



Old Republic International Approves Increase in Cash Dividend on Common Stock

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CHICAGO, Mar 21, 2002 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Old Republic International Corporation (NYSE: ORI) today approved a higher regular quarterly cash dividend rate beginning in the year's second quarter. The quarterly and annual rates on the common shares have been set at 16 cents and 64 cents per share, respectively. This represents an increase of approximately 6 percent over the current quarterly and annual rates of 15 cents and 60 cents, respectively.

Old Republic International has paid common stock dividends without interruption since 1942. With this latest increase, the annual rate will have been raised for 21 consecutive years. The Company currently has approximately 119.4 million common shares outstanding.

About Old Republic

Chicago-based Old Republic International Corporation is an insurance holding company whose subsidiaries market, underwrite and provide risk management services for a wide variety of coverages in the property and liability, mortgage guaranty, life and life and health insurance fields. One of the nation's 50 largest publicly owned insurance organizations, Old Republic has assets of approximately \$7.92 billion and capitalization of \$2.94 billion. Its current stock market valuation is approximately \$3.79 billion.

For the latest news releases and other corporate documents on Old Republic International visit www.oldrepublic.com.

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CONTACT: A.C. Zucaro, Chairman & CEO of Old Republic, +1-312-346-8100, or General, George Zagoudis, +1-312-640-6663, gzagoudis@webershandwick.com, Analysts-Investors, Leslie Loyet, +1-312-640-6072, lloyet@webershandwick.com, or Media, Al Orendorff, +1-312-640-6775, aorendorff@webershandwick.com, all of FRB Weber Shandwick