



## Power of Attorney – Connecticut

**Categories :** [Legal and Protective Services](#), [Older Adult Programs](#)

*The information provided here is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to be and should not be construed as legal advice.*

### WHAT IS A POWER OF ATTORNEY?

A power of attorney is a legal document by which one person, called the principal, gives another person, called his agent, the power to perform specified acts on the principal's behalf.

### WHAT DOES “DURABLE” MEAN?

Since October 1, 2016, all Power of Attorney executed in Connecticut are presumed to be “durable” unless stated otherwise.

### WHY SHOULD I HAVE A POWER OF ATTORNEY?

If you were to become unable to handle your own affairs, a power of attorney gives your agent the power to manage your financial affairs for you as you would prefer. If you became disabled, you might not be able to execute a power of attorney at that time. Under those circumstances, your spouse or your family might have to go to the probate court and seek appointment as a conservator, with the power to manage your financial affairs.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on Connecticut Law About Power of Attorney's, see the Connecticut Judicial Law Library website, <http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/law/powersofattorney.htm>

For more information on living wills and durable power of attorney for health care, see the eLibrary paper “Advance Directives,” <http://uwc.211ct.org/advance-directives/>.

More detailed information on powers of attorney can be found at Powers of Attorney <https://ctlawhelp.org/en/power-of-attorney> on the CTElderLaw website, <http://ctlawhelp.org/self-help-guides/elder-law>

### TO FIND PROVIDERS IN CONNECTICUT'S COMMUNITY RESOURCES DATABASE:

Search by service name: [Lawyer Referral Services](#)

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**SOURCES:** Connecticut General Assembly Office; The Connecticut Network for Legal Aid: Frequently Asked Questions About Powers of Attorney

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