

(23) In view of the fact that situations may arise under this Power of Attorney in which my Attorney-in-Fact will occupy from a legal standpoint positions in which a conflict of interest is either real or apparent, I hereby declare that the existence of any conflict of interest of whatever nature and however arising shall not in any manner limit any of the powers herein conferred upon my Attorney and he may perform any act which he is authorized to perform under this Power of Attorney, notwithstanding any such conflict of interest. I do hereby ratify and confirm all things so done by my said Attorney, within the scope of the authority herein given, as fully and to the same extent as if by me personally done and performed.

(24) This Power of Attorney shall not be affected by physical disability or mental incompetence of the principal which renders the principal incapable of managing her own estate. It is my intention that the authority conferred herein shall be exercisable notwithstanding my physical disability or mental incompetence.

(25) I do hereby make, constitute and appoint my son, JAMES R. THOMASON, JR., as standby Attorney. If, for any reason my husband, J. ROBERT THOMASON, is incapable, either temporarily or permanently, of performing as my lawful Attorney, then my son, JAMES R. THOMASON, JR., as standby Attorney, shall so serve as my true and lawful Attorney with all the powers herein granted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1981.

Ruth M. Thomason (LS)  
RUTH M. THOMASON

SIGNED, SEALED, PUBLISHED and DECLARED by RUTH M. THOMASON, as and for the granting of her Power of Attorney in the presence of us, who, in the presence of said principal, RUTH M. THOMASON, and at her request, and in the presence of each other, have hereunto set our names as attesting witnesses.

WITNESSES:

Marion B. Watson

Laura H. Vines

Elyzabeth M. Allevise