

# TEXAS DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY

---

NOTICE: THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS DOCUMENT ARE BROAD AND SWEEPING. THEY ARE EXPLAINED IN THE DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY ACT, SUBTITLE P, TITLE 2, ESTATES CODE.<sup>1</sup> IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE POWERS, OBTAIN COMPETENT LEGAL ADVICE. THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT AUTHORIZE ANYONE TO MAKE MEDICAL AND OTHER HEALTH-CARE DECISIONS FOR YOU. YOU MAY REVOKE THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY IF YOU LATER WISH TO DO SO. IF YOU WANT YOUR AGENT(S) TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SIGN HOME EQUITY LOAN DOCUMENTS ON YOUR BEHALF, THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY MUST BE SIGNED BY YOU AT THE OFFICE OF THE LENDER, AN ATTORNEY AT LAW, OR A TITLE COMPANY.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Principal] at \_\_\_\_\_  
[Address], appoint \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Agent] at \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [Address] AND \_\_\_\_\_ [Optional  
Name of Co-agent] at \_\_\_\_\_ [Address] as my agent(s) to act for  
me in any lawful way with respect to all of the following powers that I have initialed below.

## GRANT OF GENERAL AUTHORITY

- \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Real property transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Tangible personal property transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (C) Stock and bond transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (D) Commodity and option transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (E) Banking and other financial institutions transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (F) Business operating transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (G) Insurance and annuity transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (H) Estate, trust, and other beneficiary transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (I) Claims and litigation;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (J) Personal and family maintenance;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (K) Benefits from social security, Medicare, Medicaid, or other governmental programs or civil or military service;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (L) Retirement plan transactions;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (M) Tax matters;
- \_\_\_\_\_ (N) Digital assets and the content of an electronic communication;



\_\_\_\_\_ (O) ALL OF THE POWERS LISTED IN (A) THROUGH (N).

**GRANT OF SPECIFIC AUTHORITY (OPTIONAL)**

My agent(s) MAY NOT do any of the following specific acts for me UNLESS I have INITIALED the specific authority listed below:

\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Create, amend, revoke, or terminate an *inter vivos* trust

\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Make a gift, subject to the limitations of Section 751.032 of the Durable Power of Attorney Act (Section 751.032, Estates Code) and any special instructions in this power of attorney

\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Create or change rights of survivorship

\_\_\_\_\_ (D) Create or change a beneficiary designation

\_\_\_\_\_ (E) Authorize another person to exercise the authority granted under this power of attorney

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Special instructions applicable to agent compensation:

\_\_\_\_\_ My agent(s) is entitled to reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on my behalf and to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.

\_\_\_\_\_ My agent(s) is entitled to reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on my behalf but shall receive no compensation for serving as my agent(s).

Special instructions applicable to co-agents:

\_\_\_\_\_ Each of my co-agents may act independently for me.

\_\_\_\_\_ My co-agents may act for me only if the co-agents act jointly.

\_\_\_\_\_ My co-agents may act for me only if a majority of the co-agents act jointly.

Special instructions applicable to gifts (initial in front of the following sentence to have it apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ I grant my agent(s) the power to apply my property to make gifts outright to or for the benefit of a person, including by the exercise of a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by me, except that the amount of a gift to an individual may not exceed the amount of annual exclusions allowed from the federal gift tax for the calendar year of the gift.

ON THE FOLLOWING LINES YOU MAY GIVE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS LIMITING OR EXTENDING THE POWERS GRANTED TO YOUR AGENT(S).

---

---



**EFFECTIVENESS**

THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY IS EFFECTIVE  IMMEDIATELY  UPON THE INCAPACITY OF THE PRINCIPAL  UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE FOLLOWING EVENT OR CONTINGENCY:  
\_\_\_\_\_ AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL IT IS REVOKED.

If a definition of my disability or incapacity is not contained in this power of attorney, I shall be considered disabled or incapacitated for purposes of this power of attorney if a physician certifies in writing at a date later than the date this power of attorney is executed that, based on the physician's medical examination of me, I am mentally incapable of managing my financial affairs. I authorize the physician who examines me for this purpose to disclose my physical or mental condition to another person for purposes of this power of attorney. A third party who accepts this power of attorney is fully protected from any action taken under this power of attorney that is based on the determination made by a physician of my disability or incapacity.

I agree that any third party who receives a copy of this document may act under it. Termination of this durable power of attorney is not effective as to a third party until the third party has actual knowledge of the termination. I agree to indemnify the third party for any claims that arise against the third party because of reliance on this power of attorney. The meaning and effect of this durable power of attorney is determined by Texas law.

If any agent(s) named by me dies, becomes incapacitated, resigns, refuses to act, or is removed by court order, or if my marriage to an agent named by me is dissolved by a court decree of divorce or annulment or is declared void by a court (unless I provided in this document that the dissolution or declaration does not terminate the agent's authority to act under this power of attorney), I name the following (each to act alone and successively, in the order named) as successor(s) to that agent(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Successor Agent's Full Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Successor Agent's Street Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Successor Agent's Phone Number**

**Second Successor Agent's Full Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Second Successor Agent's Street Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Second Successor Agent's Phone Number**



**SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal's** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal's** Name

(If applicable)

by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative's** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative's** Name

**NOTARY PUBLIC**

State of \_\_\_\_\_  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

This document was acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_(date) by  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notarial Officer

(Seal, if any)

Notarial Officer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR AGENT(S)

### Agent's Duties

When you accept the authority granted under this power of attorney, you establish a "fiduciary" relationship with the principal. This is a special legal relationship that imposes on you legal duties that continue until you resign or the power of attorney is terminated, suspended, or revoked by the principal or by operation of law. A fiduciary duty generally includes the duty to:

- (1) act in good faith;
- (2) do nothing beyond the authority granted in this power of attorney;
- (3) act loyally for the principal's benefit;
- (4) avoid conflicts that would impair your ability to act in the principal's best interest; and
- (5) disclose your identity as an agent when you act for the principal by writing or printing the name of the principal and signing your own name as "agent" in the following manner:

(Principal's Name) by (Your Signature) as Agent

In addition, the Durable Power of Attorney Act (Subtitle P, Title 2, Estates Code) requires you to:

- (1) maintain records of each action taken or decision made on behalf of the principal;
- (2) maintain all records until delivered to the principal, released by the principal, or discharged by a court; and
- (3) if requested by the principal, provide an accounting to the principal that, unless otherwise directed by the principal or otherwise provided in the Special Instructions, must include:
  - (A) the property belonging to the principal that has come to your knowledge or into your possession;
  - (B) each action taken or decision made by you as agent;
  - (C) a complete account of receipts, disbursements, and other actions of you as agent that includes the source and nature of each receipt, disbursement, or action, with receipts of principal and income shown separately;
  - (D) a listing of all property over which you have exercised control that includes an adequate description of each asset and the asset's current value, if known to you;
  - (E) the cash balance on hand and the name and location of the depository at which the cash balance is kept;
  - (F) each known liability;
  - (G) any other information and facts known to you as necessary for a full and definite understanding of the exact condition of the property belonging to the principal; and
  - (H) all documentation regarding the principal's property.

### Termination of Agent's Authority

You must stop acting on behalf of the principal if you learn of any event that terminates this power of attorney or your authority under this power of attorney. An event that terminates this power of attorney or your authority to act under this power of attorney includes:

- (1) the principal's death;
- (2) the principal's revocation of this power of attorney or your authority;
- (3) the occurrence of a termination event stated in this power of attorney;
- (4) if you are married to the principal, the dissolution of your marriage by a court decree of divorce or annulment or declaration that your marriage is void, unless otherwise provided in this power of attorney;
- (5) the appointment and qualification of a permanent guardian of the principal's estate; or



(6) if ordered by a court, your removal as agent (attorney in fact) under this power of attorney. An event that suspends this power of attorney or your authority to act under this power of attorney is the appointment and qualification of a temporary guardian unless a court order provides otherwise.

**Liability of Agent(s)**

The authority granted to you under this power of attorney is specified in the Durable Power of Attorney Act (Subtitle P, Title 2, Estates Code). If you violate the Durable Power of Attorney Act or act beyond the authority granted, you may be liable for any damages caused by the violation or subject to prosecution for misapplication of property by a fiduciary under Chapter 32 of the Texas Penal Code.

THE AGENT, BY ACCEPTING OR ACTING UNDER THE APPOINTMENT, ASSUMES THE FIDUCIARY AND OTHER LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AGENT.

**SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AGENT(S)**

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Agent's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Agent's Name**

(If applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Agent's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Agent's Name**

**CERTIFICATION OF AGENT(S)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Agent], certify under penalty of perjury that:

1. I am the agent named in the power of attorney validly executed by \_\_\_\_\_ ("principal") on \_\_\_\_\_ (date), and the power of attorney is now in full force and effect.
2. The principal is not deceased and is presently domiciled in \_\_\_\_\_, Texas.
3. To the best of my knowledge after diligent search and inquiry:
  - a. The power of attorney has been revoked by the principal or suspended or terminated by the occurrence of any event, whether or not referenced in the power of attorney;



- b. At the time the power of attorney was executed, the principal was mentally competent to transact legal matters and was not acting under the undue influence of any other person;
  - c. A permanent guardian of the estate of the principal has not qualified to serve in that capacity;
  - d. My powers under the power of attorney have not been suspended by a court in a temporary guardianship or other proceeding;
  - e. If I am (or was) the principal's spouse, my marriage to the principal has not been dissolved by court decree of divorce or annulment or declared void by a court, or the power of attorney provides specifically that my appointment as the agent for the principal does not terminate if my marriage to the principal has been dissolved by court decree or annulment or declared void by a court;
  - f. No proceeding has been commenced for a temporary or permanent guardianship of the person or estate, or both, of the principal; and
  - g. The exercise of my authority is not prohibited by another agreement or instrument.
4. If under its terms the power of attorney becomes effective on the disability or incapacity of the principal or at a future time or on the occurrence of a contingency, the principal now has a disability or is incapacitated or the specified future time or contingency has occurred.
  5. I am acting within the scope of my authority under the power of attorney, and my authority has not been altered or terminated.
  6. If applicable, I am the successor to \_\_\_\_\_ (predecessor agent), who has resigned, died, or become incapacitated, is not qualified to serve or has declined to serve as agent, or is otherwise unable to act. There are no unsatisfied conditions remaining under the power of attorney that preclude my acting as successor agent.
  7. I agree not:
    - a. Exercise any powers granted by the power of attorney if I attain knowledge that the power of attorney has been revoked, suspended, or terminated; or
    - b. Exercise any specific powers that have been revoked, suspended, or terminated.
  8. A true and correct copy of the power of attorney is attached to this document.
  9. If used in connection with an extension of credit under Section 50(a)(6), Article XVI, Texas Constitution, the power of attorney was executed in the office of the lender, the office of a title company, or the law office of \_\_\_\_\_.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of \_\_\_\_\_ [Signature of Agent]  
 \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Agent]

(If applicable)

- I, \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Co-agent], certify under penalty of perjury that:
1. I am the agent named in the power of attorney validly executed by \_\_\_\_\_ ("principal") on \_\_\_\_\_ (date), and the power of attorney is now in full force and effect.
  2. The principal is not deceased and is presently domiciled in \_\_\_\_\_, Texas.
  3. To the best of my knowledge after diligent search and inquiry:
    - a. The power of attorney has been revoked by the principal or suspended or terminated by the occurrence of any event, whether or not referenced in the power of attorney;
    - b. At the time the power of attorney was executed, the principal was mentally competent to transact legal matters and was not acting under the undue influence of any other person;
    - c. A permanent guardian of the estate of the principal has not qualified to serve in that capacity;
    - d. My powers under the power of attorney have not been suspended by a court in a temporary guardianship or other proceeding;
    - e. If I am (or was) the principal's spouse, my marriage to the principal has not been dissolved by court decree of divorce or annulment or declared void by a court, or the power of attorney provides



specifically that my appointment as the agent for the principal does not terminate if my marriage to the principal has been dissolved by court decree or annulment or declared void by a court;

f. No proceeding has been commenced for a temporary or permanent guardianship of the person or estate, or both, of the principal; and

g. The exercise of my authority is not prohibited by another agreement or instrument.

4. If under its terms the power of attorney becomes effective on the disability or incapacity of the principal or at a future time or on the occurrence of a contingency, the principal now has a disability or is incapacitated or the specified future time or contingency has occurred.

5. I am acting within the scope of my authority under the power of attorney, and my authority has not been altered or terminated.

6. If applicable, I am the successor to \_\_\_\_\_ (predecessor agent), who has resigned, died, or become incapacitated, is not qualified to serve or has declined to serve as agent, or is otherwise unable to act. There are no unsatisfied conditions remaining under the power of attorney that preclude my acting as successor agent.

7. I agree not:

a. Exercise any powers granted by the power of attorney if I attain knowledge that the power of attorney has been revoked, suspended, or terminated; or

b. Exercise any specific powers that have been revoked, suspended, or terminated.

8. A true and correct copy of the power of attorney is attached to this document.

9. If used in connection with an extension of credit under Section 50(a)(6), Article XVI, Texas Constitution, the power of attorney was executed in the office of the lender, the office of a title company, or the law office of \_\_\_\_\_.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of \_\_\_\_\_ [Signature of Co-agent]  
[Name of Co-agent]

