

**WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:**

AmSouth Bank  
Attn: Larry Daniels  
P.O. Box 830721  
Birmingham, AL 35283

Inst # 2001-12773

04/05/2001-12773  
11:23 AM CERTIFIED

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**MORTGAGE**

**THIS IS A FUTURE ADVANCE MORTGAGE**

**THIS MORTGAGE dated March 28, 2001, is made and executed between JAMES M. PIERCE, whose address is 1841 HIGHWAY 26, ALABASTER, AL 35007 and KEELA PIERCE, whose address is 1841 HIGHWAY 26, ALABASTER, AL 35007; husband and wife (referred to below as "Grantor") and AmSouth Bank, whose address is 741 Parkway Drive SE, Leeds, AL 35094 (referred to below as "Lender").**

**GRANT OF MORTGAGE.** For valuable consideration, Grantor mortgages, grants, bargains, sells and conveys to Lender all of Grantor's right, title, and interest in and to the following described real property, together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements and fixtures; all easements, rights of way, and appurtenances; all water, water rights, watercourses and ditch rights (including stock in utilities with ditch or irrigation rights); and all other rights, royalties, and profits relating to the real property, including without limitation all minerals, oil, gas, geothermal and similar matters, **(the "Real Property") located in SHELBY County, State of Alabama:**

**See EXHIBIT A, which is attached to this Mortgage and made a part of this Mortgage as if fully set forth herein.**

**The Real Property or its address is commonly known as 1841 HIGHWAY 26, ALABASTER, AL 35007.**

**REVOLVING LINE OF CREDIT.** Specifically, in addition to the amounts specified in the Indebtedness definition, and without limitation, this Mortgage secures a revolving line of credit, which obligates Lender to make advances to Borrower so long as Borrower complies with all the terms of the Credit Agreement. Such advances may be made, repaid, and remade from time to time, subject to the limitation that the total outstanding balance owing at any one time, not including finance charges on such balance at a fixed or variable rate or sum as provided in the Credit Agreement, any temporary overages, other charges, and any amounts expended or advanced as provided in either the Indebtedness paragraph or this paragraph, shall not exceed the Credit Limit as provided in the Credit Agreement. It is the intention of Grantor and Lender that this Mortgage secures the balance outstanding under the Credit Agreement from time to time from zero up to the Credit Limit as provided in this Mortgage and any intermediate balance.

Grantor presently assigns to Lender all of Grantor's right, title, and interest in and to all present and future leases of the Property and all Rents from the Property. In addition, Grantor grants to Lender a Uniform Commercial Code security interest in the Personal Property and Rents.

**THIS MORTGAGE, INCLUDING THE ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND THE SECURITY INTEREST IN THE RENTS AND PERSONAL PROPERTY, IS GIVEN TO SECURE (A) PAYMENT OF THE INDEBTEDNESS AND (B) PERFORMANCE OF EACH OF GRANTOR'S AGREEMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CREDIT AGREEMENT, THE RELATED DOCUMENTS, AND THIS MORTGAGE. THIS MORTGAGE IS GIVEN AND ACCEPTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS:**

**GRANTOR'S WAIVERS.** Grantor waives all rights or defenses arising by reason of any "one action" or "anti-deficiency" law, or any other law which may prevent Lender from bringing any action against Grantor, including a claim for deficiency to the extent Lender is otherwise entitled to a claim for deficiency, before or after Lender's commencement or completion of any foreclosure action, either judicially or by exercise of a power of sale.

**GRANTOR'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.** Grantor warrants that: (a) this Mortgage is executed at Borrower's request and not at the request of Lender; (b) Grantor has the full power, right, and authority to enter into this Mortgage and to hypothecate the Property; (c) the provisions of this Mortgage do not conflict with, or result in a default under any agreement or other instrument binding upon Grantor and do not result in a violation of any law, regulation, court decree or order applicable to Grantor; (d) Grantor has established adequate means of obtaining from Borrower on a continuing basis information about Borrower's financial condition; and (e) Lender has made no representation to Grantor about Borrower (including without limitation the creditworthiness of Borrower).

**PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE.** Except as otherwise provided in this Mortgage, Borrower shall pay to Lender all Indebtedness secured by this Mortgage as it becomes due, and Borrower and Grantor shall strictly perform all Borrower's and Grantor's obligations under this Mortgage.

**POSSESSION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPERTY.** Borrower and Grantor agree that Borrower's and Grantor's possession and use of the Property shall be governed by the following provisions:

**Possession and Use.** Until the occurrence of an Event of Default, Grantor may (1) remain in possession and control of the Property; (2) use, operate or manage the Property; and (3) collect the Rents from the Property.

**Duty to Maintain.** Grantor shall maintain the Property in good condition and promptly perform all repairs, replacements, and maintenance necessary to preserve its value.

**Compliance With Environmental Laws.** Grantor represents and warrants to Lender that: (1) During the period of Grantor's ownership of the Property, there has been no use, generation, manufacture, storage, treatment, disposal, release or threatened release of any Hazardous Substance by any person on, under, about or from the Property; (2) Grantor has no knowledge of, or reason to believe that there has been, except as previously disclosed to and acknowledged by Lender in writing, (a) any breach or violation of any Environmental Laws, (b) any use, generation, manufacture, storage, treatment, disposal, release or threatened release of any Hazardous Substance on, under, about or from the Property by any prior owners or occupants of the Property, or (c) any actual or threatened litigation or claims of any kind by any person relating to such matters; and (3) Except as previously disclosed to and acknowledged by Lender in writing, (a) neither Grantor nor any tenant, contractor, agent or other authorized user of the Property shall use, generate, manufacture, store, treat, dispose of or release any Hazardous Substance on, under, about or from the Property; and (b) any such activity shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances, including without limitation all Environmental Laws. Grantor authorizes Lender and its agents to enter upon the Property to make such inspections and tests, at Grantor's expense, as Lender may deem appropriate to determine compliance of the Property with this section of the Mortgage. Any inspections or tests made by Lender shall be for Lender's purposes only and shall not be construed to create any responsibility or liability on the part of Lender to Grantor or to any other person. The representations and warranties contained herein are based on Grantor's due diligence in investigating the Property for Hazardous Substances. Grantor hereby (1) releases and waives any future claims against Lender for indemnity or contribution in the event Grantor becomes liable for cleanup or other costs under any such laws; and (2) agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Lender against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, penalties, and expenses which Lender may directly or indirectly sustain or suffer resulting from a breach of this section of the Mortgage or as a consequence of any use, generation, manufacture, storage, disposal, release or threatened release occurring prior to Grantor's ownership or interest in the Property, whether or not the same was or should have been known to Grantor. The provisions of this section of the Mortgage, including the obligation to indemnify, shall survive the payment of the indebtedness and the satisfaction and reconveyance of the lien of this Mortgage and shall not be affected by Lender's acquisition of any interest in the Property, whether by foreclosure or otherwise.

**Nuisance, Waste.** Grantor shall not cause, conduct or permit any nuisance nor commit, permit, or suffer any stripping of or waste on or to the Property or any portion of the Property. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Grantor will not remove, or grant to any other party the right to remove, any timber, minerals (including oil and gas), coal, clay, scoria, soil, gravel or rock products without Lender's prior written consent.

**Removal of Improvements.** Grantor shall not demolish or remove any Improvements from the Real Property without Lender's prior written consent. As a condition to the removal of any Improvements, Lender may require Grantor to make arrangements satisfactory to Lender to replace such Improvements with Improvements of at least equal value.

**Lender's Right to Enter.** Lender and Lender's agents and representatives may enter upon the Real Property at all reasonable times to attend to Lender's interests and to inspect the Real Property for purposes of Grantor's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Mortgage.

**Compliance with Governmental Requirements.** Grantor shall promptly comply with all laws, ordinances, and regulations, now or hereafter in effect, of all governmental authorities applicable to the use or occupancy of the Property. Grantor may contest in good faith any such law, ordinance, or regulation and withhold compliance during any proceeding, including appropriate appeals, so long as Grantor has notified Lender in writing prior to doing so and so long as, in Lender's sole opinion, Lender's interests in the Property are not jeopardized. Lender may require Grantor to post adequate security or a surety bond, reasonably satisfactory to Lender, to protect Lender's interest.

**Duty to Protect.** Grantor agrees neither to abandon nor leave unattended the Property. Grantor shall do all other acts, in addition to those acts set forth above in this section, which from the character and use of the Property are reasonably necessary to protect and preserve the Property.

**TAXES AND LIENS.** The following provisions relating to the taxes and liens on the Property are part of this Mortgage:

**Payment.** Grantor shall pay when due (and in all events prior to delinquency) all taxes, payroll taxes, special taxes, assessments, water charges and sewer service charges levied against or on account of the Property, and shall pay when due all claims for work done on or for services rendered or material furnished to the Property. Grantor shall maintain the Property free of any liens having priority over or equal to the interest of Lender under this Mortgage, except for the Existing Indebtedness referred to in this Mortgage or those liens specifically agreed to in writing by Lender, and except for the lien of taxes and assessments not due as further specified in the Right to Contest paragraph.

**Right to Contest.** Grantor may withhold payment of any tax, assessment, or claim in connection with a good faith dispute over the obligation to pay, so long as Lender's interest in the Property is not jeopardized. If a lien arises or is filed as a result of nonpayment, Grantor shall within fifteen (15) days after the lien arises or, if a lien is filed, within fifteen (15) days after Grantor has notice of the filing, secure the discharge of the lien, or if requested by Lender, deposit with Lender cash or a sufficient corporate surety bond or other security satisfactory to Lender in an amount sufficient to discharge the lien plus any costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, or other charges that could accrue as a result of a foreclosure or sale under the lien. In any contest, Grantor shall defend itself and Lender and shall satisfy any adverse judgment before enforcement against the Property. Grantor shall name Lender as an additional obligee under any surety bond furnished in the contest proceedings.

**Evidence of Payment.** Grantor shall upon demand furnish to Lender satisfactory evidence of payment of the taxes or assessments and shall authorize the appropriate governmental official to deliver to Lender at any time a written statement of the taxes and assessments against the Property.

**Notice of Construction.** Grantor shall notify Lender at least fifteen (15) days before any work is commenced, any services are furnished, or any materials are supplied to the Property, if any mechanic's lien, materialmen's lien, or other lien could be asserted on account of the work, services, or materials. Grantor will upon request of Lender furnish to Lender advance assurances satisfactory to Lender that Grantor can and will pay the cost of such improvements.

**PROPERTY DAMAGE INSURANCE.** The following provisions relating to insuring the Property are a part of this Mortgage:

**Maintenance of Insurance.** Grantor shall procure and maintain policies of fire insurance with standard extended coverage endorsements on a replacement basis for the full insurable value covering all Improvements on the Real Property in an amount sufficient to avoid application of any coinsurance clause, and with a standard mortgagee clause in favor of Lender. Policies shall be written by such insurance companies and in such form as may be reasonably acceptable to Lender. Grantor shall deliver to Lender certificates of coverage from each insurer containing a stipulation that coverage will not be cancelled or diminished without a minimum of ten (10) days' prior written notice to Lender and not containing any disclaimer of the insurer's liability for failure to give such notice. Each insurance policy also shall include an endorsement providing that coverage in favor of Lender will not be impaired in any way by any act, omission or default of Grantor or any other person. Should the Real Property be located in an area designated by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a special flood hazard area, Grantor agrees to obtain and maintain Federal Flood Insurance, if available, within 45 days after notice is given by Lender that the Property is located in a special flood hazard area, for the full unpaid principal balance of the loan and any prior liens on the property securing the loan, up to the maximum policy limits set under the National Flood Insurance Program, or as otherwise required by Lender, and to maintain such insurance for the term of the loan.

**Application of Proceeds.** Grantor shall promptly notify Lender of any loss or damage to the Property if the estimated cost of repair or replacement exceeds \$10,000.00. Lender may make proof of loss if Grantor fails to do so within fifteen (15) days of the casualty. Whether or not Lender's security is impaired, Lender may, at Lender's election, receive and retain the proceeds of any insurance and apply the proceeds to the reduction of the Indebtedness, payment of any lien affecting the Property, or the restoration and repair of the Property. If Lender elects to apply the proceeds to restoration and repair, Grantor shall repair or replace the damaged or destroyed Improvements in a manner satisfactory to Lender. Lender shall, upon satisfactory proof of such expenditure, pay or reimburse Grantor from the proceeds for the reasonable cost of repair or restoration if Grantor is not in default under this Mortgage. Any proceeds which have not been disbursed within 180 days after their receipt and which Lender has not committed to the repair or restoration of the Property shall be used first to pay any amount owing to Lender under this Mortgage, then to pay accrued interest, and the remainder, if any, shall be applied to the principal balance of the Indebtedness. If Lender holds any proceeds after payment in full of the Indebtedness, such proceeds shall be paid to Grantor as Grantor's interests may appear.

**Unexpired Insurance at Sale.** Any unexpired insurance shall inure to the benefit of, and pass to, the purchaser of the Property covered by this Mortgage at any trustee's sale or other sale held under the provisions of this Mortgage, or at any foreclosure sale of such Property.

**Compliance with Existing Indebtedness.** During the period in which any Existing Indebtedness described below is in effect, compliance with the insurance provisions contained in the instrument evidencing such Existing Indebtedness shall constitute compliance with the insurance provisions under this Mortgage, to the extent compliance with the terms of this Mortgage would constitute a duplication of insurance requirement. If any proceeds from the insurance become payable on loss, the provisions in this Mortgage for division of proceeds shall apply only to that portion of the proceeds not payable to the holder of the Existing Indebtedness.

**LENDER'S EXPENDITURES.** If Grantor fails (A) to keep the Property free of all taxes, liens, security interests, encumbrances, and other claims, (B) to provide any required insurance on the Property, (C) to make repairs to the Property or to comply with any obligation to maintain Existing Indebtedness in good standing as required below, then Lender may do so. If any action or proceeding is commenced that would materially affect Lender's interests in the Property, then Lender on Grantor's behalf may, but is not required to, take any action that Lender believes to be appropriate to protect Lender's interests. All expenses incurred or paid by Lender for such purposes will then bear interest at the rate charged under the Credit Agreement, or the maximum rate permitted by law, whichever is less, from the date incurred or paid by Lender to the date of repayment by Grantor. All such expenses will become a part of the Indebtedness and, at Lender's option, will (A) be payable on demand; (B) be added to the balance of the Credit Agreement and be apportioned among and be payable with any installment payments to become due during either (1) the term of any applicable insurance policy; or (2) the remaining term of the Credit Agreement; or (C) be treated as a balloon payment which will be due and payable at the Credit Agreement's maturity. The Mortgage also will secure payment of these amounts. The rights provided for in this paragraph shall be in addition to any other rights or any remedies to which Lender may be entitled on account of any default. Any such action by Lender shall not be construed as curing the default so as to bar Lender from any remedy that it otherwise would have had.

**WARRANTY; DEFENSE OF TITLE.** The following provisions relating to ownership of the Property are a part of this Mortgage:

**Title.** Grantor warrants that: (a) Grantor holds good and marketable title of record to the Property in fee simple, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances other than those set forth in the Real Property description or in the Existing Indebtedness section below or in any title insurance policy, title report, or final title opinion issued in favor of, and accepted by, Lender in connection with this Mortgage, and (b) Grantor has the full right, power, and authority to execute and deliver this Mortgage to Lender.

**Defense of Title.** Subject to the exception in the paragraph above, Grantor warrants and will forever defend the title to the Property against the lawful claims of all persons. In the event any action or proceeding is commenced that questions Grantor's title or the interest of Lender under this Mortgage, Grantor shall defend the action at Grantor's expense. Grantor may be the nominal party in such proceeding, but Lender shall be entitled to participate in the proceeding and to be represented in the proceeding by counsel of Lender's own choice, and Grantor will deliver, or cause to be delivered, to Lender such instruments as Lender may request from time to time to permit such participation.

**Compliance With Laws.** Grantor warrants that the Property and Grantor's use of the Property complies with all existing applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations of governmental authorities.

**Survival of Promises.** All promises, agreements, and statements Grantor has made in this Mortgage shall survive the execution and delivery of this Mortgage, shall be continuing in nature and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as Borrower's indebtedness is paid in full.

**EXISTING INDEBTEDNESS.** The following provisions concerning Existing Indebtedness are a part of this Mortgage:

**Existing Lien.** The lien of this Mortgage securing the Indebtedness may be secondary and inferior to an existing lien. Grantor expressly covenants and agrees to pay, or see to the payment of, the Existing Indebtedness and to prevent any default on such indebtedness, any default under the instruments evidencing such indebtedness, or any default under any security documents for such indebtedness.

**No Modification.** Grantor shall not enter into any agreement with the holder of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security agreement which has priority over this Mortgage by which that agreement is modified, amended, extended, or renewed without the prior written consent of Lender. Grantor shall neither request nor accept any future advances under any such security agreement without the prior written consent of Lender.

**CONDEMNATION.** The following provisions relating to condemnation proceedings are a part of this Mortgage:

**Proceedings.** If any proceeding in condemnation is filed, Grantor shall promptly notify Lender in writing, and Grantor shall promptly take such steps as may be necessary to defend the action and obtain the award. Grantor may be the nominal party in such proceeding, but Lender shall be entitled to participate in the proceeding and to be represented in the proceeding by counsel of its own choice, and Grantor will deliver or cause to be delivered to Lender such instruments and documentation as may be requested by Lender from time to time to permit such participation.

**Application of Net Proceeds.** If all or any part of the Property is condemned by eminent domain proceedings or by any proceeding or purchase in lieu of condemnation, Lender may at its election require that all or any portion of the net proceeds of the award be applied to the Indebtedness or the repair or restoration of the Property. The net proceeds of the award shall mean the award after payment of all reasonable costs, expenses, and attorneys' fees incurred by Lender in connection with the condemnation.

**IMPOSITION OF TAXES, FEES AND CHARGES BY GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES.** The following provisions relating to governmental taxes, fees and charges are a part of this Mortgage:

**Current Taxes, Fees and Charges.** Upon request by Lender, Grantor shall execute such documents in addition to this Mortgage and take whatever other action is requested by Lender to perfect and continue Lender's lien on the Real Property. Grantor shall reimburse Lender for all taxes, as described below, together with all expenses incurred in recording, perfecting or continuing this Mortgage, including without limitation all taxes, fees, documentary stamps, and other charges for recording or registering this Mortgage.

**Taxes.** The following shall constitute taxes to which this section applies: (1) a specific tax upon this type of Mortgage or upon all or any part of the Indebtedness secured by this Mortgage; (2) a specific tax on Borrower which Borrower is authorized or required to deduct from payments on the Indebtedness secured by this type of Mortgage; (3) a tax on this type of Mortgage chargeable against the Lender or the holder of the Credit Agreement; and (4) a specific tax on all or any portion of the Indebtedness or on payments of principal and interest made by Borrower.

**Subsequent Taxes.** If any tax to which this section applies is enacted subsequent to the date of this Mortgage, this event shall have the same effect as an Event of Default, and Lender may exercise any or all of its available remedies for an Event of Default as provided below unless Grantor either (1) pays the tax before it becomes delinquent, or (2) contests the tax as provided above in the Taxes and Liens section and deposits with Lender cash or a sufficient corporate surety bond or other security satisfactory to Lender.

**SECURITY AGREEMENT; FINANCING STATEMENTS.** The following provisions relating to this Mortgage as a security agreement are a part of this Mortgage:

**Security Agreement.** This instrument shall constitute a Security Agreement to the extent any of the Property constitutes fixtures or other personal property, and Lender shall have all of the rights of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code as amended from time to time.

**Security Interest.** Upon request by Lender, Grantor shall execute financing statements and take whatever other action is requested by Lender to perfect and continue Lender's security interest in the Personal Property. In addition to recording this Mortgage in the real property records, Lender may, at any time and without further authorization from Grantor, file executed counterparts, copies or reproductions of this Mortgage as a financing statement. Grantor shall reimburse Lender for all expenses incurred in perfecting or continuing this security interest. Upon default, Grantor shall assemble the Personal Property in a manner and at a place reasonably convenient to Grantor and Lender and make it available to Lender within three (3) days after receipt of written demand from Lender.

**Addresses.** The mailing addresses of Grantor (debtor) and Lender (secured party) from which information concerning the security interest granted by this Mortgage may be obtained (each as required by the Uniform Commercial Code) are as stated on the first page of this Mortgage.

**FURTHER ASSURANCES; ATTORNEY-IN-FACT.** The following provisions relating to further assurances and attorney-in-fact are a part of this Mortgage:

**Further Assurances.** At any time, and from time to time, upon request of Lender, Grantor will make, execute and deliver, or will cause to be made, executed or delivered, to Lender or to Lender's designee, and when requested by Lender, cause to be filed, recorded, refiled, or rerecorded, as the case may be, at such times and in such offices and places as Lender may deem appropriate, any and all such mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, security agreements, financing statements, continuation statements, instruments of further assurance, certificates, and other documents as may, in the sole opinion of Lender, be necessary or desirable in order to effectuate, complete, perfect, continue, or preserve (1) Borrower's and Grantor's obligations under the Credit Agreement, this Mortgage, and the Related Documents, and (2) the liens and security interests created by this Mortgage on the Property, whether now owned or hereafter acquired by Grantor. Unless prohibited by law or Lender agrees to the contrary in writing, Grantor shall reimburse Lender for all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the matters referred to in this paragraph.

**Attorney-in-Fact.** If Grantor fails to do any of the things referred to in the preceding paragraph, Lender may do so for and in the name of Grantor and at Grantor's expense. For such purposes, Grantor hereby irrevocably appoints Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact for the purpose of making, executing, delivering, filing, recording, and doing all other things as may be necessary or desirable, in Lender's sole opinion, to accomplish the matters referred to in the preceding paragraph.

**FULL PERFORMANCE.** If Borrower pays all the Indebtedness when due, terminates the credit line account by notifying Lender as provided in the Credit Agreement, and otherwise performs all the obligations imposed upon Grantor under this Mortgage, Lender shall execute and deliver to Grantor a suitable satisfaction of this Mortgage and suitable statements of termination of any financing statement on file evidencing Lender's security interest in the Rents and the Personal Property. Grantor will pay, if permitted by applicable law, any reasonable termination fee as determined by Lender from time to time.

**EVENTS OF DEFAULT.** At Lender's option, Grantor will be in default under this Mortgage if any of the following happen: (2) Borrower does not meet the repayment terms of the Credit Agreement.

**Default on Other Payments.** Failure of Grantor within the time required by this Mortgage to make any payment for taxes or insurance, or any other payment necessary to prevent filing of or to effect discharge of any lien.

**Break Other Promises.** Borrower or Grantor breaks any promise made to Lender or fails to perform promptly at the time and strictly in the manner provided in this Mortgage or in any agreement related to this Mortgage.

**Default in Favor of Third Parties.** Should Borrower or any Grantor default under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement, or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of Borrower's or any Grantor's property or Borrower's ability to repay the Indebtedness or Borrower's or Grantor's ability to perform their respective obligations under this Mortgage or any related document. (1) Grantor commits fraud or makes a material misrepresentation at any time in connection with the Credit Agreement. This can include, for example, a false statement about Borrower's or Grantor's income, assets, liabilities, or any other aspects of Borrower's or Grantor's financial condition.

**Defective Collateralization.** This Mortgage or any of the Related Documents ceases to be in full force and effect (including failure of any collateral document to create a valid and perfected security interest or lien) at any time and for any reason.

**Death or Insolvency.** The death of Borrower or Grantor, the insolvency of Borrower or Grantor, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Borrower's or Grantor's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Borrower or Grantor.

**Taking of the Property.** Any creditor or governmental agency tries to take any of the Property or any other of Borrower's or Grantor's property in which Lender has a lien. This includes taking of, garnishing of or levying on Borrower's or Grantor's accounts with Lender. However, if Borrower or Grantor disputes in good faith whether the claim on which the taking of the Property is based is valid or reasonable, and if Borrower or Grantor gives Lender written notice of the claim and furnishes Lender with monies or a surety bond satisfactory to Lender to satisfy the claim, then this default provision will not apply.

**Breach of Other Agreement.** Any breach by Borrower or Grantor under the terms of any other agreement between Borrower or Grantor and Lender that is not remedied within any grace period provided therein, including without limitation any agreement concerning any indebtedness or other obligation of Borrower or Grantor to Lender, whether existing now or later.

**Events Affecting Guarantor.** Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party of any of the Indebtedness or any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party dies or becomes incompetent, or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any Guaranty of the Indebtedness.

**Insecurity.** Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

**RIGHTS AND REMEDIES ON DEFAULT.** Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default and at any time thereafter, Lender, at Lender's option, may exercise any one or more of the following rights and remedies, in addition to any other rights or remedies provided by law:

**Accelerate Indebtedness.** Lender shall have the right at its option without notice to Grantor to declare the entire Indebtedness immediately due and payable, including any prepayment penalty which Grantor would be required to pay.

**UCC Remedies.** With respect to all or any part of the Personal Property, Lender shall have all the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Collect Rents.** Lender shall have the right, without notice to Borrower or Grantor, to take possession of the Property and collect the Rents, including amounts past due and unpaid, and apply the net proceeds, over and above Lender's costs, against the Indebtedness. In furtherance of this right, Lender may require any tenant or other user of the Property to make payments of rent or use fees directly to Lender. If the Rents are collected by Lender, then Grantor irrevocably designates Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact to endorse instruments received in payment thereof in the name of Grantor and to negotiate the same and collect the proceeds. Payments by tenants or other users to Lender in response to Lender's demand shall satisfy the obligations for which the payments are made, whether or not any proper grounds for the demand existed. Lender may exercise its rights under this subparagraph either in person, by agent, or through a receiver.

**Appoint Receiver.** Lender shall have the right to have a receiver appointed to take possession of all or any part of the Property, with the power to protect and preserve the Property, to operate the Property preceding foreclosure or sale, and to collect the Rents from the Property and apply the proceeds, over and above the cost of the receivership, against the Indebtedness. The receiver may serve without bond if permitted by law. Lender's right to the appointment of a receiver shall exist whether or not the apparent value of the Property exceeds the Indebtedness by a substantial amount. Employment by Lender shall not disqualify a person from serving as a receiver.

**Judicial Foreclosure.** Lender may obtain a judicial decree foreclosing Grantor's interest in all or any part of the Property.

**Nonjudicial Sale.** Lender will be authorized to take possession of the Property and, with or without taking such possession, after giving notice of the time, place and terms of sale, together with a description of the Property to be sold, by publication once a week for three (3) successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county or counties in which the Real Property to be sold is located, to sell the Property (or such part or parts thereof as Lender may from time to time elect to sell) in front of the front or main door of the courthouse of the county in which the Property to be sold, or a substantial and material part thereof, is located, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash. If there is Real Property to be sold under this Mortgage in more than one county, publication shall be made in all counties where the Real Property to be sold is located. If no newspaper is published in any county in which any Real Property to be sold is located, the notice shall be published in a newspaper published in an adjoining county for three (3) successive weeks. The sale shall be held between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the day designated for the exercise of the power of sale under this Mortgage. Lender may bid at any sale had under the terms of this Mortgage and may purchase the Property if the highest bidder therefore. Grantor hereby waives any and all rights to have the Property marshalled. In exercising Lender's rights and remedies, Lender will be free to sell all or any part of the Property together or separately, in one sale or by separate sales.

**Deficiency Judgment.** If permitted by applicable law, Lender may obtain a judgment for any deficiency remaining in the Indebtedness due to Lender after application of all amounts received from the exercise of the rights provided in this section.

**Tenancy at Sufferance.** If Grantor remains in possession of the Property after the Property is sold as provided above or Lender otherwise becomes entitled to possession of the Property upon default of Grantor, Grantor shall become a tenant at sufferance of Lender or the purchaser of the Property and shall, at Lender's option, either (1) pay a reasonable rental for the use of the Property, or (2) vacate the Property immediately upon the demand of Lender.

**Other Remedies.** Lender shall have all other rights and remedies provided in this Mortgage or the Credit Agreement or available at law or in equity.

**Sale of the Property.** To the extent permitted by applicable law, Borrower and Grantor hereby waives any and all right to have the property marshalled. In exercising its rights and remedies, Lender shall be free to sell all or any part of the Property together or separately, in one sale or by separate sales. Lender shall be entitled to bid at any public sale on all or any portion of the Property.

**Notice of Sale.** Lender will give Grantor reasonable notice of the time and place of any public sale of the Personal Property or of the time after which any private sale or other intended disposition of the Personal Property is to be made. Reasonable notice shall mean notice given at least ten (10) days before the time of the sale or disposition.

**Election of Remedies.** All of Lender's rights and remedies will be cumulative and may be exercised alone or together. An election by Lender to choose any one remedy will not bar Lender from using any other remedy. If Lender decides to spend money or to perform any of Grantor's obligations under this Mortgage, after Grantor's failure to do so, that decision by Lender will not affect Lender's right to declare Grantor in default and to exercise Lender's remedies.

**Attorneys' Fees; Expenses.** If Lender institutes any suit or action to enforce any of the terms of this Mortgage, Lender shall be entitled to recover such sum as the court may adjudge reasonable as attorneys' fees at trial and upon any appeal. Whether or not any court action is involved, and to the extent not prohibited by law, all reasonable expenses Lender incurs that in Lender's opinion are necessary at any time for the protection of its interest or the enforcement of its rights shall become a part of the Indebtedness payable on demand and shall bear interest at the Credit Agreement rate from the date of the expenditure until repaid. Expenses covered by this paragraph include, without limitation, however subject to any limits under applicable law, Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, whether or not there is a lawsuit, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), appeals, and any anticipated post-judgment collection services, the cost of searching records, obtaining title reports (including foreclosure reports), surveyors' reports, and appraisal fees and title insurance, to the extent permitted by applicable law. Grantor also will pay any court costs, in addition to all other sums provided by law. If this Mortgage is subject to Section 5-19-10, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, any reasonable attorneys' fees provided for in this Mortgage shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the unpaid debt after default and referral to an attorney who is not Lender's salaried employee.

**NOTICES.** Any notice required to be given under this Mortgage, including without limitation any notice of default and any notice of sale shall be given in writing, and shall be effective when actually delivered, when actually received by telefacsimile (unless otherwise required by law), when deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier, or, if mailed, when deposited in the United States mail, as first class, certified or registered mail postage prepaid, directed to the addresses shown near the beginning of this Mortgage. All copies of notices of foreclosure from the holder of any lien which has priority over this Mortgage shall be sent to Lender's address, as shown near the beginning of this Mortgage. Any person may change his or her address for notices under this Mortgage by giving formal written notice to the other person or persons, specifying that the purpose of the notice is to change the person's address. For notice purposes, Grantor agrees to keep Lender informed at all times of Grantor's current address. Unless otherwise provided or required by law, if there is more than one Grantor, any notice given by Lender to any Grantor is deemed to be notice given to all Grantors. It will be Grantor's responsibility to tell the others of the notice from Lender.

**TERM OF CREDIT AGREEMENT.** Unless sooner terminated according to the provisions thereof, the Credit Agreement shall terminate and expire 20 years from the date of this Mortgage.

**ARBITRATION.** Any controversy, claim, dispute or issue related to or arising from (A) the interpretation, negotiation, execution, assignment, administration, repayment, modification, or extension of this Agreement or the loan (B) any charge or cost incurred under this Agreement or the loan (C) the collection of any amounts due under this Agreement or any assignment thereof (D) any alleged tort related to or arising out of this Agreement or the loan (E) any breach of any provision of this Agreement, shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association (the "AAA Rules"). Any disagreement as to whether a particular dispute or claim is subject to arbitration under this paragraph shall be decided by arbitration in accordance with the provision of this paragraph. Commencement of litigation by any person entitled to demand arbitration under this paragraph shall not waive any right that person has to demand arbitration with respect to any counterclaim or other claim that may be made against that person, whether in, relating to, or arising out of such litigation, or otherwise. The Expedited Procedures of the AAA Rules shall apply in any dispute where the aggregate of all claims and the aggregate of all counterclaims each is in an amount less than \$50,000. The arbitrator(s) may award all remedies that a court could award. Judgement upon any award rendered by any arbitrator in any such arbitration may be entered in any Court having jurisdiction thereof. Any demand for arbitration shall be made not later than the date when any judicial action upon the same matter would be barred under any applicable statute of limitations. Any dispute as to whether the statute of limitations bars the arbitration of such matter shall be decided by arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph. The locale of any arbitration proceedings under this Agreement shall be in the county where this Agreement was executed or such other location as is mutually acceptable to all parties. We shall initially pay the filing fees and costs imposed by the AAA for the arbitration proceeding. The arbitrator(s) may permit us to recover such filing fees and costs from you. You will be responsible for your own attorneys' fees unless an applicable statute or common law provides otherwise. The arbitrator(s) in any such proceeding shall establish such reasonable procedures as may be necessary for the reasonable exchange of information between the parties prior to such arbitration. Any arbitration under this paragraph shall be on an individual basis between the parties to this Agreement or their assignees only and shall not be commenced as a member or representative of, or on behalf of, a class of persons, it being the intent of the parties that there shall be no class action arbitration under this Agreement. This Agreement evidences a "transaction involving commerce" under the Federal Arbitration Act. **WITH RESPECT TO DISPUTES SUBMITTED TO ARBITRATION, ALL RIGHTS TO A TRIAL BY JURY ARE HEREBY EXPRESSLY WAIVED.**

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph or the exercise of arbitration rights under this Agreement, each party may (1) foreclose against any real or personal property collateral by the power of sale under any applicable mortgage or security agreement or under applicable law; (2) exercise any self help remedies such as set off or repossession; or (3) obtain provisional or ancillary remedies such as replevin, injunctive relief, or appointment of a receiver from a court having jurisdiction, before, during or after the pendency of any arbitration proceedings. This arbitration provision shall not be interpreted to require that any such remedies be stayed, abated or otherwise suspended pending any arbitration or request for arbitration. The exercise of a remedy shall not waive the right of either party to resort to arbitration.

**DEFENSE COSTS.** In addition to the costs and expenses I have agreed to pay under "Collection Costs" above, I will pay all costs and expenses incurred by Lender arising out of or relating to any steps or actions Lender takes to defend any unsuccessful claim, allegation or counterclaim I may make against Lender. Such costs and expenses shall include, without limitation, attorneys' fees and costs.

**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.** The following miscellaneous provisions are a part of this Mortgage:

**Amendments.** What is written in this Mortgage and in the Related Documents is Grantor's entire agreement with Lender concerning the matters covered by this Mortgage. To be effective, any change or amendment to this Mortgage must be in writing and must be signed by whoever will be bound or obligated by the change or amendment.

**Caption Headings.** Caption headings in this Mortgage are for convenience purposes only and are not to be used to interpret or define the provisions of this Mortgage.

**Governing Law.** This Mortgage will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with federal law and the laws of the State of Alabama. This Mortgage has been accepted by Lender in the State of Alabama.

**Choice of Venue.** If there is a lawsuit, Grantor agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of SHELBY County, State of Alabama.

**Joint and Several Liability.** All obligations of Borrower and Grantor under this Mortgage shall be joint and several, and all references to Grantor shall mean each and every Grantor, and all references to Borrower shall mean each and every Borrower. This means that each Borrower and Grantor signing below is responsible for all obligations in this Mortgage.

**No Waiver by Lender.** Grantor understands Lender will not give up any of Lender's rights under this Mortgage unless Lender does so in writing. The fact that Lender delays or omits to exercise any right will not mean that Lender has given up that right. If Lender does agree in writing to give up one of Lender's rights, that does not mean Grantor will not have to comply with the other provisions of this Mortgage. Grantor also understands that if Lender does consent to a request, that does not mean that Grantor will not have to get Lender's consent again if the situation happens again. Grantor further understands that just because Lender consents to one or more of Grantor's requests, that does not mean Lender will be required to consent to any of Grantor's future requests. Grantor waives presentment, demand for payment, protest, and notice of dishonor.

**Severability.** If a court finds that any provision of this Mortgage is not valid or should not be enforced, that fact by itself will not mean that the rest of this Mortgage will not be valid or enforced. Therefore, a court will enforce the rest of the provisions of this Mortgage even if a provision of this Mortgage may be found to be invalid or unenforceable.

**Merger.** There shall be no merger of the interest or estate created by this Mortgage with any other interest or estate in the Property at any time held by or for the benefit of Lender in any capacity, without the written consent of Lender.

**Successors and Assigns.** Subject to any limitations stated in this Mortgage on transfer of Grantor's interest, this Mortgage shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties, their successors and assigns. If ownership of the Property becomes vested in a person other than Grantor, Lender, without notice to Grantor, may deal with Grantor's successors with reference to this Mortgage and the Indebtedness by way of forbearance or extension without releasing Grantor from the obligations of this Mortgage or liability under the Indebtedness.

**Time is of the Essence.** Time is of the essence in the performance of this Mortgage.

**Waive Jury.** All parties to this Mortgage hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by any party against any other party.

**Waiver of Homestead Exemption.** Grantor hereby releases and waives all rights and benefits of the homestead exemption laws of the State of Alabama as to all indebtedness secured by this Mortgage.

**DEFINITIONS.** The following words shall have the following meanings when used in this Mortgage:

**Borrower.** The word "Borrower" means JAMES M. PIERCE, and all other persons and entities signing the Credit Agreement.

**Credit Agreement.** The words "Credit Agreement" mean the credit agreement dated March 28, 2001, in the original principal amount of \$47,000.00 from Borrower to Lender, together with all renewals of, extensions of, modifications of, refinancings of, consolidations of, and substitutions for the promissory note or agreement. The maturity date of this Mortgage is March 28, 2021.

**Environmental Laws.** The words "Environmental Laws" mean any and all state, federal and local statutes, regulations and ordinances relating to the protection of human health or the environment, including without limitation the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601, et seq. ("CERCLA"), the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499 ("SARA"), the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. Section 1801, et seq., the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 6901, et seq., or other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

**Event of Default.** The words "Event of Default" mean any of the events of default set forth in this Mortgage in the events of default section of this Mortgage.

**Existing Indebtedness.** The words "Existing Indebtedness" mean the indebtedness described in the Existing Liens provision of this Mortgage.

**Grantor.** The word "Grantor" means JAMES M. PIERCE and KEELA PIERCE.

**Guaranty.** The word "Guaranty" means the guaranty from guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party to Lender, including without limitation a guaranty of all or part of the Credit Agreement.

**Hazardous Substances.** The words "Hazardous Substances" mean materials that, because of their quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or pose a present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when

improperly used, treated, stored, disposed of, generated, manufactured, transported or otherwise handled. The words "Hazardous Substances" are used in their very broadest sense and include without limitation any and all hazardous or toxic substances, materials or waste as defined by or listed under the Environmental Laws. The term "Hazardous Substances" also includes, without limitation, petroleum and petroleum by-products or any fraction thereof and asbestos.

Improvements. The word "Improvements" means all existing and future improvements, buildings, structures, mobile homes affixed on the Real Property, facilities, additions, replacements and other construction on the Real Property.

Indebtedness. The word "Indebtedness" means all principal and interest payable under the Credit Agreement and any amounts expended or advanced by Lender to discharge obligations of Grantor or expenses incurred by Lender to enforce obligations of Grantor under this Agreement, together with interest on such amounts as provided in this Agreement, and any and all other present or future, direct or contingent liabilities or indebtedness of any person who signs the Credit Agreement to the Lender of any nature whatsoever, whether classified as secured or unsecured, except that the word "Indebtedness" shall not include any debt subject to the disclosure requirements of the Federal Truth-In-Lending Act if, at the time such debt is incurred, any legally required disclosure of the lien afforded hereby with respect to such debt shall not have been made.

Lender. The word "Lender" means AmSouth Bank, its successors and assigns. The words "successors or assigns" mean any person or company that acquires any interest in the Credit Agreement.

Mortgage. The word "Mortgage" means this Mortgage between Grantor and Lender.

Personal Property. The words "Personal Property" mean all equipment, fixtures, and other articles of personal property now or hereafter owned by Grantor, and now or hereafter attached or affixed to the Real Property; together with all accessions, parts, and additions to, all replacements of, and all substitutions for, any of such property; and together with all proceeds (including without limitation all insurance proceeds and refunds of premiums) from any sale or other disposition of the Property.

Property. The word "Property" means collectively the Real Property and the Personal Property.

Real Property. The words "Real Property" mean the real property, interests and rights, as further described in this Mortgage.

Related Documents. The words "Related Documents" mean all promissory notes, credit agreements, loan agreements, environmental agreements, guaranties, security agreements, mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, collateral mortgages, and all other instruments, agreements and documents, whether now or hereafter existing, executed in connection with the Indebtedness.

Rents. The word "Rents" means all present and future rents, revenues, income, issues, royalties, profits, and other benefits derived from the Property.

EACH GRANTOR ACKNOWLEDGES HAVING READ ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS MORTGAGE, AND EACH GRANTOR AGREES TO ITS TERMS. THIS MORTGAGE IS GIVEN UNDER SEAL AND IT IS INTENDED THAT THIS MORTGAGE IS AND SHALL CONSTITUTE AND HAVE THE EFFECT OF A SEALED INSTRUMENT ACCORDING TO LAW.

GRANTOR:

x [Signature] (Seal) JAMES M. PIERCE, Individually

x [Signature] (Seal) KEELA PIERCE, Individually

This Mortgage prepared by:

Name: ANDREA LOCKHART
Address: P.O. BOX 830721
City, State, ZIP: BIRMINGHAM, AL 35283

INDIVIDUAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF Alabama )
COUNTY OF Shelby ) SS

I, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for said county in said state, hereby certify that JAMES M. PIERCE and KEELA PIERCE, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument, and who are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of said Mortgage, they executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand and official seal this 28 day of March, 20 01.

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF ALABAMA AT LARGE
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: Mar. 1, 2003
BONDED THRU NOTARY PUBLIC UNDERWRITERS

[Signature] Notary Public

My commission expires

NOTE TO PROBATE JUDGE

This Mortgage secures open-end or revolving indebtedness with residential real property or interests; therefore, under Section 40-22-2(1)b, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, the mortgage filing privilege tax on this Mortgage should not exceed \$.15 for each \$100 (or fraction thereof) of the credit limit of \$ 47,000 provided for herein, which is the maximum principal indebtedness to be secured by this Mortgage at any one time.

AmSouth Bank
By: [Signature]
Its

**EXHIBIT "A" LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Account #: 5041881  
Order Date: 03/14/2001  
Reference: 20010710915500  
Name: JAMES M PIERCE

Index #:  
  
Parcel #:

Deed Ref: 1996-05034

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A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 21 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS; COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 21 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA AND RUN THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID 1/4 1/4 A DISTANCE OF 454.79 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PROPERTY BEING DESCRIBED; THENCE CONTINUE ALONG LAST DESCRIBED COURSE A DISTANCE OF 465.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTHERLY MARGIN OF SHELBY COUNTY HIGHWAY NO. 25; THENCE TURN 69 DEG. 24 MIN. 54 SEC. LEFT AND RUN SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID MARGIN OF SAID HIGHWAY A DISTANCE OF 357.39 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE TURN 110 DEG. 35 MIN. 06 SEC. LEFT AND RUN NORTHERLY A DISTANCE OF 575.97 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE TURN 87 DEG. 29 MIN. 09 SEC. LEFT AND RUN WESTERLY A DISTANCE OF 334.90 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING SITUATED IN SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA.

SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY DEED RECORDED IN INSTRUMENT #1996-05034, OF THE SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA RECORDS.

*To: Sheila Lewis*

Inst # 2001-12773

04/05/2001-12773  
11:23 AM CERTIFIED

SHELBY COUNTY JUDGE OF PROBATE  
007 031 99.50