



## **Southwest Gas** HOLDINGS

### **Southwest Gas Board of Directors Adds Two Members**

July 25, 1997

LAS VEGAS, Nev., July 25 /PRNewswire/ -- The Southwest Gas Board of Directors has approved the addition of James J. Kropid and Terrance L. Wright to its board, according to Board Chairman Kenny C. Guinn.

"These men bring a tremendous amount of experience, business acumen and community involvement to our board," said Guinn. "They are proven business leaders and have played an integral role in the growth of Las Vegas. Those assets will be of great value to Southwest Gas as the company advances into the next century."

Kropid is president of James J. Kropid Investments. He is a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago and the executive development program at the University of Illinois. He joined Centel Corporation in 1961 and became president of its Nevada/Texas division in 1987. In 1993, and subsequent to his retirement from Sprint, Kropid was appointed general manager of the State of Nevada's State Industrial Insurance System, a position in which he served for two years.

A member of various civic and business organizations, Kropid is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and is active in the National Conference of Christians and Jews - Las Vegas Region, Las Vegas YMCA, Boy Scouts of America, and is treasurer of the St. Jude's Ranch for Children. He was formerly a board member of the Nevada Development Authority and the United Way of Southern Nevada.

Wright, president and chief executive officer of Nevada Title Insurance Company, is a graduate of DePaul University also, where he received his undergraduate degree in business administration and a juris doctorate. He joined Chicago Title Insurance Company while in law school, and after graduation, remained with the company and moved to its Las Vegas office. In 1978, he acquired the assets of Western Title to form the company he now heads. Wright also serves as associate general counsel for A.G. Spanos Enterprises, Inc., one of the nation's largest apartment complex builders.

He is a member of the California and Illinois bar associations and is affiliated professionally with the Las Vegas Board of Realtors, Nevada Land Title Association, Las Vegas Executives, Opportunity Village, TPC board of governors, and the Young President's Organization.

Wright currently serves as chairman of the Nevada Development Authority and as a board member of the Nevada Opera Association, Green Valley Athletic Club and the executive committee of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Foundation.

Southwest Gas is a natural gas distribution company serving more than 1.1 million homes and businesses in Arizona, Nevada and California.

SOURCE Southwest Gas Corporation

CONTACT: Dante Pistone of Southwest Gas Corporation, 702-876-7253