

# STATUTORY DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY



## What is it?

It is a legal document that gives a person (agent) the power to act on your behalf

## Who?

Your agent can be anyone you trust to handle your affairs and follow your wishes



## Everyone needs a SDPOA

- This is your main tool to avoid an expensive guardianship if you lose your mental abilities and start acting (or failing to act) in ways that are dangerous to yourself or your property.
- When you plan with our firm, we tailor your SDPOA to give your agent authority to engage in long-term care planning to protect your assets in the event you need Medicaid assistance to help pay the costs of the nursing home.

## What does it cover?

- Since you'll be signing this document to protect you in case you lose the ability to manage your affairs yourself, you will give your agent the power to do basically anything you could do for yourself.
- When planning with our firm, your SDPOA will allow your agent to act as soon as you sign it.
- As long as you have the capability of making your own decisions, you may easily revoke your SDPOA any time you want.



- An SDPOA prepared by an elder law attorney is **DIFFERENT** than one prepared by a general estate planning attorney.
- Be sure to engage a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.