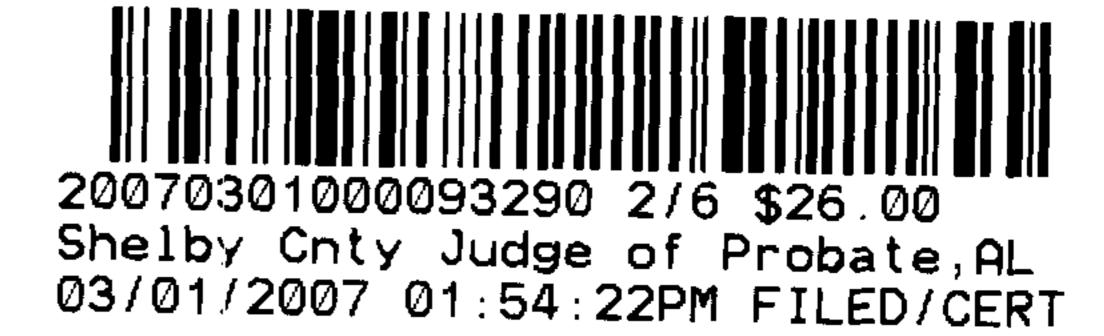


This instrument was prepared by Katherine N. Barr Sirote & Permutt, P.C. 2311 Highland Avenue South Birmingham, Alabama 35205

## GENERAL DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That I, SHELIA PATEL, of the County of Shelby, State of Alabama, have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint BHARAT K. PATEL my true and lawful Attorney and Agent (hereinafter called "Agent"), for me in my name, place and stead, and for my behalf and benefit, hereby revoking and terminating any and all other General Durable Powers of Attorney heretofore made by me:

- 1. <u>GENERAL GRANT OF POWER</u>: To exercise or perform any act, power, duty, right or obligation whatsoever that I now have or may hereafter acquire, relating to any person, matter, transaction or property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, now owned or hereafter acquired by me, including, without limitation, the following specifically enumerated powers. I grant to my Agent full power and authority to do everything necessary in exercising any of the powers herein granted as fully as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my Agent shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the powers herein granted;
- (a) Powers of Collection and Payment: To forgive, request, demand, sue for, recover, collect, receive and hold all such sums of money, debts, dues, commercial paper, checks, drafts, accounts, deposits, legacies, bequests, devises, notes, interests, stock certificates, bonds, dividends, certificates of deposit, annuities, pension, profit sharing, retirement, social security, insurance and other contractual benefits and proceeds, all documents of title, all property, real or personal, intangible and tangible property and property rights and demands whatsoever, liquidated or unliquidated, now or hereafter owned by, or due, owing, payable or belonging to, me or in which I have or may hereafter acquire an interest; to have, use, and take all lawful means and equitable and legal remedies and proceedings in my name for the collection and recovery thereof, and to adjust, sell, compromise and agree for the same, and to execute and deliver for me, on my behalf, and in my name, all endorsements, releases, receipts or other sufficient discharges for the same;
- (b) <u>Power to Acquire and Sell</u>: To acquire, purchase, exchange and grant options to sell, mortgage, pledge, lease, sell and convey real or personal property, tangible or intangible, or interests therein, on such terms and conditions as my Agent shall deem proper, with full authority to sign, endorse, execute and deliver any sales agreement, deed, bill of sale and all other instruments or documents pertaining to the sale of any of my real or personal property; and to enter into bonds, contracts, mortgages and deeds connected therewith;
- (c) <u>Management Powers</u>: To maintain, repair, improve, invest, manage, insure, rent, lease, encumber and in any manner deal with any real or personal property, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein, that I now own or may hereafter acquire in my name and for my benefit, upon such terms and conditions as my Agent shall deem proper;



- (d) <u>Banking Powers</u>: To make, receive and endorse checks and drafts, deposit and withdraw funds, acquire and redeem certificates of deposit, in banks, savings and loan associations and other institutions, execute or release such deeds of trust or other security agreements as may be necessary or proper in the exercise of the rights and powers herein granted;
- (e) <u>Motor Vehicles</u>: To apply for a Certificate of Title upon, and endorse and transfer title thereto, for any automobile, truck, pickup, van, motorcycle or other motor vehicle, and to represent in such transfer assignment that the title to said motor vehicle is free and clear of all liens and encumbrances except those specifically set forth in such transfer assignment;
- (f) <u>Business Interests</u>: To conduct or participate in any lawful business of whatever nature for me and in my name; to execute partnership agreements and amendments thereto; to incorporate, reorganize, merge, consolidate, recapitalize, sell, liquidate or dissolve any business; to elect or employ officers, directors and agents; to carry out the provisions of any agreement for the sale of any business interest or the stock therein; and to exercise voting rights with respect to stock, either in person or by proxy, and to exercise stock options;
- (g) <u>Tax Powers</u>: To prepare, sign and file joint or separate income tax returns or declarations of estimated tax for any year or years; to prepare, sign and file gift tax returns with respect to gifts made by me for any year or years; to consent to any gift and to utilize any gift-splitting provision or other tax election; and to prepare, sign and file any claims for refund of any tax;
- (h) <u>Safe Deposit Boxes</u>: To have access at any time or times to any safe deposit box rented by me, wheresoever located, and to remove all or any part of the contents thereof, and to surrender or relinquish said safe deposit box, and any institution in which any such safe deposit box may be located shall not incur any liability to me or my estate as a result of permitting my Agent to exercise this power;
- (i) <u>Power to Hold Property and Make Investments</u>: The power to hold or acquire any property or securities, regardless of whether such property or securities are a so-called "legal" investment, where such course is, in the said Agent's opinion, for my best interest;
- (j) <u>Power of Access and Disclosure of Medical Records and Financial Information</u>: To request, receive and review any information, verbal or written, regarding my financial affairs or my physical or mental health, including medical, hospital and health insurance records, and to execute any releases or other documents that may be required in order to obtain such information, and to disclose such information to such persons, organizations, firms or corporations as my Agent shall deem appropriate;
- (k) <u>Power to Provide Health Care Services</u>: To give or withhold consent to any medical procedure, test or treatment for me including choice of a physician, choice of a hospital or nursing home; to revoke, withdraw, modify or change consents to such procedures, tests or treatment; and to provide such other care, comfort, maintenance and support as my Agent may deem necessary;
- (l) <u>Power to Employ and Discharge Health Care Personnel</u>: To employ and discharge medical personnel including such physicians, psychiatrists, dentists, nurses, and therapists as my Agent shall deem necessary for my physical, mental and emotional well-being, and to pay such individuals, or any of them, reasonable compensation;
- (m) <u>Power to Borrow</u>: To borrow any sum or sums of money on such terms (including the power to borrow against the cash surrender value of any life insurance policy issued on my life), and with such security, whether real or personal property, as my Agent may think fit, and for that

purpose to execute all promissory notes, bonds, mortgages, deeds of trust, security agreements and other instruments which may be necessary or proper;

- (n) <u>Disclaimer</u>: To exercise or release powers of appointment in whole or in part and to disclaim or renounce in whole or in part any interest that I might otherwise have as a joint owner, beneficiary, heir or otherwise and in exercising such discretion, my Agent may take into account such matters as shall include but shall not be limited to any reduction in estate or inheritance taxes on my estate, and the effect of such renunciation or disclaimer upon persons interested in my estate and persons who would receive the renounced or disclaimed property;
- (o) <u>Trusts</u>: To transfer, assign and convey any property or interest in property, the legal or equitable title to which is in my name, to any trust of which I am the primary beneficiary during my lifetime and under the terms of which I expressly have the power to amend or revoke such trust, and to exercise any right of withdrawal of income and/or principal which I may have pursuant to the terms and conditions of such trust, whether such trust was created before or after the execution of this power of attorney;
- (p) Power to Manage Individual Retirement Accounts and Benefit Plans: To exercise all rights, privileges, elections and options I have with regard to any individual retirement account, pension, profit sharing, stock bonus, Keogh or other retirement plan, or other benefit or similar arrangement; including, but not limited to, the power and discretion to make withdrawals; to determine forms of payment on my behalf or on behalf of my beneficiaries; to make, change or alter investment decisions; to change custodians or trustees; to make or complete roll-overs; and to make direct "trustee-to-trustee" or similar type transfers of the assets, rights or other benefits thereof;
- (q) Power to Change Beneficiaries on Any Insurance Policies on My Life: To change the beneficiaries on any insurance policies on my life that name my estate as beneficiary; provided, however, that any such change must be consistent with the terms of my most current Last Will and Testament, and neither such right and power, nor any other rights and powers, shall be exercisable with respect to any policies of life insurance on the life of my said Agent herein named, which may at any time be owned by me;
- rights, privileges, elections and options I have as the plan participant or account owner of any Qualified Tuition Plan, as defined by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; including, but not limited to, the power and discretion to make distributions to designated beneficiaries, regardless of whether such distributions cause adverse federal or state income tax consequences or penalties; to make, change or alter investment decisions; to transfer assets from one plan to another regardless of whether the transferee plan is a savings plan or prepaid tuition plan sponsored by a state or educational institution; and to obtain a refund of account assets to the extent permitted by the plan agreement. Notwithstanding anything above to the contrary, my Agent shall not have the power to change the designated beneficiary of any Qualified Tuition Plan of which I am the plan participant or account owner, or to make a plan transfer that results in such a change;
- Attorney: If any third party (including but not limited to stock transfer agents, title insurance companies, banks, credit unions and savings and loan associations) with whom my Agent seeks to transact refuses to recognize my Agent's authority to act on my behalf pursuant to this power of attorney, I authorize my Agent to sue and recover from such third party all resulting damages, costs, expenses and attorney's fees that are incurred because of such failure to act. The costs, expenses and attorney's fees incurred in bringing such action shall be charged against my general assets, to the extent that they are not recovered from said third party.

- 2. <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>: I grant to the Agent named herein the following additional powers and authority:
- (a) In the event any Agent named herein should be of the opinion at any time that he does not have the expertise to manage all or any part of my assets, I grant to said Agent the right and power to delegate the management powers hereinabove granted over all or any part of my assets to any bank or trust company having at such time total resources or assets under management of not less than One Hundred Twenty-Five Million Dollars, and to enter into any management or agency agreements with the said bank or trust company pertaining thereto, with the right on the part of the Agent named herein to revoke and cancel any such agreement at any time upon not more than ninety (90) days' written notice to said bank or trust company.
- I grant full and absolute authority to the Agent named herein, on a noncumulative, yearly basis, to make gifts to my sons, in trust or otherwise, as well as to their spouses and to their lineal descendants, if any, in trust or otherwise, with the amount of gifts to each such person each year not to exceed that amount which is excludable from the total amount of gifts made during such year under Section 2503(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The above authority to make gifts shall include the power to establish and/or make transfers to Qualified Tuition Plans that name my sons or their descendants as designated beneficiaries. In making gifts to Qualified Tuition Plans, my Agent's determination of the maximum amount of gifts excludable under Section 2503(b) may take into account the treatment of excess contributions to such plans under Section 529(c)(2). Furthermore, my Agent may make transfers of my property on behalf of my lineal descendants as tuition payments to an educational institution and for medical payments to the provider of such medical care; provided, however, that all such transfers shall be "qualified transfers" excluded from the definition of gift by Section 2503(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Notwithstanding any provision herein, it is my request that prior to making a gift to or on behalf of any child or other person provided for in this paragraph who has a disability, my Agent shall consider the impact upon any government assistance benefits for which such person might be eligible, and shall consult with appropriate professionals as to the best manner in which, or whether, to make a gift to such person.
- apply so much of the income and principal of the assets comprising my estate as may be necessary or desirable, in the sole discretion of said Agent, for my maintenance and support, and for the maintenance and support of any person dependent upon me, taking into consideration other income, resources or financial assistance available to any of them from all other sources. Any provision herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the Agent shall have no power or authority to use or apply the principal to discharge any legal obligation that the Agent or any other person may have to support me or any dependent or beneficiary of mine, except to the extent that there are no assets reasonably available to the person having the obligation of support to pay the same.
- (d) I further authorize and empower my Agent to engage, employ and dismiss any agents, clerks, servants, consultants, attorneys-at-law, accountants, investment advisors, custodians or other persons in and about the performance of these presents as my Agent shall think fit.
- (e) During any period that I am incapacitated, I expressly vest my Agent with the power to continue my pattern of charitable gifts (but the aggregate annual amount of such gifts shall not exceed the average annual amount given by me over the last three years in which I was not incapacitated).

Any decisions made by the said Agent with respect to the matters set forth hereinabove in sections 2(b), 2(c), 2(d), and 2(e) shall be final, binding and conclusive upon all of the beneficiaries of my

estate, and said Agent shall be released and discharged of and from all liability for any such decisions that said Agent may make in good faith with respect thereto.

- 3. <u>INTERPRETATION AND GOVERNING LAW</u>: This instrument is to be construed and interpreted as a general durable power of attorney and shall not be affected by my disability, incompetency or incapacity, or by lapse of time. The enumeration of specific powers herein is not intended to, nor does it, limit or restrict the general powers herein granted to my Agent. This instrument is executed and delivered in the State of Alabama, and the laws of the State of Alabama shall govern all questions as to the validity of this power and the construction of its provisions.
- 4. <u>INDEMNITY</u>: I hereby bind myself to indemnify my Agent and any successor who shall so act against any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, actions and causes of action, including expenses, costs and reasonable attorneys' fees which my Agent at any time may sustain or incur in connection with carrying out the authority granted him in this power of attorney.
- 5. THIRD PARTY RELIANCE: Third parties may rely upon the representations of my Agent as to all matters relating to any power granted to my Agent, and no person who may act in reliance upon the representations of my Agent or the authority granted to my Agent shall incur any liability to me or my estate as a result of permitting my Agent to exercise any power.
- 6. <u>NOMINATION OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR</u>: In the event court proceedings are hereafter commenced to appoint a guardian, conservator or other fiduciary to take charge of my person, or to manage and conserve my property, I hereby nominate and appoint my Agent named to serve hereunder, in the order set forth herein, as my guardian, conservator or other fiduciary, to serve without bond unless otherwise required by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 7. NOMINATION OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR FOR PROTECTED ADULT CHILD: In the event I am unable to serve as guardian or conservator for my son who has a disability, and who will need a person to act on his behalf throughout his lifetime, then, to the extent permitted by law, I hereby nominate and appoint my Agent as guardian, conservator or other fiduciary for my said son, to serve without bond unless otherwise required by a court of competent jurisdiction. It is my preference that such guardian also be appointed as representative payee to receive any government benefits to which my son may be entitled.
- 8. <u>REVOCATION</u>: This general durable power of attorney may be voluntarily revoked by me by written instrument delivered to my Agent. In the event that a person, other than my nominated Agent, is appointed guardian by a court of competent jurisdiction, said guardian may also revoke this instrument by written instrument delivered to my Agent. Any affidavit executed by my Agent stating that he does not have, at the time of doing any act pursuant to this power of attorney, actual knowledge of the revocation or termination of this power of attorney, is, in the absence of fraud, conclusive proof of the nonrevocation or nontermination of the power at that time.
- 9. <u>DEATH</u>: My death shall not revoke or terminate this agency as to my Agent or any other person who, without actual knowledge of my death, acts in good faith under this power of attorney. Any action so taken, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, shall be binding upon me and my heirs, devisees, and personal representatives.
- 10. <u>INCAPACITY OF AGENT</u>: Any person acting or named to act as my Agent hereunder or required to be legally competent in order to act hereunder shall be deemed to be legally incompetent to act when a physician whom such person has consulted within the prior three years has certified as to such consultation and also as to the present lack of the physical or mental capacity of such person to manage his financial affairs.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this General Durable Power of Attorney, which shall not be affected by my disability, incapacity or incompetency, and I have directed that photographic copies of this power be made, which shall have the same force and effect as an original.

DATED at Birmingham, Alabama, on the 15 day of December 15

Shelia Patel, Principal

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alabama at Large, hereby certify that Shelia Patel, whose name is signed to the foregoing instrument, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the instrument, she executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand and seal this

Notary Public

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 7/27/07

(SEAL)