systems; and
- C. Shall reimburse the County or district for any and all repairs it might make to the systems during the maintenance period; and
- D. Shall submit written requests for an inspection of all improvements to the County's Utilities and Public Works Departments, as applicable, at least sixty (60) days prior to the termination of the completion period;

then this obligation shall be void. Otherwise, it remains in full force and effect.

AND the said Surety, for value received, hereby stipulates and agrees that no change involving an extension of time, alterations, or additions to the terms of the improvements to be made hereunder, or in the plans, specifications and schedules covering the same, shall in any way affect the obligation of said Surety on this bond and the Surety does hereby waive notice of any such changes.

THIS BOND shall be for the use and benefit of the County if it should elect to proceed with said work upon the failure of the Principal to maintain the improvements in connection with the Project for a period of eighteen (18) months from the date established by the county for the beginning of the maintenance period, or any subsequent date provided through an agreement between the Principal and the County for an extension of time.

IT IS FURTHER understood that should Hernando County, Florida be required to institute legal proceedings in order to collect any funds under this bond, Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc. _____ (Principal) shall be responsible for attorney's fees and court costs incurred by the County.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Principal and the Surety have caused these presents to be duly executed this 31st day of March, 2026.

Julie Clark

Witness

Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.

PRINCIPAL
By: [Signature]
Name: Hilla Semuzza
Title: EVP & CFO

Krista M. Lee

Witness
Krista M. Lee, Witness

Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

SURETY
By: [Signature]
Name: Ratthanatevy Lor
Title: Attorney-In-Fact



POWER OF ATTORNEY

Certificate No: 8204866

Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company
West American Insurance Company

KNOWN ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS: That The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of New Hampshire, that Liberty Mutual Insurance Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, and West American Insurance Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Indiana (herein collectively called the "Companies"), pursuant to and by authority herein set forth, does hereby name, constitute and appoint, Ratthanatev Lor

all of the city of Seattle, state of WA each individually if there be more than one named, its true and lawful attorney-in-fact to make, execute, seal, acknowledge and deliver, for and on its behalf as surety and as its act and deed, any and all undertakings, bonds, recognizances and other surety obligations, in pursuance of these presents and shall be as binding upon the Companies as if they have been duly signed by the president and attested by the secretary of the Companies in their own proper persons.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Power of Attorney has been subscribed by an authorized officer or official of the Companies and the corporate seals of the Companies have been affixed thereto this 1st day of July, 2024.



Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company
West American Insurance Company

By: *Nathan J. Zangerle*

Nathan J. Zangerle, Assistant Secretary

Not valid for mortgage, note, loan, letter of credit, currency rate, interest rate or residual value guarantees.

For bond and/or Power of Attorney (POA) verification inquiries, please call 610-832-8240 or email HOSUR@libertymutual.com.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA ss
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

On this 1st day of July, 2024, before me personally appeared Nathan J. Zangerle, who acknowledged himself to be the Assistant Secretary of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, The Ohio Casualty Company, and West American Insurance Company, and that he, as such, being authorized so to do, execute the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein contained by signing on behalf of the corporations by himself as a duly authorized officer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my notarial seal at Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, on the day and year first above written.



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Teresa Pastella, Notary Public
Montgomery County
My commission expires March 28, 2029
Commission number 1126044
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

By: *Teresa Pastella*

Teresa Pastella, Notary Public

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-laws and Authorizations of The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, and West American Insurance Company which resolutions are now in full force and effect reading as follows:

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS: Section 12. Power of Attorney.

Any officer or other official of the Corporation authorized for that purpose in writing by the Chairman or the President, and subject to such limitation as the Chairman or the President may prescribe, shall appoint such attorneys-in-fact, as may be necessary to act in behalf of the Corporation to make, execute, seal, acknowledge and deliver as surety any and all undertakings, bonds, recognizances and other surety obligations. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective powers of attorney, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach thereto the seal of the Corporation. When so executed, such instruments shall be as binding as if signed by the President and attested to by the Secretary. Any power or authority granted to any representative or attorney-in-fact under the provisions of this article may be revoked at any time by the Board, the Chairman, the President or by the officer or officers granting such power or authority.

ARTICLE XIII - Execution of Contracts: Section 5. Surety Bonds and Undertakings.

Any officer of the Company authorized for that purpose in writing by the chairman or the president, and subject to such limitations as the chairman or the president may prescribe, shall appoint such attorneys-in-fact, as may be necessary to act in behalf of the Company to make, execute, seal, acknowledge and deliver as surety any and all undertakings, bonds, recognizances and other surety obligations. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective powers of attorney, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach thereto the seal of the Company. When so executed such instruments shall be as binding as if signed by the president and attested by the secretary.

Certificate of Designation – The President of the Company, acting pursuant to the Bylaws of the Company, authorizes Nathan J. Zangerle, Assistant Secretary to appoint such attorneys-in-fact as may be necessary to act on behalf of the Company to make, execute, seal, acknowledge and deliver as surety any and all undertakings, bonds, recognizances and other surety obligations.

Authorization – By unanimous consent of the Company's Board of Directors, the Company consents that facsimile or mechanically reproduced signature of any assistant secretary of the Company, wherever appearing upon a certified copy of any power of attorney issued by the Company in connection with surety bonds, shall be valid and binding upon the Company with the same force and effect as though manually affixed.

I, Renee C. Llewellyn, the undersigned, Assistant Secretary, of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company, and West American Insurance Company do hereby certify that this power of attorney executed by said Companies is in full force and effect and has not been revoked.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seals of said Companies this 31st day of March, 2026.



By: *Renee C. Llewellyn*

Renee C. Llewellyn, Assistant Secretary