

Old Republic Declares Higher Cash Dividend on Common Stock

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CHICAGO, May 17, 2006 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- The Board of Directors of Old Republic International Corporation (NYSE: ORI) today declared a quarterly cash dividend on the common stock of 15 cents per share. This dividend is payable June 15, 2006, to shareholders of record on June 5, 2006, and reflects an increase of 10.3 percent over the regular dividend rate that prevailed through March 2006.

This latest dividend increase marks the twenty-fifth consecutive year that Old Republic has boosted its cash dividend rate; it has now paid cash dividends without interruption for 65 years.

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, principally in the property and liability, mortgage guaranty and title insurance fields. One of the nation's 50 largest publicly owned insurance organizations, Old Republic has assets of approximately \$11.6 billion and capitalization of \$4.0 billion. Its current stock market valuation is approximately \$4.9 billion.

For the latest news releases and other corporate documents on Old Republic International visit <http://www.oldrepublic.com> .

SOURCE Old Republic International Corporation

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