



Service Corporation International Announces the Appointment of Jerald L. Pullins as Executive Vice President -- International Operations and Declares Quarterly Cash Dividend

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HOUSTON, Aug. 14 /PRNewswire/ -- Service Corporation International (NYSE: SRV)(SCI) today announced Jerald L. Pullins, Executive Vice President, European Operations, has been appointed Executive Vice President - International Operations. In his new position Mr. Pullins will be responsible for all of the Company's International Operations and expansion outside of North America.

Since 1994, Mr. Pullins has been responsible for SCI's European Operations which include more than 2,000 locations in the United Kingdom and France plus significant businesses in eight other European Countries (Morocco, Italy, The Czech Republic, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Belgium, and Spain). Additionally, agreements have been signed with firms in Hungary, Ireland and Portugal.

Jerry Pullins has a long history with SCI and within the funeral service industry. In 1965 and 1966, he worked on the initial audits of SCI, then Southern Capital Corporation, while an employee of Arthur Young & Co. After service in the United States Army as an Officer in Vietnam, Mr. Pullins joined SCI in 1969 as a Vice President of Corporate Development. Subsequently, he managed the Company's Corporate Development Department, the Cemetery Division and the Southeastern Region.

In 1979, Mr. Pullins joined Merrill Lynch Realty as Chief Financial Officer and subsequently was named CEO, Merrill Lynch Mortgage Corporation and CEO, Merrill Lynch Mortgage Backed Securities. In 1984, with a group of investors, Mr. Pullins formed the Sentinel Group which became one of the leading death care industry consolidators in the United States. The Sentinel Group grew to more than \$60 million in revenues before merging with SCI in 1991.

In announcing the position, Mr. R. L. Waltrip, SCI's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer stated, "Jerry Pullins is one of our most seasoned executives. He has extensive knowledge in all aspects of our business and is our most experienced senior executive in International Operations. We expect to benefit from his expertise in further International expansion and improving operational results in our International Sector."

Mr. Pullins commented, "Three years in charge of European Operations have convinced me that while funeral customs may vary from country to country, society to society, and region to region, there are significant opportunities to leverage the knowledge and experience of SCI in other areas of the world. I look forward to providing leadership to our existing International Operations and continued worldwide expansion."

Additionally, the board of directors of Service Corporation International (SCI) today declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of 7.5 cents per share of the common stock of the company.

R. L. Waltrip, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, said that the cash dividend is payable October 31, 1997, to shareholders of record at the close of business on October 15, 1997.

As of June 30, 1997, SCI affiliates operated 3,012 funeral service locations, 365 cemeteries and 156 crematoria. SCI provides funeral and cemetery services in North America, Europe and the Pacific Rim. SCI's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. The company's ticker symbol is SRV.

For additional information contact: Todd Matherne, Vice President Investor Relations (713) 525-5243 102121.2653@compuserve.com Other Service Corporation International information and press releases are available through Company News On-Call by fax, (800) 758-5804, extension 104532, or at <http://www.prnewswire.com> or SCI's homepage: <http://www.sci-corp.com> .

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CONTACT: Todd Matherne, Vice President Investor Relations of Service Corporation International, 713-525-5243, e-mail, 102121.2653@compuserve.com