# PROPERTY EPA OF JOHN JON DOE



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# ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY (EPA) IN RELATION TO PROPERTY

Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988

### Notes to enduring power of attorney

Please read these notes BEFORE completing the form.

In these notes, "attorney" includes each attorney (if you have appointed more than 1) and a successor attorney whose appointment has come into effect. (See the glossary of terms at the end of these notes for the meaning of attorney and other terms set out in **bold italics**.)

# **Setting up your EPA**

- Your *EPA* in relation to *property* authorises the *attorney* that you, the *donor*, have appointed to make decisions on your behalf about your property affairs, particularly when you cannot do so for yourself because you have become *mentally incapable*. Your attorney can act for you while you are mentally capable if you authorise them to do so. You can appoint more than 1 attorney. You can also appoint a *successor attorney* to be your attorney if the previous attorney's appointment *ends*. You can appoint more than 1 successor attorney.
- Your attorney can be anyone you trust to understand and respect your wishes and feelings and who is able to manage your property, provided they are aged 20 or older, not bankrupt, and not mentally incapable themselves. This can be a friend or family member, a work colleague, or a professional person, for example, a lawyer or an accountant. An attorney for property can also be a *trustee corporation*.
- Your EPA should be filled in, signed, and witnessed in the presence of your lawyer or another *authorised witness*, who must explain the effects and implications of the EPA and answer any questions you may have. The signature of each attorney (and successor attorney) you appoint needs to be witnessed by someone other than you or your witness. The witness must be an adult and should not be a relative of the attorney or of the attorney's spouse or partner or live at the same address as the attorney.
- Your EPA will not be valid until signed by all parties. This includes you and your attorney.

# **Options in your EPA**

There are various options that you can have in your EPA. For example, if you appoint more than 1 attorney, you can say whether they must act together (jointly) or can act separately (severally). You can also appoint successor attorneys, cancel (*revoke*) previous EPAs, determine the extent of your attorneys' authority to act, and say who they must *consult*. See sections B to M of the EPA form for these options.

# You and your attorney need to understand an attorney's role

An attorney's authority under the EPA is governed by both the EPA and the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 (the *Act*). These notes are a summary of the main requirements of the Act. Attorneys and successor attorneys should ask a lawyer for legal advice on their role if they are unclear about how to act.

# When an attorney can act

- You can choose that your EPA comes into effect only if you become mentally incapable. If you do, your attorney can act under the EPA only if a *medical certificate* states, or the Family Court decides, that you are mentally incapable.
- If you choose that your EPA comes into effect while you are mentally capable, your attorney can act under it as soon as it is signed and witnessed and can continue to act if you become mentally incapable.
- Your attorney cannot act after they receive notice that the EPA is *terminated*, their appointment is ended, or their authority to act is *suspended* (see note 19).

# What an attorney must do

- Your attorney must use your property to promote and protect your best interests. Wherever possible, your attorney must encourage you to maintain or develop your own competence to manage your property affairs.
- When acting on your behalf, your attorney must, as far as practicable, consult you and the persons you have asked to be consulted in section I of the EPA form before making decisions. Your attorney must also consult any other attorney under any other EPA you have given (other than a successor attorney whose appointment has not come into effect). Your attorney is entitled to follow advice received from consultation if they act in good faith and with reasonable care. Your attorney can also apply to the Family Court for directions on how to act (for example, if they receive conflicting advice from consultation).
- If you have appointed someone else to be your attorney for your *personal care and welfare*, your attorneys must regularly consult each other to ensure that your interests are not disadvantaged by any breakdown in communication between them. Your property attorney should provide your personal care and welfare attorney with any financial support (out of your property) needed for your personal care and welfare.
- 13 If you have named someone in section J of your EPA to be given information, your attorney must promptly give them that information when asked for it.

# How your property can be used

- Your attorney must not *act to the benefit* of any person other than you unless you have explicitly stated in your EPA that your attorney can do so. However, unless you have explicitly stated in your EPA that they cannot do so, your attorney can, out of your property:
  - recover reasonable out-of-pocket expenses
  - recover reasonable professional fees and expenses (if your attorney has accepted appointment or done work related to your property in a professional capacity)
  - deal with any property that you and your attorney jointly own if you and your attorney are
    married or in a civil union or de facto relationship, are living together, and are sharing your
    incomes
  - make a loan, advance, or other investment of your property that a trustee could make under the Trustee Act 1956.

If you have authorised your attorney to make celebratory gifts or donations, your attorney must consider whether you can afford to make them, having regard to your overall financial circumstances and commitments.

# **Attorneys must keep records**

- Your attorney must keep records of each financial transaction they enter into on your behalf while you are mentally incapable. Failure to do so is an offence for which they can be prosecuted and fined. If an application is made to the Family Court under the Act about you or your EPA, your attorney must supply these records on request to the lawyer (if any) appointed by the court to represent your interests.
- 16 If you have named someone in section J of your EPA to be given information that includes records of financial transactions, your attorney must promptly give them that information when asked for it.

# Cancelling or suspending an EPA

- While you are mentally capable, you can cancel (revoke) your EPA or an attorney's appointment at any time by giving written notice to your attorney (you should also give notice to any successor attorneys).
- If you choose to revoke your previous EPAs in relation to property, but do not give notice of revocation to the previous attorneys, your attorney under this EPA or your lawyer can give your previous attorney that notice by providing them with a copy of this EPA before or after you become mentally incapable.
- If you become mentally incapable but recover your mental capacity, you can suspend your attorney's authority to act by giving them written notice. The EPA is only put on hold by the suspension, which means your attorney cannot act under it again unless a medical certificate states, or the Family Court declares, that you are mentally incapable again.
- If you are mentally incapable and your attorney's authority is questioned, the attorney can certify on a *prescribed form* (available on the Ministry of Justice website) that they have not received any notice that the EPA is terminated, their appointment is ended, or their authority to act is suspended. This means they can continue to act as your attorney.

# **Involving the Family Court**

- The Family Court can be asked to review your attorney's actions under the EPA if you or someone else has concerns about them. An application to the court is required for this purpose. The court must appoint a lawyer to represent your interests.
- Your attorney may apply to the Family Court for directions if they are not sure about the most suitable action to take in your best interests (for example, where consultation has resulted in conflicting advice).
- Unless you have expressly stated in your EPA that your attorney cannot do so, your attorney may apply to the Family Court for authorisation to sign a will for you (in a form approved by the court) if you are not *capable of making a will.*
- For matters involving the Family Court, an application to the Family Court is required. The application form can be found at the Ministry of Justice website.

# **Glossary of terms**

#### Act

The Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988. Part 9 of the Act sets out the law on EPAs.

#### Act to the benefit

In relation to a person other than the donor, give that person a profit or advantage (for example, by allowing them to live in or use the donor's house without paying rent, or by using the donor's money to pay for goods or services for them).

#### **Attorney**

A person or persons appointed by the donor to act on behalf of the donor on some or all of the donor's property affairs. This includes a successor attorney whose appointment has taken effect (unless the context makes it clear that this is not intended).

#### **Authorised witness**

A person who witnesses a donor's signature to an EPA. The signature must be witnessed by one of the following:

- a lawyer
- a legal executive who is member of, and holds a current annual registration certificate issued by, the New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives Inc, has 12 or more months' experience as a legal executive, and is employed by and supervised by a lawyer
- an authorised officer or employee of a trustee corporation.

If the attorney is a lawyer appointed in his or her capacity as a lawyer, the witness may belong to the same firm as the attorney.

If the attorney is a trustee corporation, the witness may be an officer or employee of that corporation.

In any other case, the witness must be independent of the attorney and any successor attorney named in the EPA.

The requirement that the witness must be independent of the attorney is modified where 2 people appoint each other as attorney in order to allow:

- the witnesses to belong to the same legal firm or the same trustee corporation
- the same person to witness both donors' signatures if the witness is satisfied and certifies that doing so does not constitute more than a negligible risk of conflict of interest.

# Capable of making a will

The law requires that anyone making a will must have testamentary capacity; that is, they must understand the nature and effect of what they are doing, who might have a claim to their estate, what they are disposing of, and how they are disposing of it.

## Consult

To ask for advice and give that advice proper consideration before making a decision in the donor's best interests. This includes making sure the person being asked for advice has all the information they need to base their advice on.

#### **Donor**

The person setting up the EPA giving the appointed attorney(s) authority to act for them.

#### **Ends**

An attorney's appointment under the EPA ends when any of the following events occurs:

- the donor (while mentally capable) revokes the attorney's appointment by written notice to the attorney
- the attorney gives written notice to the donor (or to the Family Court if the donor is mentally incapable) that the attorney disclaims the right to act under the EPA
- · the attorney dies or becomes bankrupt
- the attorney becomes subject to compulsory treatment or special patient status under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992
- the Family Court makes a personal or property order under the Act in respect of the attorney
- the attorney becomes unable to act (for example, because of serious illness)
- the Family Court makes an order revoking the attorney's appointment.

#### **EPA**

An enduring power of attorney in relation to property made under Part 9 of the Act (unless the context makes it clear that another kind of enduring power of attorney is intended).

#### **Medical Certificate**

A certificate given by a *relevant health practitioner* on whether the donor is mentally incapable. The certificate must contain the information required by regulations under the Act.

#### Mentally incapable

Under the Act, donors are mentally incapable in relation to property if they are not wholly competent to manage their own property affairs. Everyone is presumed to be competent to manage their property affairs until the contrary is shown, and is not to be presumed to lack competence just because the person makes imprudent decisions or is subject to compulsory treatment or has special patient status under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.

# Out-of-pocket expenses

Things that your attorney needs to pay for from their own resources in order to carry out their role, such as postage and stationery costs, bank fees, travel costs, telephone bills, and legal fees. These expenses do not include lost wages or payment for your attorney's time.

# Personal care and welfare

The donor's health, well-being, and enjoyment of life, including matters such as where the donor lives and medical treatment they may need.

#### Prescribed form

A form set out in the Protection of Personal and Property Rights (Enduring Powers of Attorney Forms and Prescribed Information) Regulations 2008.

#### **Property**

Anything the donor owns, leases, hires, or holds on hire purchase. Property includes any land or buildings, money, investments, goods, shares, stock, machinery, businesses, household effects, or items such as vehicles, boats, aircraft, and caravans, and any interest in any of those things or right in respect of them.

# Relevant health practitioner

A health practitioner in New Zealand who is authorised to make assessments of mental capacity (for example, a New Zealand general medical practitioner (GP)). In relation to a medical certificate given overseas, a registered medical practitioner in the country where the certificate is issued who is authorised to make assessments of mental capacity.

#### Revoke

To cancel (end the validity of) an EPA or an attorney's appointment:

- by sending a written notice to the attorney stating that the EPA or the appointment is revoked; or
- by an order of the Family Court.

#### Successor attorney

A person appointed by the donor to be their attorney if a previous attorney's appointment ends.

#### Suspend

The donor of an EPA who was, but is no longer, mentally incapable may suspend the attorney's authority to act by giving written notice to the attorney. The EPA is not revoked by the suspension but the attorney cannot act again unless and until a relevant health practitioner has certified, or the court has determined, that the donor is (again) mentally incapable.

### **Terminated**

An EPA is terminated by any of the following events:

- the donor (while mentally capable) revokes the EPA by written notice to the attorney
- the donor dies
- if the EPA appoints 1 attorney, the attorney's appointment ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act
- if the EPA appoints more than 1 attorney to act jointly, the appointment of any of the attorneys ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act
- if the EPA appoints more than 1 attorney to act severally, or jointly and severally, the last remaining attorney's appointment ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act.

#### **Trustee Corporation**

The Māori Trustee, Public Trust, and every trustee company within the meaning of the Trustee Companies Act 1967.

# ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY (EPA) IN RELATION TO PROPERTY

Under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988

# A My details (donor):

Full Donor Name	John Jon Doe
Address	40 Spring Street, Onehunga, Auckland, 1061, New Zealand
Email	kjfraher+johndoe@gmail.com
Phone	021 461 222

# B Current EPAs—revocation, continuance

If you have 1 or more current EPAs in relation to your property, you may choose to revoke them, or specify below that 1 or more of them will continue. If you specify that you want a current EPA to continue, you need to make sure the authority to act under the current EPA is not inconsistent with your attorney(s) authority to act under this EPA, otherwise it may not be clear what each attorney's duties are. If the EPAs relate to different things, this will not be a problem.

# Do you have any current EPAs? (select one)

No - I have no current EPA in relation to property.
Yes - I have current EPAs in relation to property and would like to keep them all.
Yes - I have current EPAs in relation to property and would like to revoke all except those specified below:

Note: If you have a current EPA that is being revoked, you should send notice to the attorney(s) named in the EPA that you have done this. Until notice is received, the attorney(s) named in the EPA can continue to act.

# **C** Attorney Details

You can appoint one or more attorneys to act for you on property matters. These can be individuals or a trustee corporation.

An attorney must be at least 20 years old and not bankrupt or mentally incapable themselves (see paragraph 2 of the notes to this form) or be a trustee corporation. (see Note 2).

# I appoint the following person(s) as my attorney(s):

Attorney 1	
Full legal name	Jane Anne Joe
Relationship to donor	Spouse
Address	40 Spring Street, Onehunga, Auckland, 1061
Email	Janedoe@email.com
Phone	+64 22 345678

# D When your EPA comes into effect

You must decide when you want your EPA to come into effect; that is, whether you want your attorney to act for you only if you become mentally incapable, or while you are mentally capable and continuing if you become mentally incapable.

# I want my EPA to come into effect: (select one)

Only if I become mentally incapable
While I am mentally capable, and continues in effect if I become mentally incapable.

# E Successor attorney details (optional)

You have the option to appoint 1 or more successor attorneys to act if your attorney's appointment ends.

If your attorneys are to act jointly (and there is no successor attorney), if one of your attorneys dies or is unable to act, your EPA will come to an end.

# Do you want to appoint 1 or more first successor attorneys? (select one)

No – go to section F
Yes - if my attorney(s) appointed in C are unable to act as authorised, I appoint as my first successor attorney(s) the person(s) named below

First Successor Attorney 1	
Full legal name	Joan Louise Doe
Relationship to donor	Sister
Address	70 Rothschild Terrace, Waiheke Island, Auckland, 1971
Email	joandoe@email.com
Phone	+64 3 365 3345

First Successor Attorney 2	
Full legal name	Patrick John Doe
Relationship to donor	Brother
Address	30 Blair Avenue, Papanui, Canterbury, 8053
Email	patrickdoe@email.com
Phone	+64 3 3232323

# Do you want to appoint one more second successor attorneys? (select one)

No – go to section F
Yes - if both my attorney(s) in C and my first successor attorney(s) are unable to act as authorised, I appoint as my second successor attorney(s) the person(s) named below

# F How your attorneys are to act

If you appoint more than 1 attorney in your EPA, you must state whether they are authorised to act:

- a. jointly where they must act together to manage your affairs and agree on all decisions
- b. severally where each attorney has a separate authority and can act individually without the agreement of the other
- c. jointly and severally where they can act together or individually
- d. not applicable you have not appointed more than one attorney.

If I have appointed more than 1 attorney, they are authorised to act: (select one)

Jointly
Severally
Jointly and severally
Not applicable
ve appointed more than 1 first successor attorney, they are authorised to select one)
select one)
Jointly

# G What your attorney(s) can act on

Do you want your attorney(s) to act for you on all your property affairs, or only on part of your property affairs?

If only on part of your property affairs, you must specify what part. You can also state any conditions or restrictions you want to place on your attorney's authority to act.

# My attorney can act on my behalf on: (select one)

	All my property affairs	
	Only the part of my property affairs I have specified:	
Property Affairs:		Bank Accounts and Home and Living Costs

# My attorney's authority to act is subject to the following conditions and restrictions: (optional)

List any conditions or restrictions. If none, you may leave the space blank or specify "None".

Conditions and Restrictions: I specifically grant authority to Pay Bills & Expenses

# H Authorising a will

If you are not capable of making a will, your attorney(s) may apply to the Family Court to get authorisation to sign a will on your behalf (in a form that the court approves). Indicate whether or not you wish to authorise this.

Unless you clearly specify otherwise, the Family Court will be able to authorise your attorney(s) to make a will for you if you are no longer capable of making one.

# Do you want the Family Court to be able to authorise your attorney(s) to make a will for you when you are no longer capable of making one? (select one)

No — I do not want my attorney(s) to be authorised to sign a will for me.
Yes — I want the Family Court to be free to authorise my attorney(s) to sign a will for me if the court thinks fit.

# Consultation (optional)

You have the option to name 1 or more people who, as far as practicable, your attorney(s) must seek advice from (consult) about your property affairs before making decisions.

Your attorney(s) can consult only on the matters you specified in section G.

You also have the option to limit the consultation requirement to your successor attorney(s).

# Do you want to name any person(s) that your attorney(s) or successor attorney(s) must consult about your property matters? (select one)

No – go to section J.
Yes — the person(s) I have named below are to be consulted about the matters I have indicated.

Person 1	
Full legal name	Peter Jack Doe
Relationship to donor	Son
Address	101 Queen Street, Auckland, Auckland, 1010
Email	jackdoe@email.com
Phone	+64 9 123 4567

# Person 1 must be consulted about: (select one)

All my property affairs for which my attorney(s) has/have authority under section G
Only the property affairs listed here:

Person 1:	is to be consulted in regards to any transactions exceeding \$5,000.	
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# The duty to consult person 1 applies to: (select one)

My attorney(s) only
Both my attorney(s) and my successor attorney(s)
My successor attorney(s) only

# J Providing information (optional)

You have the option to name 1 or more people to keep an eye on your attorneys' actions.

Your attorney(s) and/or successor attorney(s) must provide them with the information (as listed) about how they are carrying out their EPA duties.

The information is about your attorneys' decisions and actions on your property affairs (for example, a copy of the records of financial transactions that your attorney must keep).

This information must be provided straight away when requested.

Do you want to name someone to whom your attorney(s) and/or successor attorney(s) need to give information about how they are carrying out their role as your attorney(s)? (select one)

No – go to section K.
Yes – the person(s) I have named below are to be given the information I have indicated.

# K Attorney's and other benefits (optional)

You should think very carefully about what rights you want to give your attorney(s) to act for their own benefit or for the benefit of other persons when you are mentally incapable.

It is recommended you clearly state here what your attorney can or cannot do.

Unless your EPA states otherwise, your attorneys are authorised to:

- recover from your property their out-of-pocket expenses and their professional fees and expenses
- deal with any property that you and the attorney own jointly (and not as tenants in common) if you and
  an attorney are married, in a civil union, or in a de facto relationship and you live together and share your
  incomes.

Do you want to give your attorney(s) authority to use your property for their own benefit?

No – go to section M.
Yes – my attorney(s) can act to their own benefit as stated here:

Attorney's Benefits:	My attorney(s) may act to the benefit of themselves only to Recover Out of Pocket Expenses and Recover Professional Fees
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# Do you want to give your attorney(s) authority to use your property for the benefit of any other person?

No — my attorney(s) can not act to the benefit of others
Yes — my attorney(s) can act to the benefit of the following persons:

Person 1	
Full legal name	Peter Jack Doe
Relationship to donor	Son
Address	101 Queen Street, Auckland, Auckland, 1010
Email	jackdoe@email.com
Phone	+64 9 123 4567
My attorney can give Person 1 the following benefits:	My attorney may give financial gifts to assist with tertiary study and associated living expenses.

# Celebratory gifts and donations (optional)

You can authorise your attorney(s) to provide, out of your property, celebratory gifts to children and grandchildren, etc, and to make modest charitable donations.

Your attorney(s) is/are not required to make these gifts or donations and should only do so having regard to your overall financial circumstances and commitments.

Do you want your attorney(s) to use your property to provide celebratory gifts or charitable donations? (select one)

No - go to section M.
Yes - I authorise my attorney to provide out of my property celebratory gifts of not more than the following maximum value to the following people, including any that are born after the date on which this EPA was signed:

# M Additional terms and conditions (optional)

You have the option to specify additional terms and conditions of your EPA.

# My EPA is subject to the following additional terms and conditions:

Additional terms and conditions:	No additional terms and conditions.
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# N Signatures

The donor's signature must be witnessed by an authorised witness (a lawyer, a legal executive who meets certain requirements, or an authorised officer or employee of a trustee corporation).

An attorney's (or successor attorney's) signature can be witnessed by any person who is not the donor or the person who witnessed the donor's signature.

#### **Donor**

I am the donor. I appoint the attorney(s) and successor attorney(s) described in this EPA as my attorney(s) in relation to my property affairs for the purposes of Part 9 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988, the appointment of any successor attorney being conditional upon the ending of the appointment of my attorney and (if more than 1 successor attorney is described) any prior successor attorney.

Date	
Signature of donor	

# Witness for donor – must be an authorised witness – see Glossary

I confirm that I am an authorised witness, that the donor signed this EPA in my presence, and that I have completed the relevant certification (attached).

Witness signature	
Full name	
Occupation	
Address	
Attorney 1 - Jane Anne I am the attorney named in section and understood the notes about w	Joe on C of this form. I accept the appointment as attorney in this EPA. I have read what is expected of me in this role.
Signature of attorney	
Full name	Jane Anne Joe
Witness for Attorney 1 In the presence of:	
Witness signature	
Full name	
Occupation	
Address	

# First successor attorney 1 - Joan Louise Doe

I am the first successor attorney named in section E of this form. I accept the appointment as successor attorney in this EPA. I acknowledge that my appointment does not come into effect unless the appointments of all previous attorneys named above have ended. I have read and understood the notes about what is expected of me in this role.

Signature of first successor attorney	
Full name	Joan Louise Doe

# Witness for first successor attorney 1

In the presence of:

Witness signature	
Full name	
Occupation	
Address	

# First successor attorney 2 - Patrick John Doe

I am the first successor attorney named in section E of this form. I accept the appointment as successor attorney in this EPA. I acknowledge that my appointment does not come into effect unless the appointments of all previous attorneys named above have ended. I have read and understood the notes about what is expected of me in this role.

Signature of second successor attorney	
Full name	Patrick John Doe

# Witness for first successor attorney 2

In the presence of:

Witness signature	
Full name	
Occupation	
Address	

# CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS TO DONOR'S SIGNATURE ON ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY (EPA)

Section 94A(7), Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988

A	Authoris	ed witness details
Full n	ame	
Addre	ess	
Occup	pation	
В	Qualifica	tion of witness
l am: (s	elect one)	
	A lawyer holding a curre the New Zealand Law S	ent practising certificate as a barrister or as a barrister and solicitor issued by ociety.
	a legal executive:	
		or of, and who holds a current annual registration certificate issued by, The stitute of Legal Executives Incorporated, with at least 12 months' experience tive; and
		by and under the direct supervision of a lawyer holding a current practising parrister or as a barrister and solicitor issued by the New Zealand Law
An officer or employee of the following trustee corporation and am authoris witness the signatures of donors of EPAs.		of the following trustee corporation and am authorised by the corporation to of donors of EPAs.
	Name of trustee corpo	pration
С	Name of	donor in attached EPA
Dono	r's full name	

D	Mutual appointment		
Is the attached EPA 1 of 2 EPAs where 2 people appoint each other as attorney? (select one)			
1	No — go to section E.		
	Yes — the name of the other donor is set out below.		
Е	How the donor signed EPA		
The attach	ned EPA was: (select one)		
	Signed personally by the donor described in section C of this certificate — go to section F		
	Signed by the person named below in the presence of and under the direction of the donor described in section C of this certificate.		
F	Certification		
I certify the	e matters set out in paragraphs 1 to 7 below.		
1. Ident	ity		
I am the p	erson described in sections A and B of this certificate.		
2. How	EPA was signed		
I witnesse	d: (select one)		
	The signature of the donor described in section C of this certificate.		
	The signature of the person described in section E of this certificate in the presence of and at the direction of the donor described in section C of this certificate.		

# 3. Independence or exceptions

Select all of the following that apply:

Exception - section 94A(8)(b) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988		
I am a lawyer in the same firm as the person named below (the appointed lawyer), who is appointed in his or her capacity as a lawyer as an attorney or successor attorney in the attached EPA.		
Name of appointed lawyer		
I am a legal executive who meets the requirements of section 94A(9) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 and is in the same firm as the person named below (the appointed lawyer), who is appointed, in his or her capacity as a lawyer, as an attorney or a successor attorney in the attached EPA (see section 94A(8)(b) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988).		
Name of appointed lawyer		
Exception - section 94A(8)(a) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988		
I am an officer or employee of the trustee corporation described in section B of this certificate that is appointed as attorney or successor attorney in the EPA and am authorised by the corporation to witness the donor's signature.		
Independence (without needing to rely on any special rule)		
I am independent of each of the attorneys, including successor attorneys, named in the attached EPA, without any need to depend on the special rules in subsection 94A(4A) (concerning independence in certain situations where 2 people appoint each other as attorney).		

	Independence (relying on special rules)		
	I am a witness in a context where 2 people have appointed each other as attorney and rely on one of the special rules in section 94A(4A) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 to be considered independent. I am independent: (select one)		
	Section 94A(4A)(a) of Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988		
	Even though I am a lawyer in the same firm as the witness to the signature of the other donor described in section D of this certificate.		
	Even though I am a legal executive in the same firm as the witness to the signature of the other donor described in section D of this certificate.		
	Even though I am an officer or employee of the same trustee corporation as the witness to the signature of the other donor described in section D of this certificate.		
	Section 94A(4A)(b) of Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988		
	Even though I have also witnessed the signature of the other donor described in section D of this certificate, because I am satisfied, having regard to the matters in section 94A(7)(a) to (c) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988, that no more than a negligible risk of conflict of interest arises.		
Indep	endence from other attorneys and successor attorneys		
	Even though I have relied on an exception or special rule in relation to 1 attorney or successor attorney named in the attached EPA, I am independent of every other attorney or successor attorney named in the attached EPA.		
4. Exp	lanation of effects and implications		
Before t	ne donor signed the attached EPA, I: (select one)		
	Explained the effects and implications of the enduring power of attorney to the donor		
	Gave the donor a copy of the prescribed form of standard explanation of the effects and implications of an enduring power of attorney, followed the instructions in the form for giving a verbal explanation to the donor, and explained to the donor any effects and implications not covered by the standard explanation and instructions.		

#### 5. Advice

Before the donor signed the EPA, I advised the donor of:

- the matters referred to in the notes to the prescribed form of enduring power of attorney; and
- the donor's right to revoke the entire EPA, to revoke the appointment of any attorney or successor attorney, or to suspend the attorney's authority to act under the EPA.

Select the following statement if the EPA is in relation to property:



I also advised the donor of:

- the donor's right to appoint more than 1 attorney, or a trustee corporation, as attorney; and
- the donor's right to stipulate whether and, if so, how the attorney's dealings with the donor's property are to be monitored.

# 6. Donor's understanding

I believe on reasonable grounds that the donor:

- understands the nature of the instrument creating the enduring power of attorney; and
- understands the potential risks and consequences of the instrument; and
- is not acting under undue pressure or duress.

# 7. Capacity of donor

I have no reason to suspect the donor was or may have been mentally incapable at the time the donor signed the instrument.

G	Signatur	<b>e</b>
Signature		
Date		

# Standard explanation of effects and implications of an enduring power of attorney in relation to property

Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988

#### **About this document:**

This document is intended for a witness to an enduring power of attorney (**EPA**) in relation to **property** to use with a person who is considering creating such an EPA. It has 3 parts, entitled as follows:

- Standard explanation of effects and implications of EPA
- Instructions for authorised witness
- Glossary of terms.

The witness should refer first to the second part, entitled "Instructions for authorised witness". See the third part, entitled "Glossary of terms", for the meanings of words and expressions in **bold italics** in this document.

# Standard explanation of effects and implications of EPA

#### What does it mean to have an EPA?

Your EPA authorises the person (or people) you name as your **attorney** to make decisions on your behalf about your property affairs.

There are various options that you can have in your EPA. For example, if you appoint more than 1 attorney, you can say whether they must act together (jointly) or can act separately (severally). You can also appoint **successor attorneys**, cancel (**revoke**) previous EPAs, determine the extent of your attorney's authority to act, and say who they must consult. See sections B to M of the EPA form for these options.

Your attorney can make decisions only on the property matters you specify in the EPA. Your attorney has to follow any conditions and restrictions in your EPA and in the **Act** 

Unlike an ordinary power of attorney, an EPA stays in force if you become *mentally incapable* and your attorney's decisions apply as if you made them.

#### When does your EPA take effect?

You can choose whether your EPA comes into effect while you are still mentally capable or only if you become mentally incapable.

If you choose to have your EPA take effect while you are still mentally capable, it will remain in effect if you later become mentally incapable.

If you choose to have your EPA take effect only if you become mentally incapable, your attorney can act only if a *relevant health practitioner* has issued a *medical certificate* stating that you are mentally incapable or if the *court* has decided that you are mentally incapable.

Anyone can rely on decisions or actions made by your attorney if they are dealing with your attorney in good faith and do not know that the EPA has been **terminated**, the attorney's appointment has **ended**, or the attorney's authority to act has been **suspended**. Your attorney can give people who are dealing with them a certificate stating that they have not received any notice that the EPA is terminated, their

appointment is ended, or their authority to act is suspended.

### What are your attorney's responsibilities?

If you are mentally incapable, the overriding consideration of your attorney is to use your property to promote and protect your best interests.

Your attorney must encourage you to develop your own competence to act on your own behalf as much as you possibly can.

If you have a separate EPA for your **personal care and welfare**, your attorney must provide your personal care and welfare attorney with any financial support (from your property) that that attorney requires to carry out their duties in relation to your personal care and welfare (subject to any conditions in your EPA or any direction of the court).

Your attorney must keep records of each financial transaction the attorney enters into under your EPA while you are mentally incapable. If any application under the Act is made to the court concerning you or your EPA, your attorney must supply those records to the lawyer appointed by the court to represent your interests.

Your attorney must follow any court orders under the Act that relate to your EPA and any personal order or property order under the Act, even if there is a conflict between the order and your EPA.

### Is there anything your attorney cannot do?

Yes. There are some things that the law says can only be done personally (for example, making an oath or a declaration). No one can do these things on your behalf.

Your attorney is also restricted by any conditions and restrictions that you specify in your EPA.

To avoid a conflict of interest between your attorney's duties under the EPA and their own interests, or the interests of someone close to them, an attorney cannot take any action to benefit themselves or other people while you are mentally incapable, unless:

- your EPA specifies that the action can be taken; or
- the court authorises the action.

However, unless your EPA specifically states otherwise, your attorney can:

- deal with property they own jointly with you (if your attorney is your spouse or civil union or de facto partner and you share your incomes)
- reimburse, out of your property, their own out-of-pocket expenses that have been reasonably incurred
- receive from your property reasonable professional fees and expenses, if your attorney was appointed as a professional person (for example, a lawyer or an accountant) or did professional work to give effect to your attorney's decisions
- make loans, advances, and investments of your property that a trustee could make in relation to trust property.

#### Who does your attorney need to consult?

When acting under the EPA, your attorney must, as far as is practicable, seek advice from you and from anyone named in your EPA as someone who must be **consulted** 

(either on all matters or on the specific matters you have stated in your EPA).

If you have appointed someone else to be your attorney for your personal care and welfare, your attorneys must regularly consult each other to ensure that your interests are not disadvantaged by any breakdown in communication between them. Your property attorney should provide your personal care and welfare attorney with any financial support (out of your property) needed for your personal care and welfare.

Your attorney must also consult any other attorney you have appointed under any other EPA that continues in effect, except a successor attorney whose appointment has not yet taken effect.

Your attorney may follow any advice received in consultation, provided that they act in good faith and with reasonable care. Your attorney has the option to apply to the court for *directions* if the attorney receives conflicting advice from consultation.

# Your attorney's actions can be supervised

You can name a person or people in your EPA to oversee your attorney's actions and state what information about the exercise of your attorney's powers is to be given to them. Your attorney must promptly give this information to them when they ask for it.

## Your attorney's actions can be challenged

Some people have the automatic right to apply to the court to review any decision your attorney makes while acting under your EPA.

These people include:

- you
- any *relative* of yours
- medical practitioners
- the manager of any hospital, rest home, or residential care facility you are receiving care in
- a person from a government-funded abuse and neglect prevention service
- a social worker.

Any other person can apply to the court to review your attorney's decisions, but they need the permission (leave) of the court to do so.

An application for review of your attorney's decisions can be made at any time, including after the EPA has ceased to have effect. If an application for review is made, you will need a lawyer to represent you. The court will appoint a lawyer to act for you if you do not already have one.

The court can make any order it thinks fit.

#### What other powers does the court have in respect of the EPA?

Your attorney has the option to apply to the court at any time for directions about how the attorney should use their powers.

The court can also decide whether your EPA is valid and whether you are mentally incapable.

If you have become mentally incapable, the court can also:

- decide the meaning or effect of your EPA, if it is unclear
- decide if your EPA has ceased to have effect
- give directions about:
  - o the management and disposal of your property and affairs
  - the providing of accounts and producing of records by your attorney
  - o your attorney's remuneration and expenses
  - o any other matter on which directions are sought
- modify the scope of your EPA by including or excluding a part of your property or any powers
- require your attorney to provide any information they hold as your attorney
- give any consent or authorisation on your behalf
- authorise your attorney to act to the benefit of your attorney or persons other than you, but subject to any conditions or restrictions in your EPA
- authorise your attorney to make any loan or advance of your property, subject to any conditions or restrictions in your EPA
- decide if the EPA was obtained by fraud or *undue influence*
- decide if your attorney is suitable to be your attorney
- unless your EPA states otherwise, authorise your attorney to execute a will for you (in a form approved by the court)
- **revoke** your attorney's appointment, especially if they are not complying with their obligations to act in your best interests, consult, or provide information. If the court decides that your EPA was obtained by fraud or undue influence or that your attorney is not suitable, it must revoke your attorney's appointment.

# How can you suspend your attorney's power to act?

If you were mentally incapable but recover your mental capacity, you can suspend your attorney's authority to act by giving written notice to your attorney.

Once your attorney's appointment is suspended, the attorney may not act again until you are certified or declared mentally incapable again (see "When does your EPA take effect?").

Suspending your attorney's authority to act does not revoke your EPA.

#### How long may an attorney act under an EPA?

Once your EPA has come into effect, it remains in place until your attorney receives notice that the EPA is terminated, their appointment is ended, or their authority to act is suspended.

Anything your attorney does in accordance with the EPA and in good faith before receiving such a notice still has effect.

If your EPA appoints a successor attorney, they will become your new attorney for all purposes if your attorney's appointment ends, whether your EPA has already taken effect or not. The successor attorney has the same authority to act as your attorney had. If you have appointed a second successor attorney, they will become your attorney only after the appointments of 2 of your previous attorneys have ended.

# Validity of your EPA and transactions

Even if your EPA is invalid because of a failure to meet any of the requirements of the Act relating to its creation, anything done by your attorney in good faith with no knowledge of the failure is valid. Any transaction entered into by your attorney is also valid if the other party entered it in good faith with no knowledge of the failure.

# **Implications of your EPA**

Your EPA gives your attorney complete control over the property matters stated in it, subject only to conditions and restrictions you have set, the requirements to consult and the powers of the court to review your attorney's actions. If you are unsatisfied with the actions of your attorney acting under an EPA, and you are mentally capable, you may revoke their appointment. However, you will be unable to do so if you become mentally incapable. That is why you need to trust the person (or people) you choose as your attorney to act in your best interests.

#### Instructions for authorised witness

This form will help you explain the effects and implications of an EPA in relation to property to a *donor* before witnessing the donor's signature. You may give the explanation required by section 94A(6) of the Act by giving this form to the donor and following the instructions below. This explanation should be read in conjunction with the glossary of terms.

You must be one of the persons mentioned below to be authorised to witness an EPA. You may also need to be independent of the attorney and each successor attorney appointed by the EPA (see the definition of authorised witness in the glossary of terms). The persons who may witness an EPA are:

- a lawyer
- an officer or employee of a **trustee corporation** authorised by the corporation for the purpose
- a legal executive who is a member of and holds a current registration certificate issued by The New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives Incorporated, has at least 12 months' experience as a legal executive, and is employed by and under the direct supervision of a lawyer.

Take the donor through these notes and tailor your explanation to their individual needs and circumstances. You will also need to explain the effect of any aspect of the EPA that is not covered in the standard explanation.

Ask the donor whether they already have an EPA (a previous EPA). If they do, ask them if they want to cancel it under section B of the form. If they do, ensure that the attorney (and any successor attorney) named in the previous EPA is notified that it is revoked. Until they receive a notice of revocation, an attorney under a previous EPA may continue to act (see section 103C of the Act). However, even after the donor is mentally incapable, notice of revocation can be given by providing the attorney under the previous EPA with a copy of the new EPA in which section B specifies the previous EPA is revoked (see section 95A(2) of the Act).

You must certify that, before the donor signed the EPA, you:

- explained the effects of the EPA using these notes; and
- advised the donor of the matters referred to in the notes to the EPA form; and
- advised the donor of the donor's right to suspend or revoke the EPA; and
- have no reason to suspect the donor may be mentally incapable.

You must also certify that you believe on reasonable grounds that the donor understands the nature of the instrument, understands the potential risks and consequences of the instrument, and is not acting under undue pressure or duress.

A copy of this standard explanation should be given to the donor along with a copy of the signed EPA.

**Note:** If you have any reason to suspect that the donor may be mentally incapable, you should not witness the donor's EPA. You should refer the donor to a relevant health practitioner for an assessment of whether he or she is mentally capable of setting up an EPA.

# **Glossary of terms**

Act	The Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988. Part 9 of the Act sets out the law on EPAs.
Attorney	A person or persons appointed by you to act on your behalf on some or all of your property affairs. This includes a successor attorney whose appointment has taken effect (unless the context makes it clear that this is not intended).
Authorised witness	A person who witnesses the donor's signature to an EPA. The witness must be one of the following:
	a lawyer
	a legal executive who is a member of, and holds a current annual registration certificate issued by, The New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives Incorporated, has 12 or more months' experience as a legal executive, and is employed by and supervised by a lawyer
	an authorised officer or employee of a trustee corporation.
	If the attorney is a lawyer appointed in his or her capacity as a lawyer, the witness may belong to the same firm as the attorney.
	If the attorney is a trustee corporation, the witness may be an officer or employee of that corporation.
	In any other case, the witness must be independent of the attorney and any successor attorney named in the EPA.
	The requirement that the witness must be independent of the attorney is modified where 2 people appoint each other as attorney in order to allow:
	the witnesses to belong to the same legal firm or the same trustee corporation
	<ul> <li>the same person to witness both donors' signatures if the witness is satisfied and certifies that doing so does not constitute more than a negligible risk of conflict of interest.</li> </ul>
Consult	To ask for advice and give that advice proper consideration before making a decision. This includes making sure the person being asked for advice has all the information they need to base their advice on.
Court	The Family Court.
Directions	Instructions to your attorney.
Donor	The person setting up the EPA giving the appointed attorney(s) authority to act for them.

Enda	An attenuary appointment and as the EDA and a sub-
Ends	An attorney's appointment under the EPA ends when any of the following events occurs:
	the donor (while mentally capable) revokes the attorney's appointment by written notice to the attorney
	the attorney gives written notice to the donor (or to the Family Court if the donor is mentally incapable) that the attorney disclaims the right to act under the EPA
	the attorney dies or becomes bankrupt
	the attorney becomes subject to compulsory treatment or special patient status under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992
	the Family Court makes a personal or property order under the Act in respect of the attorney
	the attorney becomes unable to act (for example, because of serious illness)
	the Family Court makes an order revoking the attorney's appointment.
EPA	An enduring power of attorney in relation to property made under Part 9 of the Act (unless the context makes it clear that another kind of enduring power of attorney is intended).
Medical certificate	A certificate given by a relevant health practitioner on whether the donor is mentally incapable. The certificate must contain the information required by regulations under the Act.
Mentally incapable	Under the Act, you are mentally incapable in relation to your property if you are not wholly competent to manage your own affairs in relation to your property.
	Everyone is presumed to be competent to manage their property affairs until the contrary is shown, and is not to be presumed to lack competence just because the person makes imprudent decisions or is subject to compulsory treatment or has special patient status under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.
Out-of-pocket expenses	Things that your attorney needs to pay for from their own resources in order to carry out their role, such as postage and stationery costs, bank fees, travel costs, telephone bills, and legal fees. These expenses do not include lost wages or payment for your attorney's time.
Personal care and welfare	Your health, well-being, and enjoyment of life, including matters such as where you live and medical treatment you receive.
Property	Anything you own, lease, hire, or hold on hire purchase. Property includes any land or buildings, money, investments, goods, shares, stock, machinery, businesses,

	household effects, or items such as vehicles, boats, aircraft, and caravans, and any interest in them or right in respect of them.
Relative	A relative of yours includes your spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner and your or their:
	parent or grandparent
	child or grandchild
	brother or sister, whether of full-blood or half-blood
	aunt or uncle
	nephew or niece.
Relevant health practitioner	A health practitioner in New Zealand who is authorised to make assessments of mental capacity (for example, a New Zealand general medical practitioner (GP)). In relation to a medical certificate given overseas, a registered medical practitioner in the country where the certificate is issued who is authorised to make assessments of mental capacity.
Revoke	To cancel (end the validity of) an EPA or an attorney's appointment by:
	sending a written notice to the attorney stating that the EPA or the appointment is revoked
	an order of the court.
Successor attorney	A person appointed by the donor to be their attorney if a previous attorney's appointment ends.
Suspend	The donor of an EPA who was, but is no longer, mentally incapable may suspend the attorney's authority to act by giving written notice to the attorney. The EPA is not revoked by the suspension but the attorney cannot act again unless and until a relevant health practitioner has certified, or the court has determined, that the donor is (again) mentally incapable.
Terminated	An EPA is terminated by any of the following events:
	the donor (while mentally capable) revokes the EPA by written notice to the attorney
	the donor dies
	if the EPA appoints 1 attorney, the attorney's appointment ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act
	if the EPA appoints more than 1 attorney to act jointly, the appointment of any of the attorneys ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act
	• if the EPA appoints more than 1 attorney with several authority or with joint and several authority, the last remaining attorney's appointment ends, and there is no successor attorney who can act.

Trustee Corporation	The Māori Trustee, Public Trust, and every trustee company within the meaning of the Trustee Companies Act 1967.
Undue influence	When one person takes advantage of their power over another person to the disadvantage of the other person.