



# ***American Subcontractors Association, Inc.*** **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **ASA Honors ASA–Greater Kansas City with Golden Hammer Award**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — For the third year in a row, Kansas enacted legislation to improve the public policy environment for subcontractors, earning the ASA–Greater Kansas City the American Subcontractors Association’s (ASA) national 2010 Golden Hammer Award for effective advocacy on behalf of construction subcontractors.

In 2010, Kansas enacted major retainage reform for both public and private projects, raising the state’s score for retainage limitations in the annual *ASA Report: The Policy Environment in the States* from 25 to 70, making it one of the best laws of its kind in the country.

“By raising its total score to a C level in the *ASA Report*, Kansas became the second best public policy environment for construction subcontractors in the country,” said national ASA Vice President (2011-12) Walter Bazan, Jr., Bazan Painting Company, St. Louis, Mo., who presented the award to ASA–Greater Kansas City in a ceremony on March 10, 2011, in Kansas City, Mo.

The annual *ASA Report* evaluates the public policy environment on the state level as it relates to construction subcontractors. ASA’s Golden Hammer Award recognizes the state that increases its ranking the most during the previous calendar year.

The new Kansas law, which took effect on July 1, 2010, caps retainage at 5 percent for properly performing contractors and subcontractors. In addition, it allows such contractors and subcontractors to provide security in lieu of retainage. That security may be a retainage bond, an irrevocable bank letter of credit, a certificate of deposit, a cash bond, or other type of acceptable asset. The law also requires retainage to be released within 30 days after substantial completion as part of the regular payment cycle and allows for the early release of retainage to early finishing subcontractors.

Founded in 1966, ASA amplifies the voice of, and leads, trade contractors to improve the business environment for the construction industry and to serve as a steward for the community. ASA’s vision is to be the united voice dedicated to improving the business environment in the construction industry. The ideals and beliefs of ASA are ethical and equitable business practices, quality construction, a safe and healthy work environment, and integrity and membership diversity.

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