

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The facts ... If you become sick or disabled, either temporarily or permanently, who will make decisions for you?

Financial Power of Attorney (also known as General Durable Power of Attorney)

A Financial Power of Attorney allows you to appoint someone you trust to handle your financial affairs if you cannot do so.

If you cannot pay bills, get records or make other decisions, your family will be prevented from helping you get treatment, pay doctors or for Medicare.

Without a Financial Power of Attorney, your family may have to petition the Court to be appointed as your conservator.

Healthcare Power of Attorney

A Health Care Power of attorney allows you to appoint someone to make health care decisions in the event you are unable to do so.

If you do not have a health care power of attorney, your family may have to petition the Court to be appointed as your guardian.

It is important that you give your family the tools to help you if you cannot help yourself.

Mental Health Power of Attorney

It is also important to have a Mental Health Power of Attorney.

In the event you need to be placed in an in-patient psychiatric facility, only an agent with mental health powers can make sure you get the treatment you need.

This is a very Arizona specific requirement.

The Mental Health Power of Attorney is sometimes included in the Healthcare Power of Attorney. If you already have a Healthcare Power of Attorney from an Arizona State attorney, you should review the document to see that it includes the mental health powers.