

## GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

**NOTICE: THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS DOCUMENT ARE BROAD AND SWEEPING. 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.**

I, William Thomas Ross, of 174 Ross Drive, city of Bessemer Alabama, county of Shelby County, Alabama, hereby appoint Joel Thomas (eldest son) and/or Vanessa Shafer Ross, whose address is 1889 Tahiti Lane, Memphis, Tennessee 38117, as my Attorney-in-Fact ("Agent").

If my above Agents are unable to serve for any reason, I designate Jared Allen Ross, of 409 East 5th Street, Anniston, Alabama 36201, as my successor Agent.

I hereby revoke any and all general powers of attorney that previously have been signed by me. However, the preceding sentence shall not have the effect of revoking any powers of attorney that are directly related to my health care that previously have been signed by me.

My Agent shall have full power and authority to act on my behalf. This power and authority shall authorize my Agent to manage and conduct all of my affairs and to exercise all of my legal rights and powers, including all rights and powers that I may acquire in the future. My Agent's powers shall include, but not be limited to, the power to:

1. Open, maintain or close bank accounts (including, but not limited to, checking accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit), brokerage accounts, and other similar accounts with financial institutions.
  - a. Conduct any business with any banking or financial institution with respect to any of my accounts, including, but not limited to, making deposits and withdrawals, obtaining bank statements, passbooks, drafts, money orders, warrants, and certificates or vouchers payable to me by any person, firm, corporation or political entity.
  - b. Perform any act necessary to deposit, negotiate, sell or transfer any note, security, or draft of the United States of America, including U.S. Treasury Securities.
  - c. Have access to any safe deposit box that I might own, including its contents.
2. Sell, exchange, buy, invest, or reinvest any assets or property owned by me. Such assets or property may include income producing or non-income producing assets and property.
3. Purchase and/or maintain insurance, including life insurance upon my life or the life of any other appropriate person.
4. Take any and all legal steps necessary to collect any amount or debt owed to me, or to settle any claim, whether made against me or asserted on my behalf against any other person or entity.
5. Enter into binding contracts on my behalf.
6. Exercise all stock rights on my behalf as my proxy, including all rights with respect to stocks, bonds, debentures, or other investments.
7. Maintain and/or operate any business that I may own.
8. Employ professional and business assistance as may be appropriate, including attorneys, accountants, and real estate agents.
9. Sell, convey, lease, mortgage, manage, insure, improve, repair, or perform any other act with respect to any of my property (now owned or later acquired) including, but not limited to, real estate and real estate rights (including the right to remove tenants and to recover possession). This includes the right to sell or encumber any homestead that I now own or may own in the future.
10. Prepare, sign, and file documents with any governmental body or agency, including, but not limited to, authorization to:
  - a. Prepare, sign and file income and other tax returns with federal, state, local, and other governmental bodies.
  - b. Obtain information or documents from any government or its agencies, and negotiate, compromise, or settle any matter with such government or agency (including tax matters).
  - c. Prepare applications, provide information, and perform any other act reasonably requested by any government or its agencies in connection with governmental benefits (including military and social security benefits).
11. Transfer any of my assets to the trustee of any revocable trust created by me, if such trust is in existence at the time of such transfer.
12. Disclaim any interest which might otherwise be transferred or distributed to me from any other person, estate, trust, or other entity, as may be appropriate.

This Power of Attorney shall be construed broadly as a General Power of Attorney. The listing of specific powers is not intended to limit or restrict the general powers granted in this Power of Attorney in any manner.

Any power or authority granted to my Agent under this document shall be limited to the extent necessary to prevent this Power of Attorney from causing: (i) my income to be taxable to my Agent, (ii) my assets to be subject to a general power of appointment by my Agent, and (iii) my Agent to have any incidents of ownership with respect to any life insurance policies that I may own on the life of my Agent.

My Agent shall not be liable for any loss that results from a judgment error that was made in good faith. However, my Agent shall be liable for willful misconduct or the failure to act in good faith while acting under the authority of this Power of Attorney.

I authorize my Agent to indemnify and hold harmless any third party who accepts and acts under this document.

My Agent shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for any services provided as my Agent. My Agent shall be entitled to reimbursement of all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with this Power of Attorney.

My Agent shall provide an accounting for all funds handled and all acts performed as my Agent, if I so request or if such a request is made by any authorized personal representative or fiduciary acting on my behalf.

This Power of Attorney shall become effective immediately and shall not be affected by my disability or lack of mental competence, except as may be provided otherwise by an applicable state statute. This is a Durable Power of Attorney. This Power of Attorney shall continue effective until my death. This Power of Attorney may be revoked by me at any time by providing written notice to my Agent.

Dated Feb 21st, 2009 at PM 4:233, Shelby County  
William J. Thomas & Ross

**William Thomas Ross**



20100308000065720 2/2 \$14.00  
Shelby Cnty Judge of Probate, AL  
03/08/2010 10:22:12 AM FILED/CERT

#### WITNESSES

I believe the Grantor to be of sound mind and able to make decisions of this kind. I did not sign his/her name and I am not the agent. I am not related to the Grantor by blood, adoption or marriage, and not entitled to any part of his/her estate. I am at least 19 years old and am not directly responsible for his .

Benjamin D. House  
Signature of Witness

Benjamin D. House  
Name of Witness

Date: 2/21/09

and

W.B.  
Signature of Witness

Mia Bear  
Name of Witness

Date: 2/21/09

#### ATTESTATION

I, the undersigned authority in and for said County in said State, hereby certify that **William Thomas Ross**, whose name is signed to the foregoing General Power of Attorney, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the said document, (s)he executed the same voluntarily, before the witnesses whose names appear above, on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2009.

Allen H. Avery  
Notary Public

My commission expires:  
FEB. 6<sup>TH</sup> 2010

#### SIGNATURES OF AGENTS

I, Joel Thomas and/or Vanessa Shafer Ross, are willing to serve as Health Care Agents.

Signature: Joel Thomas Ross Date: Feb 21st 2009

Signature: Vanessa Shafer Ross Date: 21 Feb 2009

I, Jared Allen Ross, am willing to serve as Health Care Agent if the above named Agents cannot serve.

Signature: Jared Allen Ross Date: 21 Feb 2009