

70605343

RETURN TO:
FIRST FINANCIAL FUNDING INC.
600 RIVERHILLS BUSINESS PARK
SUITE 500
BIRMINGHAM AL 35242
1 (800) 480 7826

THIS DOCUMENT PREPARED BY

Richard Greene
2630 Queenstown Road
Birmingham, AL 35210

MORTGAGE

This Mortgage is made this day, July 02, 1997, between the Mortgagor,
JOHN JOSEPH RUSSO, JR. AND KAREN LEE RUSSO (MARRIED)

(herein "Borrower")

and the Mortgagee, **AMERICAN STANDARD CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.**

a Corporation, whose address is 2630 QUEENSTOWN ROAD BIRMINGHAM, AL 35210 (herein "Lender").

WHEREAS, Borrower is indebted to Lender in the principal amount of \$15,500.00, which indebtedness is evidenced by an FHA Title I Property Improvement Loan/Retail Installment Contract dated July 02, 1997 ("Note"), providing for monthly installments of principal and interest, with the balance of the indebtedness, if not sooner paid, due and payable on or about 120 months from the above date.

TO SECURE to Lender the repayment of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note, with interest thereon; the payment of all other sums, with interest thereon, advanced in accordance herewith to protect the security of this Mortgage; and the performance of the covenants and agreements of Borrower herein contained, Borrower does hereby grant and convey to Lender and to Lender's successors and assigns with power of sale, the following described property located in the County of SHELBY State of Alabama:

LOT 11, ACCORDING TO A RESURVEY OF LOTS 6, 7, 10, 11 AND 12 OF ROYAL OAKS, FOURTH SECTOR, UNIT II, AS RECORDED IN MAP BOOK 10 PAGE 72 IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA; BEING SITUATED IN SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Which has the address of:

**2611 ROYAL COURT
PELHAM, AL 35124**

(herein "property address");

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD such property unto Lender and Lender's successors and assigns, forever, together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property, and all easements, rights, appurtenances and rents, all of which shall be deemed to be and remain a part of the property covered by this Mortgage; and all of the foregoing, together with said property (or the leasehold estate if this Mortgage is on a leasehold) are hereafter referred to as the "Property".

Borrower covenants that Borrower is lawfully seized of the estate hereby conveyed and has the right to mortgage, grant and convey the Property, and that the Property is unencumbered, except for encumbrances of record in the county where the Property is situated. Borrower covenants that Borrower warrants and will defend generally the title to the Property against all claims and demands, subject to said encumbrances of record.

UNIFORM COVENANTS. Borrower and Lender covenant and agree as follows:

1. **Payment of principal and interest.** Borrower shall promptly pay when due the principal and interest of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note and late charges as provided in said Note.

2. **Funds for taxes and insurance.** Subject to applicable law or a written waiver by Lender, Borrower shall pay to Lender on the day monthly payments and interest are payable under the Note, until the Note is paid in full, a sum (herein "Funds") equal to one-twelfth of the yearly taxes and assessments (including condominium and planned unit development assessments, if any) that may attain priority over this Mortgage and ground rents on the Property, if any, plus one-twelfth of the yearly premium installments for hazard insurance plus one-twelfth of yearly premium installments for mortgage insurance, if any, all as reasonably estimated initially and from time to time by Lender on the basis of assessment and bills and reasonable estimates thereon. Borrower shall not be obligated to make such payments of Funds to Lender to the extent that Borrower makes such payments to the holder of a prior mortgage or deed or trust if such holder is an institutional lender.

If Borrower pays Funds to Lender, the Funds shall be held in an institution the deposits or accounts of which are insured or guaranteed by a federal or state agency (including Lender if Lender is such an institution). Lender shall apply the Funds to pay said taxes, assessments, insurance premiums and ground rents. Lender may not charge for so holding and applying these Funds, analyzing said account or verifying and compiling said assessments and bills, unless Lender pays Borrower interest on the Funds and applicable law permits Lender to make such a charge. Borrower and Lender may agree in writing at the time of execution of this Mortgage that interest on the Funds shall be paid to Borrower, and unless such agreement is made or applicable law requires such interest to be paid, Lender shall not be required to pay Borrower any interest for earnings on the Funds. Lender shall give to Borrower, without charge, an annual accounting of the Funds showing credits and debits to the funds and the purpose for which each such debit to the Funds was made. The funds are pledged as additional security for the sums secured by this Mortgage. If the amount of the Funds held by Lender, together with the future monthly installments of Funds payable before the due dates of taxes, assessments, insurance premiums and ground rents, shall exceed the amount required to pay such taxes, assessments, insurance premiums and ground rents as they fall due, such excess shall be, at Borrower's option, either promptly repaid to Borrower or credited to Borrower on monthly installments of Funds. If the amount of the Funds held by Lender shall not be sufficient to pay taxes, assessments, insurance premiums and ground rents as they fall due, Borrower shall pay to Lender any amount necessary to make up the deficiency in one or more payments as Lender may require.

Upon payment in full of all sums secured by this Mortgage, Lender shall promptly refund to Borrower any Funds held by Lender. If, under paragraph 17 hereof, the Property is sold or the Property is otherwise acquired by Lender, Lender shall apply, no later than immediately before the sale of the Property or its acquisition by Lender, any Funds held by Lender at the time of the application as a credit against the sums secured by this Mortgage.

3. Application of payments. Unless applicable law provides otherwise, all payments received by Lender under the Note and paragraphs 1 and 2 hereof shall be applied by Lender first in payment of amounts payable to Lender by Borrower under paragraph 2 hereof, then to interest payable on the Note, and then to the principal of the Note.

4. Prior mortgages and deeds of trust; charges; liens. Borrower shall perform all of Borrower's obligations under any mortgage, deed of trust or other security agreement creating a lien that has priority over this Mortgage, including Borrower's covenants to make payments when due. Borrower shall pay or cause to be paid all taxes, assessments and other charges, fines and impositions attributable to the Property that may retain a priority over this Mortgage, and leasehold payments or ground rents, if any.

5. Hazard Insurance. Borrower shall keep the improvements now existing or hereafter erected on the Property insured against loss by fire, hazards included within the term "extended coverage", and such other hazards as Lender may require and in such amounts and for such periods as Lender may require. The insurance carrier providing the insurance shall be chosen by Borrower subject to approval by Lender; provided that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. All insurance policies and renewals thereof shall be in a form acceptable to Lender and shall include a standard mortgage clause in favor of, and in a form acceptable to, Lender. Lender shall have the right to hold the policies and renewals thereof, subject to the terms of any mortgage, deed of trust or other security agreement with a lien having priority over this Mortgage.

In the event of loss, Borrower shall give prompt notice to the insurance carrier and to Lender. Lender may make proof of loss if not made promptly by Borrower.

If the Property is abandoned by Borrower, or if Borrower fails to respond to Lender in 30 days from the date notice is mailed by Lender to Borrower that the insurance carrier offers to settle a claim for insurance benefits, Lender is authorized to

6. Preservation and maintenance of property; leaseholds; condominiums; planned unit developments. Borrower shall keep the Property in good repair and shall not commit waste or permit impairment or deterioration of the Property and shall comply with the provisions of any lease if this Mortgage is on a leasehold. If this Mortgage is on a unit in a condominium or a planned unit development, Borrower shall perform all of Borrower's obligations under the declaration of covenants creating or governing the condominium or planned unit development, the by-laws of the condominium or planned unit development, and constituent documents.

7. Protection of Lender's security. If Borrower fails to perform the covenants and agreements contained in this Mortgage, or if any action or proceeding is commenced which materially affects Lender's interest in the Property, then Lender, at its option, upon notice to Borrower, may make such appearances, disburse such sums, including reasonable attorneys' fees, and take such action as is necessary to protect Lender's interest. If Lender requires mortgage insurance as a condition of making the loan secured by this Mortgage, Borrower shall pay the premiums requested to maintain such insurance in effect until such time as the requirements for such insurance terminates in accordance with Borrower's and Lender's written agreement or applicable law.

Any amounts disbursed by Lender pursuant to this paragraph, with interest thereon, at the Note rate, shall become additional indebtedness of Borrower secured by this Mortgage. Unless borrower and Lender agree to other terms of payment, such amounts shall be payable upon written notice from Lender to Borrower requesting payment thereof. Nothing contained in this paragraph 7 shall require Lender to incur any expense or take any action thereunder.

8. Inspection. Lender may make or cause to be made reasonable entries upon and inspections of the Property, provided that Lender shall give Borrower notice before any such inspection, specifying reasonable cause therefor related to Lender's interest in the Property.

9. Condemnation. The proceeds of any award or claim for damages, direct or consequential, in connection with any condemnation or other taking of the Property, or part thereof, or for conveyance in lieu of condemnation, are hereby assigned and shall be paid to Lender, subject to the terms of any mortgage, deed of trust or other security agreement with a lien that has priority over this Mortgage.

10. Borrower not released; forbearance by Lender not a waiver. Extension of time for payment or modification of amortization of the sums secured by this Mortgage granted by Lender to any successor in interest of Borrower shall not operate to release, in any manner, the liability of the original Borrower and Borrower's successors in interest. Lender shall not be required to commence proceedings against such successor or refuse to extend time for payment or otherwise modify amortization of the sums secured by this Mortgage by reason of any demand made by the original Borrower and Borrower's successors in interest. Any forbearance by Lender in exercising any right or remedy hereunder, or otherwise afforded by applicable law, shall not be a waiver of, or preclude the exercise of, any such right or remedy.

11. Successors and assigns bound; joint and several liability; Co-signers. The covenants and agreements herein contained shall bind, and the rights hereunder shall inure to, the respective successors and assigns of Lender and Borrower, subject to the provisions of paragraph 16 hereof. All covenants and agreements of Borrower shall be joint and several. Any borrower who co-signs this Mortgage but does not execute the Note (a) is co-signing this Mortgage only to mortgage, grant and convey that Borrower's interest in the Property to Lender under the terms of this Mortgage; (b) is not personally liable on the Note or under this Mortgage; and (c) agrees that Lender and any other Borrower may agree to extend, modify, forebear or make any other accommodations with regard to the terms of this Mortgage or the Note without that Borrower's consent and without releasing that Borrower or modifying this Mortgage as to that Borrower's interest in the Property.

12. Notice. Except for any notice required under applicable law to be given in another manner (a) any notice to Borrower provided for in this Mortgage shall be given in writing by delivering it or by mailing such notice by certified mail addressed to Borrower at the Property address or at such other address as Borrower may designate by written notice to Lender as provided herein; and (b) any notice to Lender shall be given in writing by certified mail to Lender's address stated herein or to such other address as Lender may designate by written notice to Borrower as provided herein. Any notice provided for in this Mortgage shall be deemed to have been given to Borrower or Lender when given in the manner designated herein.

13. Governing law; severability. The state and local laws applicable to this Mortgage shall be the laws of the jurisdiction in which the Property is located. In the event that any provision or clause of this Mortgage or the Note conflicts with applicable law, such conflict shall not affect other provisions of this Mortgage or the Note which can be given effect without the conflicting provision, and to this end the provisions of this Mortgage and the Note are declared to be severable. As used herein, "costs", "expenses" and "attorneys' fees" include all sums to the extent not prohibited by applicable law or limited herein.

14. Borrower's copy. Borrower shall be furnished a conformed copy of the Note and of this Mortgage at the time of execution or after recordation hereof.

15. Rehabilitation loan agreement. Borrower shall fulfill all of Borrower's obligations under any home rehabilitation, improvement, repair or other loan agreement which Borrower enters into with Lender. Lender, at its option, may require Borrower to execute and deliver to Lender, in a form acceptable to Lender, an assignment of any rights, claims or defenses that Borrower may have against parties who supply labor, materials or services in connection with improvements made to the Property.

16. Transfer of the Property or a Beneficial Interest in Borrower. If all or any part of the Property or any interest in it is sold or transferred (or if a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred and Borrower is not a natural person) without Lender's prior written consent, Lender may, at its option require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Mortgage. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender if exercise is prohibited by federal law as of the date of this Mortgage.

If Lender exercises this option, Lender shall give Borrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than 30 days from the date the notice is delivered or mailed within which Borrower may pay all sums secured by this Mortgage. If Borrower fails to pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period, Lender may invoke any remedies permitted by this Mortgage without further notice or demand on Borrower.

NON-UNIFORM COVENANTS. Borrower and Lender further covenant and agree as follows:

17. Acceleration; remedies. Except as provided in paragraph 16 hereof, upon Borrower's breach of any covenant or agreement in this Mortgage, including the covenants to pay when due any sums secured by this Mortgage, before acceleration Lender shall give notice to Borrower as provided in paragraph 12 herein above specifying: (1) the breach; (2) the action required to cure such breach; (3) a date, not less than 30 days from the date noticed is mailed to Borrower, by which such breach may be cured; and (4) that failure to cure such breach on or before the date specified in the notice may result in acceleration of the sums secured by this Mortgage and sale of the Property. The notice shall further inform Borrower of the right to reinstate after acceleration and the right to bring a court action to assert in the foreclosure proceeding the non-existence of a default or any other defense of Borrower to acceleration and sale. If the breach is not cured on or before the date specified in the notice, Lender at its option may declare all of the sums secured by this Mortgage to be immediately due and payable without further demand and may invoke the power of sale and any other remedies permitted by applicable law. Lender shall be entitled to collect all reasonable costs and expenses incurred in pursuing the remedies provided in this paragraph 17, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees.

If Lender invokes the power of sale, Lender shall mail a copy of a notice of sale to Borrower in the manner provided in paragraph 12 hereof. Lender shall publish the notice of sale once a week for three consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in SHELBY County, Alabama, and thereupon shall sell the Property to the highest bidder at public auction at the county courthouse of said county. Lender shall deliver to the purchaser Lender's deed conveying the Property so sold. Lender or its designee may purchase the Property at any sale. Borrower covenants and agrees that the proceeds of the sale shall be applied in the following order: (a) to all reasonable costs and expenses of the sale, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of title evidence; (b) to all sums secured by this Mortgage; and (c) the excess, if any, to the person or persons legally entitled thereto.

18. Borrower's right to reinstate. Notwithstanding Lender's acceleration of the sums secured by this Mortgage due to Borrower's breach, Borrower shall have the right to have any proceedings begun by Lender to enforce this Mortgage discontinued at any time before the earlier to occur of (i) the fifth day before the sale of the Property pursuant to the power of the sale contained in this Mortgage or (ii) entry of a judgment enforcing this Mortgage, if (a) Borrower pays Lender all sums that would be then due under this Mortgage and the Note had no acceleration occurred; (b) Borrower cures all breaches of any other covenants or agreement contained in this Mortgage; (c) Borrower pays all reasonable expenses incurred by Lender in enforcing the covenants and agreements contained in this Mortgage, and in enforcing Lender's remedies as provided in paragraph 17 hereof, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees; and (d) Borrower takes such action as Lender may reasonably require to assure that the lien of this Mortgage, Lender's interest in the Property and Borrower's obligation to pay the sums secured by this Mortgage shall continue unimpaired. Upon such payment and cure by Borrower, this Mortgage and the obligations secured hereby shall remain in full force and effect as if no acceleration had occurred.

19. Assignment of rents ; appointment of receiver; Lender in possession. As additional security hereunder, Borrower hereby assigns to Lender the rents of the Property, provided that Borrower shall, before acceleration under paragraph 17 hereof or abandonment of the Property, have the right to collect and retain such rents as they become due and payable. Upon acceleration under paragraph 17 hereof or abandonment of the Property, Lender, in person, by agent or by judicially appointed receiver, shall be entitled to enter upon, take possession of, and manage the Property and to collect the rents of the Property including those past due. All rents collected by Lender or the receiver shall be applied first to payment of the costs of management of the Property and collection of rents, including, but not limited to, receiver's fees, premiums on receiver's bond and reasonable attorneys' fees, and then to sums secured by this Mortgage. Lender and the receiver shall be liable to account only for those rents actually received.

20. Release. Upon payment of all sums secured by this Mortgage, this Mortgage shall become null and void and Lender shall release this Mortgage without charge to Borrower. Borrower shall pay all costs of recordation, if any.

21. Waiver of homestead, dower, and curtesy. Borrower hereby waives all rights or homestead exemption in the Property and relinquishes all rights of dower and curtesy in the Property.

REQUEST FOR NOTICE OF DEFAULT
AND FORECLOSURE UNDER SUPERIOR
MORTGAGES OR DEEDS OF TRUST

Borrower and Lender request that the holder of any mortgage, deed of trust or other encumbrance with a lien having priority over this Mortgage to give notice to Lender, at Lender's address set forth on page 1 of this Mortgage, of any default under the superior encumbrance and of any sale or other foreclosure action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Borrower has executed this Mortgage.

John J. Russo, Jr.
JOHN J. RUSSO, JR.

Borrower
-Borrower

(L.S.)

-Borrower

Karen Gual Russo
KAREN GUAL RUSSO

Borrower
-Borrower

(L.S.)

-Borrower

(Sign Original Only)

State of Alabama, SHELBY County, ss:

I, Richard Greene
JOHN J. RUSSO, JR.

and KAREN GUAL RUSSO

, whose name(s) ARE signed to the foregoing conveyance, and who ARE known to me, acknowledge(s) before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the conveyance, he y executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

GIVEN under my hand and seal, this 2nd day of JULY, 1997.

My commission expires: 2-1-98

Notary Public

ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGE

For valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Lender transfers, assigns, grants and conveys all rights, titles, powers and options in, to and under the foregoing Mortgage dated JULY 2, 1997, filed for record with the Judge of probate of SHELBY County, Alabama, and therein recorded in Volume , Page , as well as to the Note described therein and secured thereby, the lands described therein, and the statutory right of redemption, to FIRST FINANCIAL FUNDING, INC., a CORPORATION

whose address is 180 INTERSTATE N. PKWY STE 270 ATLANTA, GA 30339

Date: JULY 8, 19 97.

AMERICAN STANDARD CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
Lender

By:

Its: AUTHORIZED AGENT

Acknowledgment by Individual

State of Alabama, County, ss:

I, , a notary public in and for said county and state, hereby certify that and

, whose name(s) signed to the foregoing conveyance, and who known to me, acknowledge(s) before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the conveyance, he executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

GIVEN under my hand and seal, this day of , 199 .

My commission expires:

Notary Public

Acknowledgment by Corporation or Partnership

State of Alabama, JEFFERSON County, ss:

I, GREGORY HONEYCUTT, a notary public in and for said county and state, hereby certify that RICHARD GREENE, whose name(s) as AUTHORIZED AGENT of SDC FINANCIAL CORP., a corporation/partnership, is/are signed to the foregoing conveyance and who is/are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the conveyance, he as such officer/partner and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily for and as the act of said corporation/partnership.

GIVEN under my hand and seal, this 8th day of JULY, 199 7.

My commission expires: APRIL 20, 1998

Notary Public

70605343

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY

RETURN TO:
FIRST FINANCIAL FUNDING INC.
500 RIVERHILLS BUSINESS PARK
SUITE 590
BIRMINGHAM AL 35242
1 (800) 460 7626

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

KNOWN ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS

COUNTY OF SHELBY

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, A NOTARY PUBLIC IN

AND FOR SHELBY COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA.

ON THIS DAY PERSONALLY APPEARED KAREN GUAL RUSSO

WHO STATED ON HIS/HER OATH AS FOLLOWS: THAT MY NAME IS

KAREN GUAL RUSSO AND I AM ONE AND THE SAME AS

KAREN GAUL RUSSO, KAREN LEE RUSSO.


BORROWERS SIGNATURE

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 2nd DAY OF JULY.


NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF SHELBY

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 2-1-98

70605343

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY

RETURN TO:
FIRST FINANCIAL FUNDING INC.
500 RIVERHILLS BUSINESS PARK
SUITE 590
BIRMINGHAM AL 35242
1 (800) 460 7626

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

KNOWN ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS

COUNTY OF SHELBY

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, A NOTARY PUBLIC IN

AND FOR SHELBY COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA

ON THIS DAY PERSONALLY APPEARED JOHN J. RUSSO, JR.

WHO STATED ON HIS/HER OATH AS FOLLOWS: THAT MY NAME IS

JOHN J. RUSSO, JR. AND I AM ONE AND THE SAME AS

JOHN JOSEPH RUSSO, JR.


BORROWERS SIGNATURE

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 2nd DAY OF JULY



NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF SHELBY

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 2-1-98

07/18/1997-22644
11:06 AM CERTIFIED
SHELBY COUNTY JUDGE OF PROBATE
44.25

Inst # 1997-22644