

Total Legal Guidelines for Executing your Arizona Health Care Durable Power of Attorney

Items Included in your Download

- 1) Your Health Care Durable Power of Attorney. The length of this document can be up to eight pages depending on which powers you are granting your “Agent.”

Requirements for Signing (Executing) a Valid Health Care Durable Power of Attorney

Arizona has certain requirements and formalities that must be followed to properly sign a Health Care Durable Power of Attorney:

- 1 The first most basic requirement of a valid Durable Power of Attorney is that it must be in writing.
- 2 The next requirement is that the “Principal” (the person creating the Health Care Durable Power of Attorney) must sign it with the intent of creating a valid Power of Attorney. Ideally, you should sign your full legal name the same way it appears on other legal documents. If you are unable to sign your document, we suggest you consult with a local attorney about properly executing your Power of Attorney.
- 3 Arizona requires that the document be witnessed by a Notary Public.

Witnesses

Arizona does not require another witness other than the Notary Public. The Notary Public does not need to read the entire Power of Attorney, but should read and complete the section preceding his or her signature.

Health Care Durable Power of Attorney Signing Ceremony

It is important that these steps be performed in the following order:

- 1 Prepare by printing the entire Health Care Durable Power of Attorney.
- 2 Bring your unsigned Power of Attorney to a Notary Public.
- 3 State in a voice that is clearly audible to all of the witnesses that you declare this (the unsigned document) to be your Health Care Durable Power of Attorney, that you have read it, that it accurately states your wishes, and that you are asking the person present to act as witness to the Health Care Durable Power of Attorney and to your signature.
- 4 Initial and date each page of the Power of Attorney in the spaces provided at the lower right hand corner of each page. Enter your Social Security Number and the date on the signature page of the document.

- 5 Sign the Health Care Durable Power of Attorney in the space provided at the end of the document in full view of the Notary Public.
- 6 The Notary Public then should sign the document in the notary section and affix his or her seal.

Sign only one copy of the Health Care Durable Power of Attorney.

After the Ceremony

After the Health Care Durable Power of Attorney is signed, it should be placed in a safe place known to others. You should give a copy to your primary care physician and ask that it be made a part of your permanent file. You may make additional photocopies available to select people such as your Agent or alternate Agents. Your Agent should also have access to the original document in case proof is needed before your Agent is allowed to act on your behalf.