



POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That GULF INSURANCE COMPANY, a corporation of the State of Missouri, hereinafter called "Company," does hereby appoint

CHARLENE M. WARD or S. GARY SIMS or JOHN C. KNIGHT

ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO

its true and lawful Attorney-in-fact to make, execute, seal and deliver on its behalf, as surety, any and all bonds and undertakings of suretyship, not to exceed \$250,000.00 or any bond where the penalty is not stated in the bond form. No authority is granted where the attorney in fact is a party at interest in the bond.

The execution of such bonds or undertakings in pursuance of these presents shall be as binding upon the Company as if they had been executed and acknowledged by the regularly elected officers of the Company.

This Power of Attorney is issued pursuant to and by authority of the following resolution of the Board of Directors of the Company, adopted effective July 1, 1983, and now in full force and effect:

"Resolved that the President, or any Senior Vice President, or any Vice President, or the Secretary, or any Assistant Secretary may appoint Attorneys-in-fact in any state, territory or federal district to represent this Company and to act on its behalf within the scope of the authority granted to them, in writing, which authority may include the power to make, execute, seal and deliver on behalf of this Company, as surety, any and all bonds and undertakings of suretyship and other documents that the ordinary course of surety business may require, including authority to appoint agents for the service of process in any jurisdiction, state or federal, and authority to attest to the signature of the President, or any Senior Vice President, or any Vice President, or the Secretary, or any Assistant Secretary and to verify any affidavit or other statement relating to the foregoing, and to certify to a copy of any of the bylaws of the Company and to any resolutions adopted by its Board of Directors; and any such Attorney-in-fact may be removed and the authority granted him revoked by the President, or any Senior Vice President, or any Vice President, or the Secretary, or any Assistant Secretary, or by the Board of Directors."

This Power of Attorney and Certificate are signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following resolution of the Board of Directors of the Company, adopted effective July 1, 1983, and now in full force and effect:

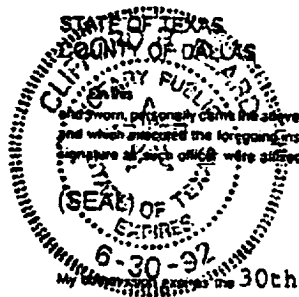
"Resolved that the signature of the President, or of any Senior Vice President, or of any Vice President, or of the Secretary, or of any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Attorneys-in-fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, including any such power of attorney and certificate revoking the authority of the foregoing Attorneys-in-fact, as well as for the appointment of agents for the service of process in any jurisdiction, state or federal, including any such power of attorney and certificate revoking the authority of such agents; and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power of attorney or certificate so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company at the time and to the extent that the power of attorney and certificate are executed and in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which they are attached."

Therefore, the Company has caused this Power of Attorney to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by its authorized officer this April 12, 1991.



By

[Signature]
Sr. Vice President



12 day of April

1991 before me, a Notary Public of the State and County aforesaid, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally came the above named officer of GULF INSURANCE COMPANY, who being by the first duly sworn according to law, did depose and say that he is that officer of the company described in and which executed the foregoing instrument; that he knows the seal of said company; that the seal affixed to such instrument is the corporate seal of said company; and that the corporate seal and his signature as such officer were affixed and subscribed to the said instrument by the authority and direction of said company.

[Signature]
Clifford R. Beard
Notary Public
1992

day of June

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the original Power of Attorney of which the foregoing is a true and correct copy is in full force and effect, and the foregoing resolutions are true and correct transcripts from the records of GULF INSURANCE COMPANY and that the above named officer was on the date of execution of the foregoing Power of Attorney authorized to execute this Power of Attorney.



Therefore, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the corporate seal of Gulf Insurance Company this

22nd day of April, 1991.

[Signature]
Vice President