



20260218000045350 1/4 \$69.00  
Shelby Cnty Judge of Probate, AL  
02/18/2026 11:56:24 AM FILED/CERT



**OFFICIAL BOND**

BOND NO. S058797

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Shelby County }

Know All Men By These Presents

That we John M. Alford as Principal & EMPLOYERS MUTUAL CASUALTY COMPANY, as Surety are held and firmly bound unto the State of Alabama, in the sum of Fifty Thousand and No/100 (\$50,000.00) Dollars, for the payment of which well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, firmly by these presents, and we hereby waive our right to claim personal property exempt under the laws of Alabama.

The condition of the above obligation, That whereas the above bound principal was duly appointed to the office of Notary Public on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026; for the term of 4 years in Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_ in and for said County.

Now, if the said principal shall faithfully perform and discharge all the duties of said office during his continuance therein then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Signed and sealed this 10th day of February, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Alford Principal (L.S.)

EXP 2-18-2030

EMPLOYERS MUTUAL CASUALTY COMPANY (L.S.)  
BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
LaKesh Taylor Attorney-in-Fact (L.S.)

Taken and approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
A. S. Bayl  
Judge of Probate

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Shelby County }

**OATH OF OFFICE**

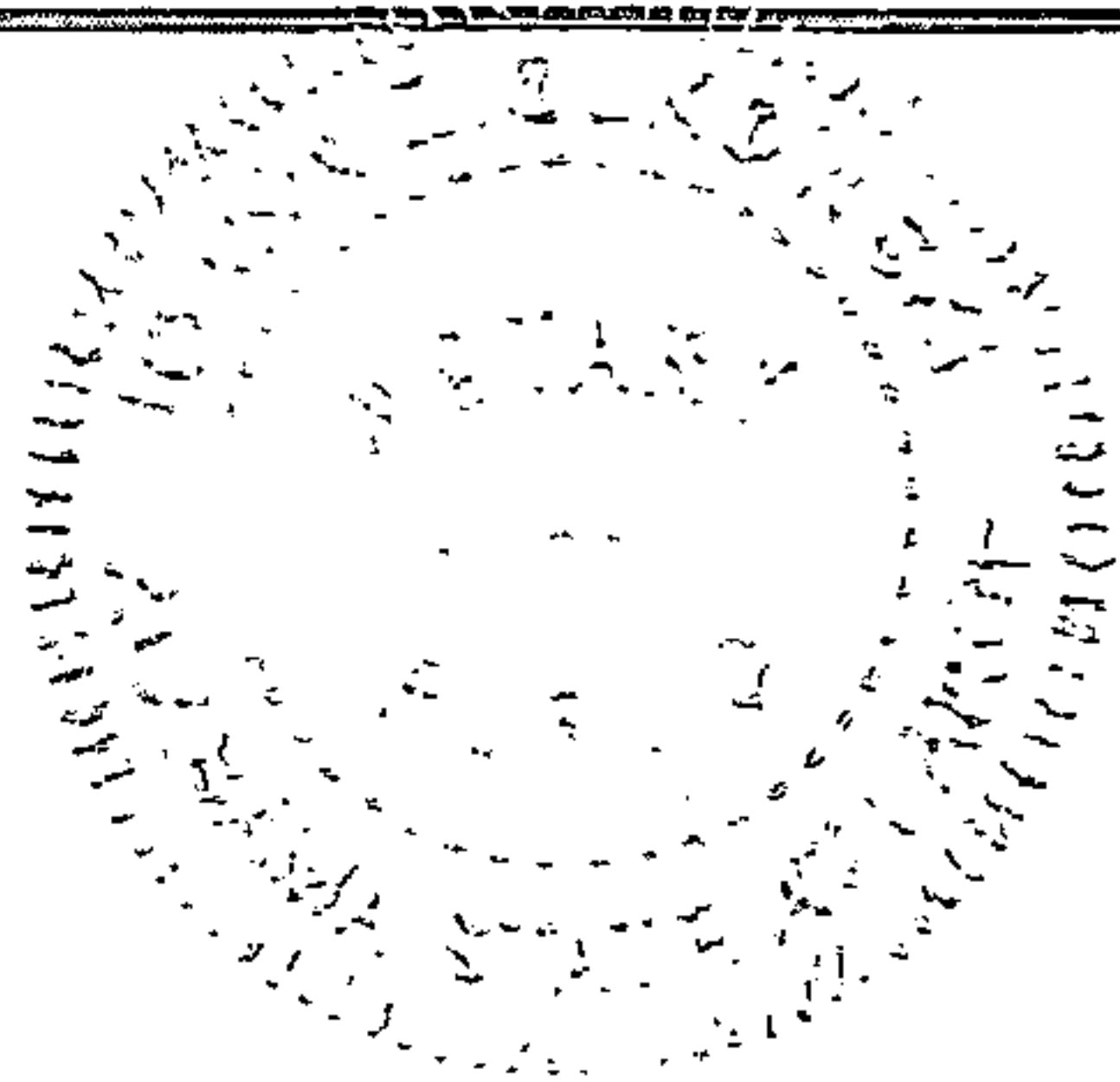
I, John M. Alford solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the State of Alabama, so long as I continue a citizen thereof; and that I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter, to the best of my ability. So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
12-3-2029  
Commission Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Questions regarding this bond should be directed to the EMC H.O. Bond Department at 515-345-2689.





P.O. Box 712 • Des Moines, Iowa 50306-0712



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### POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that:

- 1. Employers Mutual Casualty Company, an Iowa Corporation
- 2. EMCASCO Insurance Company, an Iowa Corporation
- 3. Union Insurance Company of Providence, an Iowa Corporation
- 4. Illinois EMCASCO Insurance Company, an Iowa Corporation
- 5. Dakota Fire Insurance Company, a North Dakota Corporation
- 6. EMC Property & Casualty Company, an Iowa Corporation

hereinafter referred to severally as "Company" and collectively as "Companies", each does, by these presents, make, constitute and appoint:

LaKeshia Taylor

its true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power and authority conferred to sign, seal, and execute the following Surety Bond(s):

**Surety Bond Principal:**  
 Number John M. Alford  
  
 S058797

**Obligee:**  
 State of Alabama  
 Secretary of State

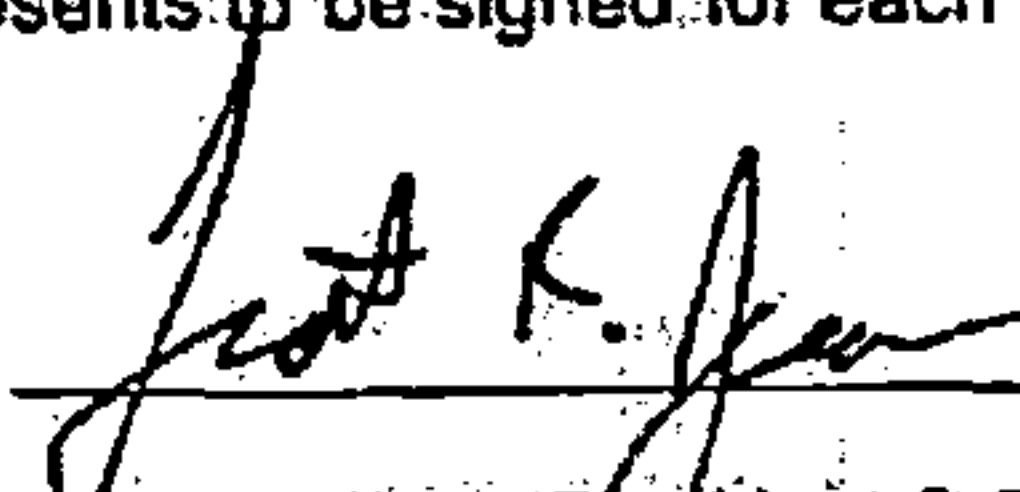
and to bind each Company thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by the duly authorized officers of each such Company, and all of the acts of said attorney pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

### AUTHORITY FOR POWER OF ATTORNEY

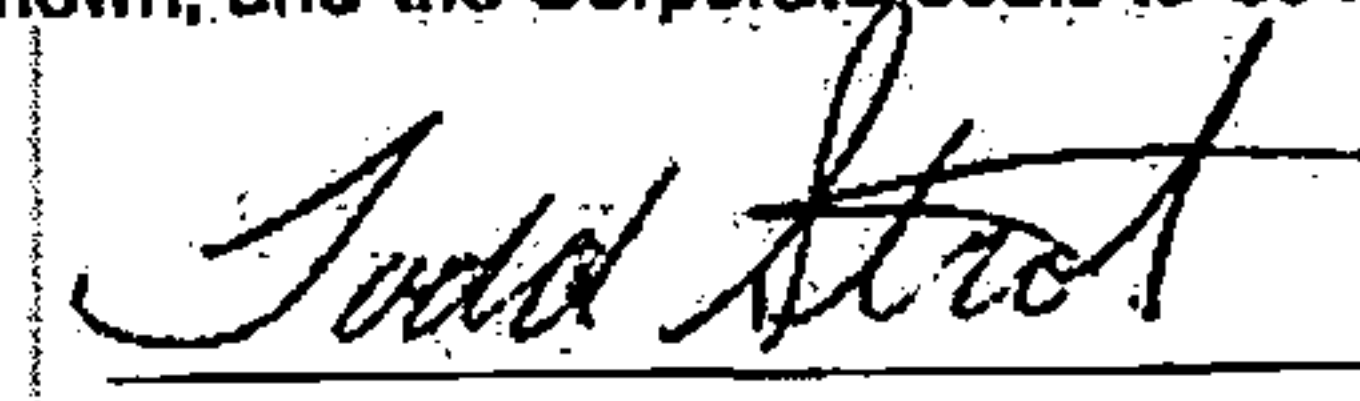
This Power-of-Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by the authority of the following resolution of the Boards of Directors of each of the Companies at the first regularly scheduled meeting of each company duly called and held in 1999:

**RESOLVED:** The President and Chief Executive Officer, any Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary of Employers Mutual Casualty Company, shall have power and authority to (1) appoint attorneys-in-fact and authorize them to execute on behalf of each Company and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof; and (2) to remove any such attorney-in-fact at any time and revoke the power and authority given to him or her. Attorneys-in-fact shall have power and authority, subject to the terms and limitations of the power-of-attorney issued to them, to execute and deliver on behalf of the Company, and to attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof; and any such instrument executed by any such attorney-in-fact shall be fully and in all respects binding upon the Company. Certification, as to the validity of any power-of-attorney authorized herein made by an officer of Employers Mutual Casualty Company shall be fully and in all respects binding upon this Company. The facsimile or mechanically reproduced signature of such officer, whether made heretofore or hereafter, wherever appearing upon a certified copy of any power-of-attorney of the Company, shall be valid and binding upon the Company with the same force and effect as though manually affixed.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF,** the Companies have caused these presents to be signed for each by their officers as shown, and the Corporate seals to be hereto affixed this 17th day of September, 2025.

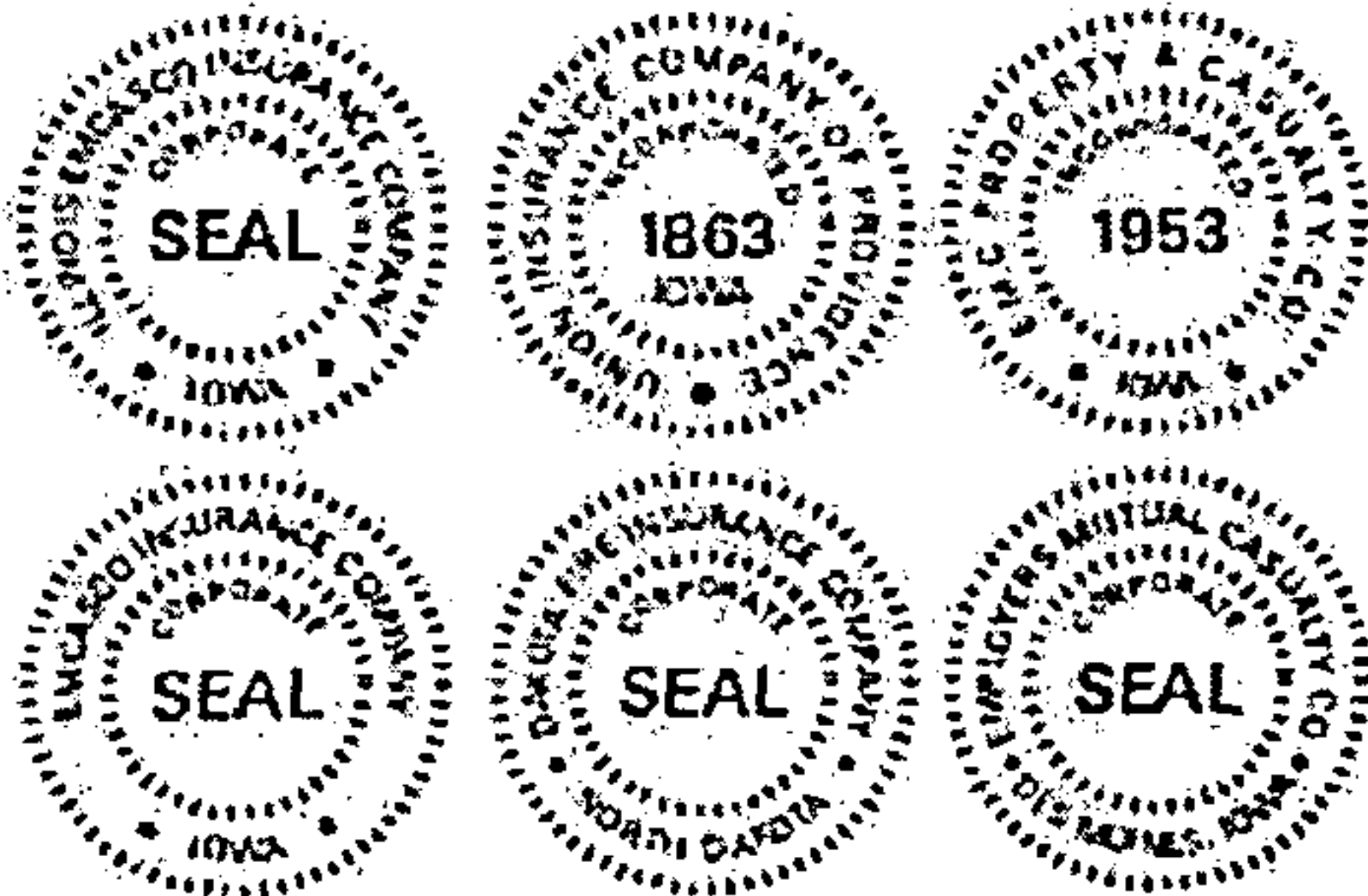
  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Scott R. Jean, President & CEO  
 of Company 1; Chairman, President  
 & CEO of Companies 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

  
 \_\_\_\_\_

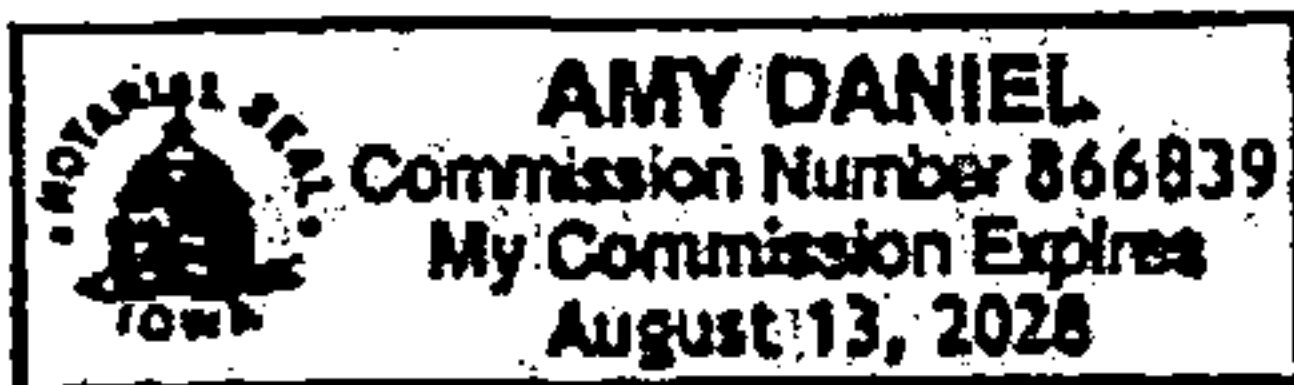
Todd Strother, Executive Vice President,  
 Chief Legal Officer & Secretary of  
 Companies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

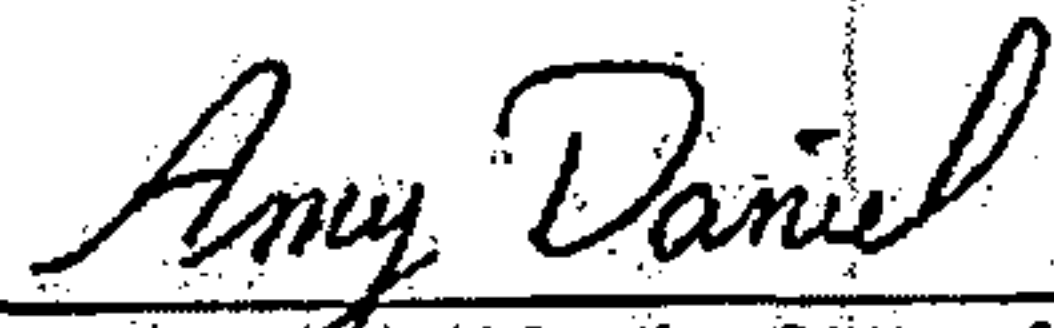
Seals



On this 17th day of September, 2025 before me a Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa, personally appeared Scott R. Jean and Todd Strother, who, being by me duly sworn, did say that they are, and are known to me to be the CEO, Chairman, President, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and/or Secretary, respectively, of each of the Companies above; that the seals affixed to this instrument are the seals of said corporations; that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of each of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors; and that the said Scott R. Jean and Todd Strother, as such officers, acknowledged the execution of said instrument to be their voluntary act and deed, and the voluntary act and deed of each of the Companies.

My Commission Expires August 13, 2028.

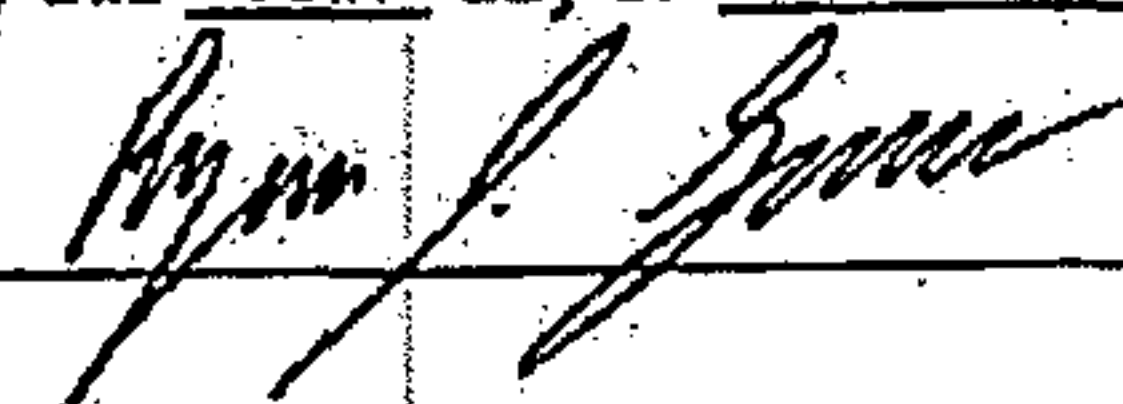


  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa

### CERTIFICATE

I, Ryan J. Springer, Vice President of the Companies, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution of the Boards of Directors by each of the Companies, and this Power of Attorney issued pursuant thereto on 17th day of September, 2025 are true and correct and are still in full force and effect. In Testimony Whereof I have subscribed my name and affixed the facsimile seal of each Company this 10th day of February, 2026.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President

Allison S. Boyd  
Judge of Probate

Kimberly A. Melton  
Chief Clerk



Judicial Division - (205) 670-5210  
Recording Division - (205) 670-5220



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## Probate Court of Shelby County, Alabama

Post Office Box 825 • Columbiana, Alabama 35051

website: [www.shelbyal.com/285/Probate-Court](http://www.shelbyal.com/285/Probate-Court)

Below you will find your Commission as a Notary Public. Please detach the commission card and keep it in a secure place. If your commission is being renewed this card will replace any previously issued commission card. Note that your commission card indicates the term of your current commission and it is important that you begin the renewal process in advance of the expiration of your commission to ensure there is no break in service.

The office of Notary Public is a serious and responsible public office and should not be taken lightly. Abuse of the office or irresponsibility in the performance of notarial duties can result in grave consequences. If a Notary Public has doubts about the propriety of any action, he or she should seek competent professional advice before he or she acts.

A Notary Public is a public officer whose function it is:

1. To administer oaths; and
2. To attend and certify, by his signature and official seal, certain classes of documents, in order to give them credit and authenticity; and
3. To take acknowledgments of deeds and other conveyances and certify the same; and
4. To perform certain official acts, chiefly in commercial matters, such as the protesting of notes and bills, the notice of foreign drafts, and marine protests in cases of damage.

You will need to obtain your notarial seal prior to performing any official acts. It is required that your notarial seal reflect your name as stated in the below commission card.

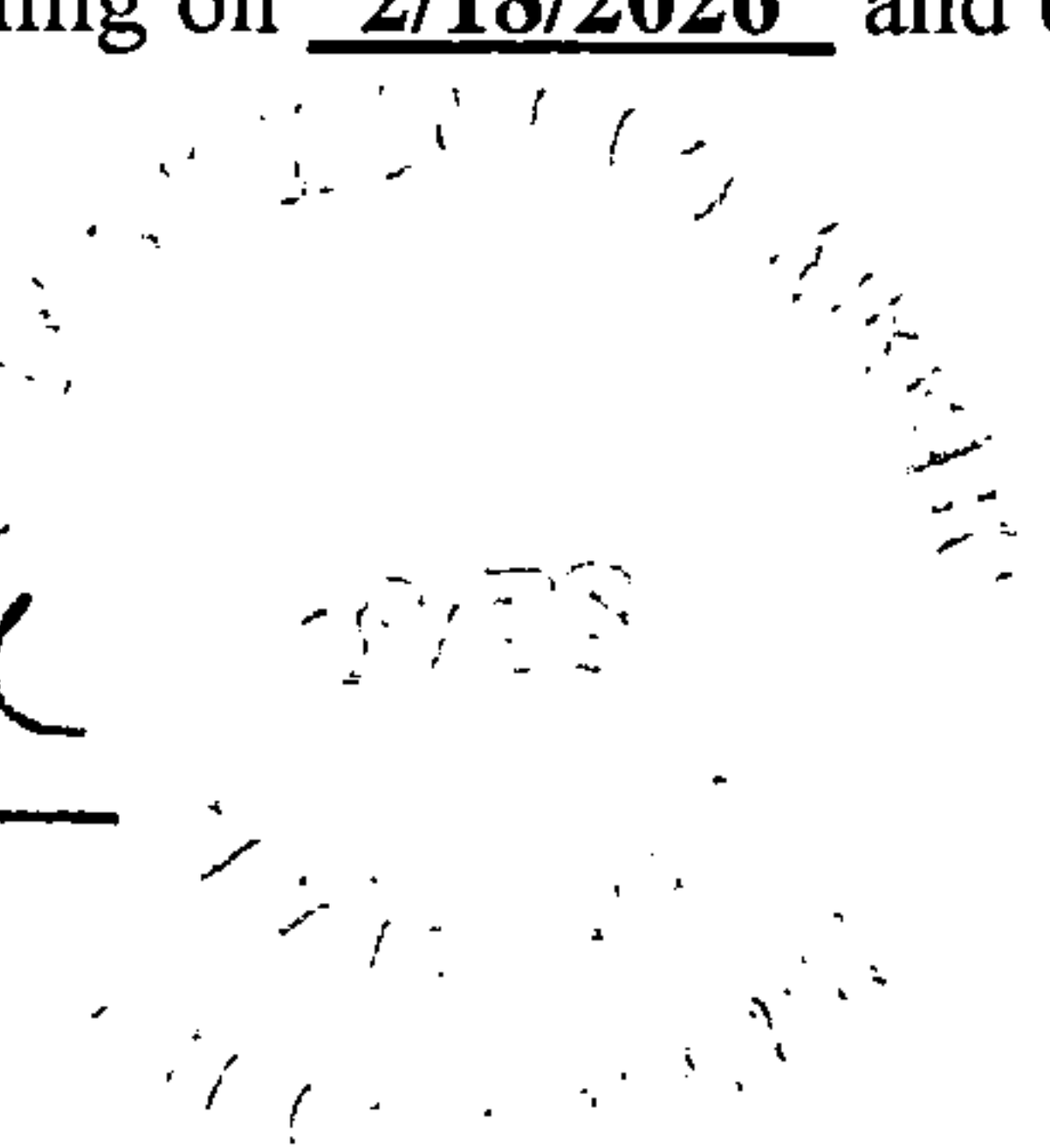
### NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION

In the name of the State of Alabama and pursuant to the authority granted me as Judge of Probate for Shelby County, I hereby Commission John M Alford as Notary Public for the State at Large for the term beginning on 2/18/2026 and ending on 2/18/2030.



*Allison S. Boyd*

ALLISON S. BOYD  
JUDGE OF PROBATE





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*Notary 26-008*

State of Alabama	<b>APPLICATION FOR NOTARY          PUBLIC COMMISSION</b> (MUST BE A RESIDENT OF COUNTY WHERE APPLICATION IS MADE)	In the Probate Court of <u>SHELBY</u> County
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**\$10.00\* APPLICATION FEE IS DUE AT THE TIME APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED**

Date: 1.6.26

1. Name: JOHN MICHAEL ALFORD  
 (Print your name as it appears on driver's license, non-driver ID, or other current valid photo ID)
2. Home Address: 295 CAHABA FALLS LANE Apt/Suite #: \_\_\_\_\_
3. City/State/Zip: HELENA, AL 35080 County of Residence SHELBY
4. Mailing Address (If Different): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Date Of Birth: 11.27.73 Email Address JMA@ALFORDBARNES.COM
6. Phone Numbers: Work 205.436.8420 Home \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude? \_\_\_ YES  NO (If YES, Please Provide Details On Page 2)
8. Are you currently a debtor in a bankruptcy proceeding? \_\_\_ YES  NO
9. Are you currently under an order adjudicating you incapacitated? \_\_\_ YES  NO
10. Are you currently or have you ever been a commissioned notary public in Alabama?  
 YES (County SHELBY Expiration Date: 3.28.26 ) \_\_\_ NO
11. JOHN M. ALFORD  
 (Print Your Name Exactly As It Is To Appear On Notary Commission)

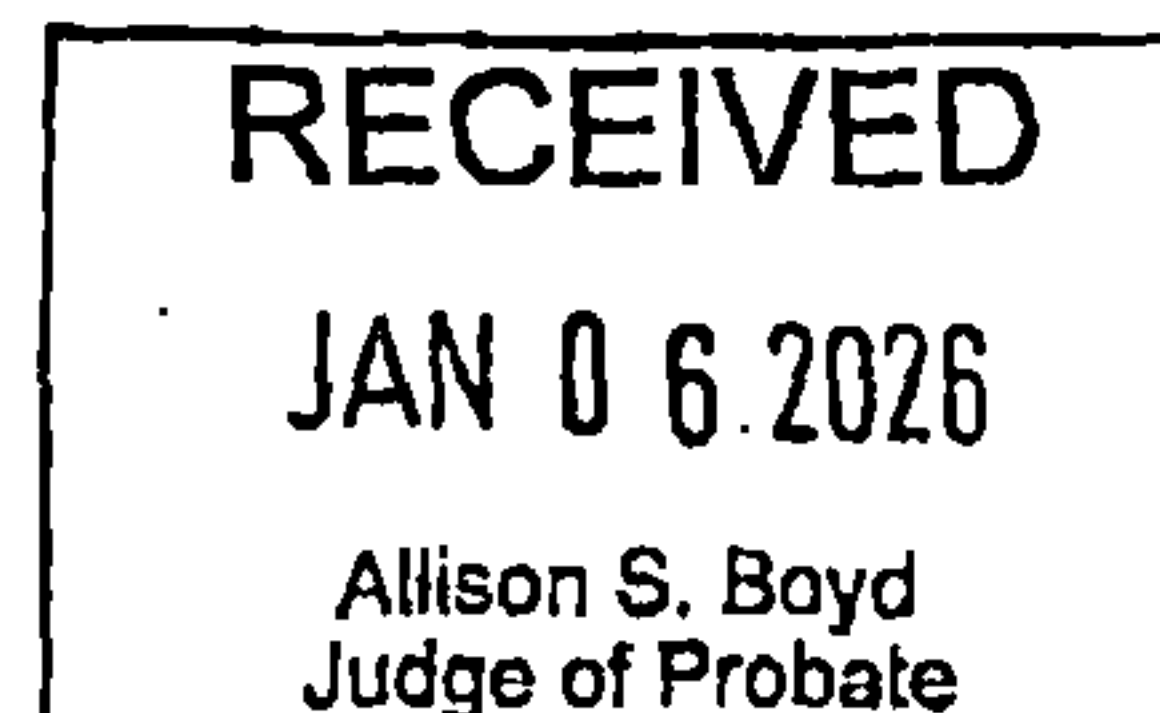
BY SIGNING BELOW I CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN (PAGES ONE AND TWO) IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I AM ABLE AND WILLING TO COMPLETE THE MANDATORY TRAINING FOR NOTARY PUBLICS (UNLESS EXEMPT BY LAW) WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS APPLICATION. I FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT THE \$10.00\* APPLICATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE AND TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE (I.E. TIME DEADLINES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED.)

ALL STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION ARE MADE UNDER THE FEAR OF THE PENALTY OF PERJURY. THE CRIME OF PERJURY IS PUNISHABLE BY FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

This should be your usual signature and match the name printed on Line 11.  
**THIS SHOULD BE THE SIGNATURE YOU USE WHEN NOTARIZING A DOCUMENT**

\* \$10.00 Application Fee PLUS any applicable county fees



Ver. 11.13.23