As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 2, 2002

Registration No. 333-

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ATLANTIC AMERICAN CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Georgia (State of Incorporation) **58-1027114** (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

ATLANTIC AMERICAN CORPORATION 2002 INCENTIVE PLAN

Hilton H. Howell, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer Atlantic American Corporation 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30319 (Name and Address of Agent for Service) (404) 266-5500 (Telephone Number, including area code, of Agent for Service)

Copy to:

Mark L. Hanson, Esq. Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue 3500 SunTrust Plaza 303 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30308-3242 (404) 521-3939

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered (1)	Amount to be registered	Proposed maximum offering price per share (2)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2)	Amount of registration fee (2)
Common Stock \$1.00 par value	2,000,000	\$2.20	\$4,400,000	\$405.00

(1) In addition, pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the incentive plan described herein.

(2) In accordance with Rule 457(c) and (h) under the Securities Act of 1933, the maximum aggregate offering price and registration fee have been computed as follows: (a) the price per share of the Common Stock of Atlantic American Corporation has been based on the closing price reported for the Common Stock on the Nasdaq National Market on July 31, 2002 (a date within 5 business days prior to the date of filing this Registration Statement) and (b) the registration fee is calculated by multiplying the product of the proposed maximum offering price per share and the number of shares to be registered by .000092.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

In accordance with the Note to Part I of Form S-8, the information specified in Part I of Form S-8 has been omitted from this Registration Statement on Form S-8 for offers of Common Stock of Atlantic American Corporation pursuant to the Atlantic American Corporation 2002 Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

#### PART II

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement:

- (a) the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001;
- (b) the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2002;
- (c) all other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13(e) or 15(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") since March 31, 2002; and
- (d) the description of the Registrant's Common Stock, \$1.00 par value (the "Common Stock") contained in the Registrant's Registration Statement filed pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a posteffective amendment which indicates that all shares offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be part hereof from the date of filing such documents.

#### Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not Applicable.

## Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Inapplicable.

## Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Article 9 of the Bylaws of the Registrant provides that the Registrant shall indemnify any of its directors, officers, employees or agents, or any person serving at the Registrant's request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or organization, against loss or expense if it shall have been determined that the person indemnified acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Registrant and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful, except that in proceedings to obtain a judgment in favor of the Registrant, indemnification would be limited to expenses incurred in defense or settlement, and, in the case of adjudicated negligence or misconduct, only if and to the extent approved by the court. Such indemnification obligation is not to be deemed exclusive of any other right, in respect of indemnification or otherwise, to which any party may be entitled under any other Bylaw provision or resolution approved by the shareholders.

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The Registrant's Restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended (the "Articles"), contain provisions that provide that no director of the Registrant shall be personally liable to the Registrant or its shareholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability (i) for any appropriation, in violation of his duties, of any business opportunity of the Registrant, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) for the types of liability set forth in Section 14-2-154 of the Georgia Business Corporation Code, as amended, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

The Registrant has obtained directors' and officers' liability and corporation reimbursement insurance. The insurance reimburses (a) directors and officers for certain losses arising from claims made against them in their capacities as such, or (b) the Company for amounts paid where the Registrant is required or permitted to indemnify directors and officers for such losses.

### Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Inapplicable.

### Item 8. Exhibits.

4.1	Atlantic American Corporation 2002 Incentive Plan.
5	Opinion of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue regarding legality of the Common Stock being registered.
23.1*	Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP.
23.2	Consent of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue (included in Exhibit 5)
24.	Power of Attorney (included in signature pages)

\*As permitted by Rule 437a of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant has omitted the written consent of Arthur Andersen LLP (which audited and issued a report on the Registrant's financial statements as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001) that is otherwise required to be filed by Section 7 of the Securities Act. The Registrant made reasonable efforts to obtain a written consent from Arthur Andersen LLP in connection with this Registration Statement, but such efforts were unsuccessful. As a result of the foregoing, investors may be unable to recover against Arthur Andersen LLP under Section 11 of the Securities Act for any untrue statement of material fact contained in the financial statements of the Registrant audited by Arthur Andersen LLP that are included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K filed for the year ended December 31, 2001, for any omissions to state a material fact required to be stated therein, which financial statements are incorporated in this Registration Statement by reference.

#### Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
  - (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

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(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement;

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

<u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that sub-paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3 or Form S-8, and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act or 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Atlanta, State of Georgia, on August 2, 2002.

## ATLANTIC AMERICAN CORPORATION

By: /s/ Hilton H. Howell, Jr.

Hilton H. Howell, Jr. President and Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints, Hilton H. Howell, Jr. and J. Mack Robinson, jointly and severally, each in his own capacity, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each of said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

/s/ J. Mack Robinson	Date:	August 2, 2002
J. Mack Robinson Chairman and Director		
/s/ Hilton H. Howell, Jr.		August 2, 2002
Hilton H. Howell, Jr. President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)		
/s/ John G. Sample, Jr.		August 2, 2002
John G. Sample, Jr. Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)		
/s/ Edward E. Elson		August 2, 2002
Edward E. Elson Director		

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/s/ Harold K. Fischer		August 2, 2002
Harold K. Fischer Director	-	
/s/ Samuel E. Hudgins		August 2, 2002
Samuel E. Hudgins Director	-	
/s/ D. Raymond Riddle		August 2, 2002
D. Raymond Riddle Director	-	
/s/ Harriet J. Robinson		August 2, 2002
Harriet J. Robinson Director	_	
/s/ Scott G. Thompson	_	August 2, 2002
Scott G. Thompson Director		
/s/ Mark C. West		August 2, 2002
Mark C. West Director	-	
/s/ William H. Whaley		August 2, 2002
William H. Whaley Director	_	
/s/ Dom H. Wyant		August 2, 2002
Dom H. Wyant Director	-	
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## EXHIBIT INDEX

## Exhibits

- 4.1 Atlantic American Corporation 2002 Incentive Plan.
- 5 Opinion of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue regarding legality of the Common Stock being registered.
- 23.1\* Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP.
- 23.2 Consent of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue (included in Exhibit 5)
- 24 Power of Attorney (included in signature pages)
- \* Omitted in accordance with Rule 437a, as described in the Registration Statement.

#### ATLANTIC AMERICAN CORPORATION

#### 2002 INCENTIVE PLAN

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of the 2002 Incentive Plan (this "Plan") is to attract and retain directors, officers and key employees for Atlantic American Corporation (the "Corporation") and its Subsidiaries and to provide to such persons incentives and rewards for superior performance.

2. DEFINITIONS. As used in this Plan,

"Annual Meeting" means the annual meeting of shareholders of the Corporation.  $% \left( \mathcal{A}^{(n)}_{n}\right) =0$ 

"Appreciation Right" means a right granted pursuant to Section 5 of this Plan.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Corporation and, to the extent of any delegation by the Board to a committee (or subcommittee thereof) pursuant to Section 16 of this Plan, such committee (or subcommittee thereof).

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time.

"Common Shares" means shares of common stock, \$1.00 par value per share, of the Corporation or any security into which such Common Shares may be changed by reason of any transaction or event of the type referred to in Section 11 of this Plan.

"Covered Employee" means a Participant who is, or is determined by the Board to be likely to become, a "covered employee" within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code (or any successor provision).

"Date of Grant" means the date specified by the Board on which a grant of Option Rights, Appreciation Rights, Performance Shares or Performance Units or a grant or sale of Restricted Shares or Deferred Shares shall become effective (which date shall not be earlier than the date on which the Board takes action with respect thereto) and shall also include the date on which a grant of Option Rights to a Non-Employee Director becomes effective pursuant to Section 9 of this Plan.

"Deferral Period" means the period of time during which Deferred Shares are subject to deferral limitations under Section 7 of this Plan.

"Deferred Shares" means an award made pursuant to Section 7 of this Plan of the right to receive Common Shares at the end of a specified Deferral Period.

"Designated Subsidiary" means a Subsidiary that is (i) not a corporation or (ii) a corporation in which at the time the Corporation owns or controls, directly or indirectly, less than 80 percent of the total combined voting power represented by all classes of stock issued by such corporation.

"Detrimental Activity" means:

- (i) Engaging in any activity that competes, directly or indirectly, as an employee, principal, agent, or consultant for another entity in any activity that competes with the Corporation in any actual, researched, or prospective product, service, system, or business activity for which the Participant has had any direct or indirect responsibility during the last five years of his or her employment with the Corporation or Subsidiary, in any territory in which the Corporation or a Subsidiary manufactures, sells, markets, services, or installs such product, service, system, or business activity.
- (ii) Soliciting any employee of the Corporation or a Subsidiary to terminate his or her employment with the Corporation or a Subsidiary.

- (iii) The disclosure to anyone outside the Corporation or a Subsidiary, or the use in other than the Corporation or a Subsidiary's business, without prior written authorization from the Corporation, of any confidential, proprietary or trade secret information or material relating to the business of the Corporation and its Subsidiaries, acquired by the Participant either during or after employment with the Corporation or its Subsidiaries or while acting as a consultant for the Corporation or its Subsidiaries thereafter.
- (iv) The failure or refusal to disclose promptly and to assign to the Corporation upon request all right, title and interest in any invention or idea, patentable or not, made or conceived by the Participant during employment by the Corporation and any Subsidiary, relating in any manner to the actual or anticipated business, research or development work of the Corporation or any Subsidiary or the failure or refusal to do anything reasonably necessary to enable the Corporation or any Subsidiary to secure a patent where appropriate in the United States and in other countries.
- (v) Activity that results in Termination for Cause.
- (vi) Any other conduct or act determined to be injurious, detrimental or prejudicial to any significant interest of the Corporation or any Subsidiary unless the Participant acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Corporation.

"Evidence of Award" means an agreement, certificate, resolution or other type of writing or other evidence approved by the Board which sets forth the terms and conditions of the Option Rights, Appreciation Rights, Performance Units, Performance Shares, Restricted Shares, Deferred Shares or other awards. An Evidence of Award may be in an electronic medium, may be limited to a notation on the books and records of the Corporation and, with the approval of the Board, need not be signed by a representative of the Corporation or a Participant.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder, as such law, rules and regulations may be amended from time to time.

"Incentive Stock Options" means Option Rights that are intended to qualify as "incentive stock options" under Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision.

"Management Objectives" means the measurable performance objective or objectives established pursuant to this Plan for Participants who have received grants of Performance Shares or Performance Units or, when so determined by the Board, Option Rights, Appreciation Rights, Restricted Shares and dividend credits pursuant to this Plan. Management Objectives may be described in terms of Corporation-wide objectives or objectives that are related to the performance of the individual Participant or of the Subsidiary, division, department, region or function within the Corporation or Subsidiary in which the Participant is employed. The Management Objectives may be made relative to the performance of other corporations. The Management Objectives applicable to any award to a Covered Employee shall be based on specified levels of or growth in one or more of the following criteria:

- 1. earnings;
- earnings per share (earnings per share will be calculated without regard to any change in accounting standards that may be required by the Financial Accounting Standards Board after the goal is established);
- 3. share price;
- 4. total shareholder return;
- return on invested capital, equity, or assets;
- operating earnings;

- sales growth;
- 8. productivity improvement;

If the Board determines that a change in the business, operations, corporate structure or capital structure of the Corporation, or the manner in which it conducts its business, or other events or circumstances render the Management Objectives unsuitable, the Board may in its discretion modify such Management Objectives or the related minimum acceptable level of achievement, in whole or in part, as the Board deems appropriate and equitable, except in the case of a Covered Employee where such action would result in the loss of the otherwise available exemption under Section 162(m) of the Code. In such case, the Board shall not make any modification of the Management Objectives or minimum acceptable level of achievement.

"Market Value per Share" means, as of any particular date, the fair market value of the Common Shares as determined by the Board.

"Non-Employee Director" means a director of the Corporation who is not an employee of the Corporation or any Subsidiary.

"Optionee" means the optionee named in an Evidence of Award evidencing an outstanding Option Right.

"Option Price" means the purchase price payable on exercise of an Option Right.

"Option Right" means the right to purchase Common Shares upon exercise of an option granted pursuant to Section 4 or Section 9 of this Plan.

"Participant" means a person who is selected by the Board to receive benefits under this Plan and who is at the time an officer, or other key employee of the Corporation or any one or more of its Subsidiaries, or who has agreed to commence serving in any of such capacities within 90 days of the Date of Grant and shall also include each Non-Employee Director who receives an award of Option Rights pursuant to Section 9 of this Plan; provided, however, that for purposes of Sections 4, 5, 7 and 8 of this Plan, Participant shall not include such Non-Employee Director.

"Performance Period" means, in respect of a Performance Share or Performance Unit, a period of time established pursuant to Section 8 of this Plan within which the Management Objectives relating to such Performance Share or Performance Unit are to be achieved.

"Performance Share" means a bookkeeping entry that records the equivalent of one Common Share awarded pursuant to Section 8 of this Plan.

"Performance Unit" means a bookkeeping entry that records a unit equivalent to \$1.00 awarded pursuant to Section 8 of this Plan.

"Reload Option Rights" means additional Option Rights granted automatically to an Optionee upon the exercise of Option Rights pursuant to Section 4(f) or Section 9(a)(viii) of this Plan.

"Restricted Shares" means Common Shares granted or sold pursuant to Section 6 or Section 9 of this Plan as to which neither the substantial risk of forfeiture nor the prohibition on transfers referred to in such Section 6 has expired.

"Rule 16b-3" means Rule 16b-3 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (or any successor rule to the same effect) as in effect from time to time.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder, as such law, rules and regulations may be amended from time to time.

"Spread" means the excess of the Market Value per Share of the Common Shares on the date when an Appreciation Right is exercised, or on the date when Option Rights are surrendered in payment of the Option Price of other Option Rights, over the Option Price provided for in the related Option Right.

"Subsidiary" means a corporation, company or other entity (i) more than 50 percent of whose outstanding shares or securities (representing the right to vote for the election of directors or other managing authority) are, or (ii) which does not have outstanding shares or securities (as may be the case in a partnership, joint venture or unincorporated association), but more than 50 percent of whose ownership interest representing the right generally to make decisions for such other entity is, now or hereafter, owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Corporation except that for purposes of determining whether any person may be a Participant for purposes of any grant of Incentive Stock Options, "Subsidiary" means any corporation in which at the time the Corporation owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than 50 percent of the total combined voting power represented by all classes of stock issued by such corporation.

"Termination for Cause" means a termination:

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- (i) due to the Participant's willful and continuous gross neglect of his or her duties for which he or she is employed, or
- (ii) due to an act of dishonesty on the part of the Participant constituting a felony resulting or intended to result, direct or indirectly, in his or her gain for personal enrichment at the expense of the Corporation or a Subsidiary.
- SHARES AVAILABLE UNDER THE PLAN. (a) Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 11 of this Plan, the number of Common Shares that may be issued or transferred (i) upon the exercise of Option Rights or Appreciation Rights, (ii) as Restricted Shares and released from substantial risks of forfeiture thereof, (iii) as Deferred Shares, (iv) in payment of Performance Shares or Performance Units that have been earned, (v) as awards to Non-Employee Directors or (vi) in payment of dividend equivalents paid with respect to awards made under the Plan shall not exceed in the aggregate 2,000,000 shares plus any shares relating to awards that expire or are forfeited or cancelled. Such shares may be shares of original issuance or treasury shares or a combination of the foregoing. Upon the payment of any Option Price by the transfer to the Corporation of Common Shares or upon satisfaction of any withholding amount by means of transfer or relinquishment of Common Shares, there shall be deemed to have been issued or transferred under this Plan only the net number of Common Shares actually issued or transferred by the Corporation.
  - (b) Notwithstanding anything in this Section 3, or elsewhere in this Plan, to the contrary, the aggregate number of Common Shares actually issued or transferred by the Corporation upon the exercise of Incentive Stock Options shall not exceed 2,000,000 shares. Further, no Participant shall be granted Option Rights for more than 300,000 Common Shares during any calendar year, subject to adjustments as provided in Section 11 of this Plan.
  - (c) Upon payment in cash of the benefit provided by any award granted under this Plan, any shares that were covered by that award shall again be available for issue or transfer hereunder.
  - (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, in no event shall any Participant in any calendar year receive more than 300,000 Appreciation Rights, subject to adjustments as provided in Section 11 of this plan.
  - (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, in no event shall any Participant in any calendar year receive more than 100,000 Restricted Shares or 100,000 Deferred Shares, subject to adjustments as provided in Section 11 of this Plan.
  - (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, in no event shall any Participant in any calendar year receive an award of Performance Shares or Performance Units having an aggregate maximum value as of their respective Dates of Grant in excess of \$500,000.
- OPTION RIGHTS. The Board may, from time to time and upon such terms and conditions as it may determine, authorize the granting to Participants of options to purchase Common Shares. Each such grant may utilize any or all of the authorizations, and shall be subject to all of the requirements, contained in the following provisions:
  - (a) Each grant shall specify the number of Common Shares to which it pertains subject to the limitations set forth in Section 3 of this plan.
  - (b) Each grant shall specify an Option Price per share, which may be less than the Market Value per Share on the Date of Grant, except that the Option Price per share for any Incentive Stock Option shall not be less than 100 percent of the Market Value per Share on the Date of Grant.
  - (c) Each grant shall specify whether the Option Price shall be payable (i) in cash or by check acceptable to the

Corporation, (ii) by the actual or constructive transfer to the Corporation of nonforfeitable, unrestricted Common Shares owned by the Optionee (or other consideration authorized pursuant to subsection (d) below) having a value at the time of exercise equal to the total Option Price, or (iii) by a combination of such methods of payment.

- The Board may determine, at or after the Date of Grant, that payment of the Option Price of any option (other than an (d) Incentive Stock Option) may also be made in whole or in part in the form of Restricted Shares or other Common Shares that are forfeitable or subject to restrictions on transfer, Deferred Shares, Performance Shares (based, in each case, on the Market Value per Share on the date of exercise), other Option Rights (based on the Spread on the date of exercise) or Performance Units. Unless otherwise determined by the Board at or after the Date of Grant, whenever any Option Price is paid in whole or in part by means of any of the forms of consideration specified in this paragraph, the Common Shares received upon the exercise of the Option Rights shall be subject to such risks of forfeiture or restrictions on transfer as may correspond to any that apply to the consideration surrendered, but only to the extent of (i) the number of shares or Performance Shares, (ii) the Spread of any unexercisable portion of Option Rights, or (iii) the stated value of Performance Units surrendered.
- (e) Any grant may provide for deferred payment of the Option Price from the proceeds of sale through a bank or broker on a date satisfactory to the Corporation of some or all of the shares to which such exercise relates.
- (f) Any grant may, at or after the Date of Grant, provide for the automatic grant of Reload Option Rights to an Optionee upon the exercise of Option Rights (including Reload Option Rights) using Common Shares or other consideration specified in paragraph (d) above. Reload Option Rights shall cover up to the number of Common Shares, Deferred Shares, Option Rights or Performance Shares (or the number of Common Shares having a value equal to the value of any Performance Units) surrendered to the Corporation upon any such exercise in payment of the Option Price or to meet any withholding obligations. Reload Options may have an Option Price that is no less than that which represents the same percentage of the Market Value per Share at the time of exercise of the Option Rights that the per share Option Price represented of the Market Value per Share at the time the Option Rights being exercised were granted and shall be on such other terms as may be specified by the Directors, which may be the same as or different from those of the original Option Rights.
- (g) Successive grants may be made to the same Participant whether or not any Option Rights previously granted to such Participant remain unexercised.
- (h) Each grant shall specify the period or periods of continuous service by the Optionee with the Corporation or any Subsidiary which is necessary before the Option Rights or installments thereof will become exercisable and may provide for the earlier exercise of such Option Rights in the event of a change in control or other similar transaction or event.
- (i) Any grant of Option Rights may specify Management Objectives that must be achieved as a condition to the exercise of such rights.
- (j) Option Rights granted under this Plan may be (i) options, including, without limitation, Incentive Stock Options, that are intended to qualify under particular provisions of the Code, (ii) options that are not intended so to qualify, or (iii) combinations of the foregoing.

- (k) The Board may, at or after the Date of Grant of any Option Rights (other than Incentive Stock Options), provide for the payment of dividend equivalents to the Optionee on either a current or deferred or contingent basis or may provide that such equivalents shall be credited against the Option Price.
- The exercise of an Option Right shall result in the cancellation on a share-for-share basis of any related Appreciation Right authorized under Section 5 of this Plan.
- (m) No Option Right shall be exercisable more than 10 years from the Date of Grant.
- (n) Each grant of Option Rights shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award, which shall contain such terms and provisions, consistent with this Plan, as the Board may approve.
- APPRECIATION RIGHTS. The Board may also authorize the granting to any Optionee of Appreciation Rights in respect of Option Rights granted hereunder at any time prior to the exercise or termination of such related Option Rights; provided, however, that an Appreciation Right awarded in relation to an Incentive Stock Option must be granted concurrently with such Incentive Stock Option. An Appreciation Right shall be a right of the Optionee, exercisable by surrender of the related Option Right, to receive from the Corporation an amount determined by the Board, which shall be expressed as a percentage of the Spread (not exceeding 100 percent) at the time of exercise. Each such grant may utilize any or all of the authorizations, and shall be subject to all of the requirements, contained in the following provisions:

5.

- (a) Any grant may specify that the amount payable on exercise of an Appreciation Right may be paid by the Corporation in cash, in Common Shares or in any combination thereof and may either grant to the Optionee or retain in the Board the right to elect among those alternatives.
- (b) Any grant may specify that the amount payable on exercise of an Appreciation Right may not exceed a maximum specified by the Board at the Date of Grant.
- (c) Any grant may specify waiting periods before exercise and permissible exercise dates or periods and shall provide that no Appreciation Right may be exercised except at a time when the related Option Right is also exercisable and at a time when the Spread is positive.
- (d) Any grant may specify that such Appreciation Right may be exercised only in the event of a Change in Control or other similar transaction or event.
- (e) Each grant of Appreciation Rights shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award that shall describe such Appreciation Rights, identify the related Option Rights, state that such Appreciation Rights are subject to all the terms and conditions of this Plan, and contain such other terms and provisions, consistent with this Plan, as the Board may approve.
- (f) Any grant of Appreciation Rights may specify Management Objectives that must be achieved as a condition of the exercise of such rights.
- 6. RESTRICTED SHARES. The Board may also authorize the grant or sale to Participants of Restricted Shares. Each such grant or sale may utilize any or all of the authorizations, and shall be subject to all of the requirements, contained in the following provisions:
  - Each such grant or sale shall constitute an immediate transfer of the ownership of Common Shares to the Participant in consideration of the performance of services,

entitling such Participant to voting, dividend and other ownership rights, but subject to the substantial risk of forfeiture and restrictions on transfer hereinafter referred to.

- (b) Each such grant or sale may be made without additional consideration or in consideration of a payment by such Participant that is less than Market Value per Share at the Date of Grant.
- (c) Each such grant or sale shall provide that the Restricted Shares covered by such grant or sale shall be subject to a "substantial risk of forfeiture" within the meaning of Section 83 of the Code for a period of time to be determined by the Board on the Date of Grant, and any grant or sale may provide for the earlier termination of such period in the event of a change in control of the Corporation or other similar transactions or events.
- (d) Each such grant or sale shall provide that during the period for which such substantial risk of forfeiture is to continue, the transferability of the Restricted Shares shall be prohibited or restricted in the manner and to the extent prescribed by the Board at the Date of Grant (which restrictions may include, without limitation, rights of repurchase or first refusal in the Corporation or provisions subjecting the Restricted Shares to a continuing substantial risk of forfeiture in the hands of any transferee).
- (e) Any grant of Restricted Shares may specify Management Objectives which, if achieved, will result in termination or early termination of the restrictions applicable to such shares and each grant may specify in respect of such specified Management Objectives, a minimum acceptable level of achievement and shall set forth a formula for determining the number of Restricted Shares on which restrictions will terminate if performance is at or above the minimum level, but falls short of full achievement of the specified Management Objectives.
- (f) Any such grant or sale of Restricted Shares may require that any or all dividends or other distributions paid thereon during the period of such restrictions be automatically deferred and reinvested in additional Restricted Shares, which may be Subject to the same restrictions as the underlying award.
- (g) Each grant or sale of Restricted Shares shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award that shall contain such terms and provisions, consistent with this Plan, as the Board may approve. Unless otherwise directed by the Board, all certificates representing Restricted Shares shall be held in custody by the Corporation until all restrictions thereon shall have lapsed, together with a stock power executed by the Participant in whose name such certificates are registered, endorsed in blank and covering such Shares.
- 7. DEFERRED SHARES. The Board may also authorize the granting or sale of Deferred Shares to Participants. Each such grant or sale may utilize any or all of the authorizations, and shall be subject to all of the requirements contained in the following provisions:
  - (a) Each such grant or sale shall constitute the agreement by the Corporation to deliver Common Shares to the Participant in the future in consideration of the performance of services, but subject to the fulfillment of such conditions during the Deferral Period as the Board may specify.
  - (b) Each such grant or sale may be made without additional consideration or in consideration of a payment by such Participant that is less than the Market Value per Share at the Date of Grant.

- (c) Each such grant or sale shall be subject, except (if the Board shall so determine) in the event of a change in control or other similar transaction or event, to a Deferral Period, as determined by the Board at the Date of Grant.
- (d) During the Deferral Period, the Participant shall have no right to transfer any rights under his or her award and shall have no rights of ownership in the Deferred Shares and shall have no right to vote them, but the Board may, at or after the Date of Grant, authorize the payment of dividend equivalents on such Shares on either a current or deferred or contingent basis, either in cash or in additional Common Shares.
- (e) Each grant or sale of Deferred Shares shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award containing such terms and provisions, consistent with this Plan, as the Board may approve.
- PERFORMANCE SHARES AND PERFORMANCE UNITS. The Board may also authorize the granting of Performance Shares and Performance Units that will become payable to a Participant upon achievement of specified Management Objectives. Each such grant may utilize any or all of the authorizations, and shall be subject to all of the requirements, contained in the following provisions:

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- (a) Each grant shall specify the number of Performance Shares or Performance Units to which it pertains, which number may be subject to adjustment to reflect changes in compensation or other factors; provided, however, that no such adjustment shall be made in the case of a Covered Employee.
- (b) The Performance Period with respect to each Performance Share or Performance Unit shall be such period of time (not less than 1 year, except in the event of a change in control or other similar transaction or event, if the Board shall so determine) commencing with the Date of Grant (as shall be determined by the Board at the time of grant).
- (c) Any grant of Performance Shares or Performance Units shall specify Management Objectives which, if achieved, will result in payment or early payment of the award, and each grant may specify in respect of such specified Management Objectives a minimum acceptable level of achievement and shall set forth a formula for determining the number of Performance Shares or Performance Units that will be earned if performance is at or above the minimum level, but falls short of full achievement of the specified Management Objectives. The grant of Performance Shares or Performance Units shall specify that, before the Performance Shares or Performance Units shall be earned and paid, the Board must certify that the Management Objectives have been satisfied.
- (d) Each grant shall specify a minimum acceptable level of achievement in respect of the specified Management Objectives below which no payment will be made and shall set forth a formula for determining the amount of payment to be made if performance is at or above such minimum but short of full achievement of the Management Objectives.
- (e) Each grant shall specify the time and manner of payment of Performance Shares or Performance Units which have been earned. Any grant may specify that the amount payable with respect thereto may be paid by the Corporation in cash, in Common Shares or in any combination thereof and may either grant to the Participant or retain in the Board the right to elect among those alternatives.
- (f) Any grant of Performance Shares may specify that the amount payable with respect thereto may not exceed a maximum specified by the Board at the Date of Grant. Any grant of Performance Units may specify that the amount payable or the number of

Common Shares issued with respect thereto may not exceed maximums specified by the Board at the Date of Grant.

- (g) The Board may, at or after the Date of Grant of Performance Shares, provide for the payment of dividend equivalents to the holder thereof on either a current or deferred or contingent basis, either in cash or in additional Common Shares.
- (h) Each grant of Performance Shares or Performance Units shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award containing such other terms and provisions, consistent with this Plan, as the Board may approve.
- 9. AWARDS TO NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS. The Board may, from time to time and upon such terms and conditions as it may determine, authorize the granting to Non-Employee Directors of options to purchase Common Shares and may also authorize the grant or sale of Restricted Shares to Non-Employee Directors
  - (a) Each grant of Option Rights awarded pursuant to this Section 9 shall be evidenced by an Evidence of Award in such form as shall be approved by the Board, and shall be subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
    - (i) Each grant shall specify the number of Common Shares to which it pertains subject to the limitations set forth in Section 3 of this plan.
    - (ii) Each grant shall specify an Option Price per share, which may not be less than the Market Value per Share on the Date of Grant.
    - (iii) Each such Option Right shall be exercisable to the extent of 100% of the Common Shares subject thereto commencing six months after the Date of Grant, provided, that the Optionee has continuously remained as a director through such date, provided further, however, that any Option Right will be exercisable in full upon the Optionee's death or disability. Each such Option Right granted under the Plan shall expire 5 years from the Date of Grant and shall be subject to earlier termination as hereinafter provided.
    - (iv) In the event of the termination of service on the Board by the holder of any such Option Rights, other than by reason of disability or death, the then outstanding Option Rights of such holder may be exercised only to the extent that they were exercisable on the date of such termination and shall expire 90 days after such termination, or on their stated expiration date, whichever occurs first.
    - (v) In the event of the death or disability of the holder of any such Option Rights, each of the then outstanding Option Rights of such holder may be exercised at any time within one year after such death or disability, but in no event after the expiration date of the term of such Option Rights.
    - (vi) If a Non-Employee Director subsequently becomes an employee of the Corporation or a Subsidiary while remaining a member of the Board, any Option Rights held under the Plan by such individual at the time of such commencement of employment shall not be affected thereby.
    - (vii) Option Rights may be exercised by a Non-Employee Director only upon payment to the Corporation in full of the Option Price of the Common Shares to be delivered. Such payment shall be made in cash or in Common Shares previously owned by the optionee for more than six months, or in a combination of cash and such Common Shares.

- (viii) Each grant may provide for the automatic grant of Reload Option Rights to an Optionee upon the exercise of Option Rights (including Reload Option Rights) using Common Shares. Reload Option Rights shall cover up to the number of Common Shares surrendered to the Corporation upon any such exercise in payment of the Option Price. Reload Options may have an Option Price that is no less than that which represents the same percentage of the Market Value per Share at the time of exercise of the Option Rights that the per share Option Price represented of the Market Value per Share at the time the Option Rights being exercised were granted and shall be on such other terms as may be specified by the Directors, which may be the same as or different from those of the original Option Rights.
- (b) Each grant or sale of Restricted Shares pursuant to this Section 9 shall be upon terms and conditions consistent with Section 6 of this Plan.
- TRANSFERABILITY. (a) Except as otherwise determined by the Board, no Option Right, Appreciation Right or other derivative security granted under the Plan shall be transferable by an Optionee other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, except to a fully revocable trust of which the Optionee is treated as the owner for federal income tax purposes. Except as otherwise determined by the Board, Option Rights and Appreciation Rights shall be exercisable during the Optionee's lifetime only by him or her or by his or her guardian or legal representative. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board in its sole discretion, may provide for transferability of particular awards under this Plan so long as such provisions will not disqualify the exemption for other awards under Rule 16b-3.
  - (b) The Board may specify at the Date of Grant that part or all of the Common Shares that are (i) to be issued or transferred by the Corporation upon the exercise of Option Rights or Appreciation Rights, upon the termination of the Deferral Period applicable to Deferred Shares or upon payment under any grant of Performance Shares or Performance Units or (ii) no longer subject to the substantial risk of forfeiture and restrictions on transfer referred to in Section 6 of this Plan, shall be subject to further restrictions on transfer.
- 11. ADJUSTMENTS. The Board may make or provide for such adjustments in the numbers of Common Shares covered by outstanding Option Rights, Appreciation Rights, Deferred Shares, and Performance Shares granted hereunder, in the prices per share applicable to such Option Rights and Appreciation Rights and in the kind of shares covered thereby, as the Board, in its sole discretion, exercised in good faith, may determine is equitably required to prevent dilution or enlargement of the rights of Participants or Optionees that otherwise would result from (a) any stock dividend, stock split, combination of shares, recapitalization or other change in the capital structure of the Corporation, or (b) any merger, consolidation, spin-off, split-off, spin-out, split-up, reorganization, partial or complete liquidation or other distribution of assets, issuance of rights or warrants to purchase securities, or (c) any other corporate transaction or event having an effect similar to any of the foregoing. Moreover, in the event of any such transaction or event, the Board, in its discretion, may provide in substitution for any or all outstanding awards under this Plan such alternative consideration as it, in good faith, may determine to be equitable in the circumstances and may require in connection therewith the surrender of all awards so replaced. The Board may also make or provide for such adjustments in the numbers of shares specified in Section 3 of this Plan and in the number of Option Rights to be granted automatically pursuant to Section 9 of this Plan as the Board in its sole discretion, exercised in good faith, may determine is appropriate to reflect any transaction or event described in this Section 11.
- 12. FRACTIONAL SHARES. The Corporation shall not be required to issue any fractional Common Shares pursuant to this Plan. The Board may provide for the elimination of fractions or for the settlement of fractions in cash.
- 13. WITHHOLDING TAXES. To the extent that the Corporation is required to

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withhold federal, state, local or foreign taxes in connection with any payment made or benefit realized by a Participant or other person under this Plan, and the amounts available to the Corporation for such withholding are insufficient, it shall be a condition to the receipt of such payment or the realization of such benefit that the Participant or such other person make arrangements satisfactory to the Corporation for payment of the balance of such taxes required to be withheld, which arrangements (in the discretion of the Board) may include relinquishment of a portion of such benefit. Participants shall also make such arrangements as the Corporation may require for the payment of any withholding tax obligations that may arise in connection with the disposition of shares acquired upon the execution of Option Rights. In no event, however, shall the Corporation accept Common Shares for payment of taxes in excess of required tax withholding rates, except that, in the discretion of the Committee, a Participant or such other person may surrender Common Shares owned for more than 6 months to satisfy any tax obligations resulting from any such transaction.

- 14. PARTICIPATION BY EMPLOYEES OF DESIGNATED SUBSIDIARIES. As a condition to the effectiveness of any grant or award to be made hereunder to a Participant who is an employee of a Designated Subsidiary, whether or not such Participant is also employed by the Corporation or another Subsidiary, the Board may require such Designated Subsidiary to agree to transfer to such employee (when, as and if provided for under this Plan and any applicable agreement entered into with any such employee pursuant to this Plan) the Common Shares that would otherwise be delivered by the Corporation, upon receipt by such Designated Subsidiary of any consideration then otherwise payable by such Participant to the Corporation. Any such award shall be evidenced by an agreement between the Participant and the Designated Subsidiary, in lieu of the Corporation, on terms consistent with this Plan and approved by the Board and such Designated Subsidiary. All such Common Shares so delivered by or to a Designated Subsidiary shall be treated as if they had been delivered by or to the Corporation for purposes of Section 3 of this Plan, and all references to the Corporation in this Plan shall be deemed to refer to such Designated Subsidiary, except for purposes of the definition of "Board" and except in other cases where the context otherwise requires.
- FOREIGN EMPLOYEES. In order to facilitate the making of any grant or 15. combination of grants under this Plan, the Board may provide for such special terms for awards to Participants who are foreign nationals or who are employed by the Corporation or any Subsidiary outside of the United States of America as the Board may consider necessary or appropriate to accommodate differences in local law, tax policy or custom. Moreover, the Board may approve such supplements to or amendments, restatements or alternative versions of this Plan as it may consider necessary or appropriate for such purposes, without thereby affecting the terms of this Plan as in effect for any other purpose, and the Secretary or other appropriate officer of the Corporation may certify any such document as having been approved and adopted in the same manner as this Plan. No such special terms, supplements, amendments or restatements, however, shall include any provisions that are inconsistent with the terms of this Plan as then in effect unless this Plan could have been amended to eliminate such inconsistency without further approval by the shareholders of the Corporation.
- 16. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLAN. (a) This Plan shall be administered by the Board, which may from time to time delegate all or any part of its authority under this Plan to a committee of the Board (or subcommittee thereof), consisting of not less than three Non-Employee Directors appointed by the Board of Directors, each of whom shall be a "Non-Employee Director" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 and an "outside director" within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code. A majority of the committee (or subcommittee thereof) shall constitute a quorum, and the action of the members of the committee (or subcommittee thereof) present at any meeting at which a quorum is present, or acts unanimously approved in writing, shall be the acts of the committee (or subcommittee thereof).
  - (b) The interpretation and construction by the Board of any provision of this Plan or of any agreement, notification or document evidencing the grant of Option Rights, Appreciation Rights, Restricted Shares, Deferred Shares, Performance Shares or Performance Units and any determination by the Board pursuant to any provision of this Plan or of any such agreement, notification or document shall be final and conclusive. No member of the Board shall be liable for any such action or determination made in good faith.

#### 17. CORPORATION'S RIGHTS UPON OCCURRENCE OF DETRIMENTAL ACTIVITY.

Any Evidence of Award may provide that if a Participant, either during employment by the Corporation or a Subsidiary or within a specified period after termination of such employment, shall engage in any Detrimental Activity, and the Board shall so find, forthwith upon notice of such finding, the Participant shall:

- (a) Return to the Corporation, in exchange for payment by the Corporation of any amount actually paid therefor by the Participant, all Common Shares that the Participant has not disposed of that were offered pursuant to this Plan within a specified period prior to the date of the commencement of such Detrimental Activity, and
- (b) With respect to any Common Shares so acquired that the Participant has disposed of, pay to the Corporation in cash the difference between:
  - (i) Any amount actually paid therefor by the Participant pursuant to this Plan, and
  - (ii) The Market Value per Share of the Common Shares on the date of such acquisition.

To the extent that such amounts are not paid to the Corporation, the Corporation may set off the amounts so payable to it against any amounts that may be owing from time to time by the Company or a Subsidiary to the Participant, whether as wages, deferred compensation or vacation pay or in the form of any other benefit or for any other reason.

- 18. GOVERNING LAW. The Plan and all awards granted and actions taken thereunder shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal substantive laws of the State of Georgia.
- 19. AMENDMENTS, ETC. (a) The Board may at any time and from time to time amend the Plan in whole or in part; provided, however, that any amendment which must be approved by the shareholders of the Corporation in order to comply with applicable law or the rules of any national securities exchange upon which the Common Shares are traded or quoted shall not be effective unless and until such approval has been obtained. Presentation of the Plan or any amendment thereof for shareholder approval shall not be construed to limit the Corporation's authority to offer similar or dissimilar benefits in plans that do not require shareholder approval.
  - (b) The Board also may permit Participants to elect to defer the issuance of Common Shares or the settlement of awards in cash under the Plan pursuant to such rules, procedures or programs as it may establish for purposes of this Plan. The Board also may provide that deferred settlements include the payment or crediting of dividend equivalents or interest on the deferral amounts.
  - (c) The Board may condition the grant of any award or combination of awards authorized under this Plan on the surrender or deferral by the Participant of his or her right to receive a cash bonus or other compensation otherwise payable by the Corporation or a Subsidiary to the Participant.
  - (d) In case of termination of employment by reason of death, disability or normal or early retirement, or in the case of hardship or other special circumstances, of a Participant who holds an Option Right or Appreciation Right not immediately exercisable in full, or any Restricted Shares as to which the substantial risk of forfeiture or the prohibition or restriction on transfer has not lapsed, or any Deferred Shares as to which the Deferral Period has not been completed, or any Performance Shares or Performance Units which have not been fully earned, or who holds Common Shares subject to any transfer restriction imposed pursuant to Section 9(b) of this Plan, the Board may, in its sole discretion, accelerate the time at which such Option Right or Appreciation Right may be exercised or the time at which such substantial risk of forfeiture or prohibition or restriction on transfer will lapse or the time when such Deferral Period will end or the time at which such Performance Shares or

Performance Units will be deemed to have been fully earned or the time when such transfer restriction will terminate or may waive any other limitation or requirement under any such award.

- (e) This Plan shall not confer upon any Participant any right with respect to continuance of employment or other service with the Corporation or any Subsidiary, nor shall it interfere in any way with any right the Corporation or any Subsidiary would otherwise have to terminate such Participant's employment or other service at any time. Prior to exercise of any Option Right, and prior to exercise, payment or delivery pursuant to any other award, the Participant may be required, at the Corporation's request, to certify in a manner reasonably acceptable to the Corporation that the Participant has not engaged in, and has no present intention to engage in the future in, any Detrimental Activity.
- (f) To the extent that any provision of this Plan would prevent any Option Right that was intended to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option from qualifying as such, that provision shall be null and void with respect to such Option Right. Such provision, however, shall remain in effect for other Option Rights and there shall be no further effect on any provision of this Plan.
- 20. TERMINATION. No grant (other than an automatic grant of Reload Option Rights) shall be made under this Plan more than 10 years after its adoption, subject to approval of this Plan by the shareholders of the Corporation at the 2002 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

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JONES, DAY, REAVIS & POGUE 3500 SunTrust Plaza 303 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3242

August 1, 2002

Atlantic American Corporation 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30319

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-8

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to Atlantic American Corporation, a Georgia corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the registration by the Company of 2,000,000 shares of Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share ("Common Stock"), to be issued in accordance with the Company's 2002 Incentive Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Registration Statement"), to which this opinion appears as Exhibit 5.

We have examined such documents and records, including an examination of originals or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, and matters of law as we have deemed necessary for purposes of this opinion. We have assumed, without independent verification, the genuineness and authorization of all signatures and the conformity to the originals of all copies submitted to us or inspected by us as certified, conformed or photostatic copies. Based upon the foregoing and subject to the qualifications and limitations stated herein, we are of the opinion that the Common Stock being registered has been duly authorized and, when issued in the manner contemplated by the Plan, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

Our examination of matters of law in connection with the opinions expressed herein has been limited to, and accordingly our opinions herein are limited to, the Georgia Business Corporation Code, including the applicable provisions of the constitution of the State of Georgia and the reported judicial decisions interpreting such law. We express no opinion with respect to the law of any other state or jurisdiction.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as Exhibit 5 to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are included in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission promulgated thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue JONES, DAY, REAVIS & POGUE