# GENERAL DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY OF FILED FOR RECORD

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ARTICLE I
DESIGNATION OF AGENT LE W. CARTER
RECORDER

I, VERNAMAE ELIZABETH SOTAK of Lake County, State of Indiana, being a mentally and competent adult, do hereby designate and appoint my husband, JOSEPH JOHN SOTAK, of Lake County, State of Indiana, as my true and lawful Attorney-in-Fact, hereinafter sometimes referred to as my Agent, giving my Agent full authority and power to make financial, asset management, and personal decisions for me in my name, place, and stead as authorized in this document.

If my Attorney-in-Fact as hereinabove designated and appointed should die, become mentally or physically incapacitated, resign, refuse to act, become unavailable, or become legally separated or divorced from me (in the event my said Agent is my spouse), I then and do hereby designate and appoint EMILY HUIZENGA of San Diego County, State of California as my successor Attorney-in-Fact.

### ARTICLE II REVOCATION OF PRIOR POWERS

I hereby revoke all powers of attorney, general or limited, heretofore granted by me as principal and terminate all agency relationships created under any such prior powers, including those of all successor agents named or contemplated therein, if any.

## GENERAL ASSET AND FINANCIAL POWERS

My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized, in his sole and absolute discretion from time to time and at any time, with respect to any and all of my property and interests in property, real, personal, and mixed and matters affecting my financial interests by way of illustration and not intending any limitation, to do or perform the following:

- 1. Purchase, sell, mortgage, grant easements, convey, and lease any interest in real estate, wherever located, of which I may be the owner or have an ownership interest, now or hereafter; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-2.
- 2. Bargain for, contract concerning, buy, sell, encumber, and in any way and manner deal with my personal property for my support and the support of those persons to whom I owe an obligation of support; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-3.
- 3. Purchase, sell, dispose of, assign, and pledge notes, stocks, bonds, and securities and to exercise such voting rights as my ownership of any notes, stocks, bonds, and securities may entitle me, either in person or by proxy, and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-4.

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- 4. Make, draw, and endorse promissory notes, checks, bills of exchange, or other negotiable instruments to which I may be entitled under the Uniform Commercial Code and to exercise any right with regard to the same including the right to waive demand, presentment, protest, notice of protest, and notice of nonpayment of all such instruments as well as the right to make deposits to and withdrawals from and to invest, reinvest, or renew any of my deposited checking, savings, certificate of deposits, or other accounts of whatever nature or wherever retained or deposited; to establish new or close out existing accounts of any nature pertaining to my funds and money; to utilize and expend any of my money from any such accounts, or if necessary to utilize my assets in the event my liquid funds are depleted or not readily available, for the payment of my just and lawful debts and bills, including the right to utilize my credit cards and charge accounts, in a manner that will best serve my financial interests according to the sole and absolute discretion of my said Attorney-in-Fact; to enter any lock box or safe deposit box in my name, and perform all banking activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-5.
- 5. Discharge and perform any duty or liability, right, power, or privilege that the principal has under a partnership agreement; or take any action with regard to a sole proprietorship owned by the principal; and perform all actions granted under IC § 30-5-5-6.
- 6. Purchase, maintain, surrender, collect, or cancel: (a) life insurance or annuities of any kind on my life or the life of any one in whom I have an insurable interest; (b) liability insurance protecting me and my estate against third party claims; (c) hospital insurance, medical insurance, Medicare supplement insurance, custodial care insurance, and disability income insurance for me or any of my dependents; and (d) casualty insurance insuring assets of mine against loss or damage due to fire, theft, or other commonly insured risk; to pay all insurance premiums, to select any options under such policies, to increase coverage under any such policy, to borrow against any such policy, to pursue all insurance claims on my behalf, to adjust insurance losses, and the foregoing powers shall apply to private and public plans, including but not limited to Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and Worker's Compensation; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-7.
- 7. Represent and act for the principal in all matters affecting a trust, a probate, an estate, a guardianship, a custodianship, an escrow, or other fund out of which the principal is entitled or claims to be entitled as a beneficiary, and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-8.
- 8. Make gifts to organizations and individuals on behalf of the principal and perform any other activities in accord with the provisions of IC § 30-5-5-9.
- 9. Represent and act for the principal in all ways and in all matters affecting a fund in which the principal is a fiduciary and apply for and procure in the name of the principal letters of administration, letters testamentary, letters of guardianship, or any other type of judicial or administrative authority to act as a fiduciary; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-10.

- 10. Institute, supervise, prosecute, defend, represent me in, intervene in, abandon, compromise, arbitrate, settle, dismiss, and appeal from any and all legal, equitable, judicial, or administrative hearings, actions, suits, proceedings, attachments, arrests, decedent, or guardianship estate matters, for the protection of my personal or financial interests involving me in any way, including, but not limited to, matters or proceedings with respect to claims by or against me arising out of property damages or personal injuries suffered or caused by me or under such circumstances that the loss resulting therefrom will or may be imposed on me and otherwise engage in litigation involving me, my property, or any interest of mine, including any property or interest or person for which or whom I have or may have any responsibility; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-11.
- 11. Perform acts necessary for maintaining the customary standard of living of the principal's spouse, children, and other persons customarily supported by the principal; and perform all activities granted under IC § 30-5-5-12.
- 12. Execute vouchers in the name of the principal for allowances and reimbursements payable by the United States, a state, or a subdivision of a state to the principal; and perform all actions granted under IC § 30-5-5-13.
- 13. Keep records, hire and discharge accountants and attorneys, represent the principal in all matters of taxation involving the federal government, the government of any state or any local governmental unit, and to prepare, sign and file any documents or forms that may be required in any such tax matters; including my state and Federal Income Tax Returns, and to receive and respond to any correspondence from these taxing agencies; and perform all actions granted under IC § 30-5-5-14.
- 14. Accept, renounce, or claim a legacy, bequest, devise, gift, or other property on behalf of the principal; establish a revocable trust for the benefit of the principal; and perform all actions granted under IC § 30-5-5-15.
- 15. Employ or contract with all types of health care providers on the principal's behalf; consent to or refuse health care for the principal in accordance with IC §§ 16-8-11-1 et seq. and 16-8-12-1 et seq.; and perform all actions granted under IC §§ 30-5-5-16 and 30-5-5-17.
- 16. To delegate authority to one (1) or more persons of any or all powers given my Attorney-in-Fact in accord with the provisions of IC § 30-5-5-18.
- 17. To act as an alter ego of the principal with respect to all possible matters and affairs affecting the property owned by the principal that the principal can perform through an Attorney-in-Fact in accord with the provisions of IC § 30-5-5-19.

All the powers granted an Attorney-in-Fact under IC § 30-5-5-2 to 30-5-5-19 are granted to JOSEPH JOHN SOTAK, my Attorney-in-Fact, or his successor under this document.

#### ARTICLE IV PERSONAL CARE POWERS

I have executed today a Designation of Health Care Representative, appointing my husband, JOSEPH JOHN SOTAK, as my Health Care Representative, and my daughter, EMILY HUIZENGA, as my Alternate Health Care Representative. My Attorney-in-fact is authorized to:

- 1. Do all acts necessary for maintaining my customary standard of living; to provide living quarters by purchase, lease, or other arrangement, or by payment of the operating costs of my existing living quarters, including interest, amortization payments, repairs, and taxes; to provide normal domestic help for the operation of my household; to provide clothing, transportation, medicine, food, and incidentals; and, if necessary, to make all necessary arrangements, contractual or otherwise, for me at any hospital, hospice, nursing home, convalescent home, or similar establishment, or in my own residence should I desire it and to assure that all of my essential needs are provided for at such a facility or in my own residence. as the case may be; and if in the judgment of my Attorney-in-fact I will never be able to return to my living quarters from a hospital, hospice, nursing home, convalescent home, or similar establishment, to lease, sublease, or assign my interest as lessee in any lease or protect or sell or otherwise dispose of my living quarters (investing the proceeds of any such sale as my Attorney-in-Fact deems appropriate) for such price and upon such terms, conditions, and security, if any, as my Attorney-in-Fact shall deem appropriate; and to store and safeguard or sell for such price and upon such terms, conditions, and security, if any, as my Attorney-in-Fact shall deem appropriate, or otherwise dispose of any items of tangible personal property remaining in my living quarters which my Attorney-in-Fact believes I will never need again (and pay all costs thereof); and as an alternative to such storage and safeguarding, to transfer custody and possession (but not title) for such storage and safekeeping of any such tangible personal property of mine to the person, if any, named in my will as the recipient of such property;
- 2. Provide opportunities for me to engage in recreational and sports activities, including travel, as my health permits;
- 3. Provide for the presence and involvement of religious clergy or spiritual leaders in my care, provide them access to me at all times, maintain my memberships in religious or spiritual organizations or arrange for membership in such groups, and enhance my opportunities to derive comfort and spiritual satisfaction from such activities, including religious books, tapes, and other materials; all in the same or similar manner to which I have been accustomed or as determined by my Attorney-in-Fact to be appropriate;
- 4. Provide for such companionship for me as will meet my needs and preferences at a time when I am disabled or otherwise unable to arrange for such companionship myself; and

- 5. Make advance arrangements for my funeral and burial, including the purchase of a burial plot and marker, and such other related arrangements as my Attorney-in-Fact shall deem appropriate, including the right to establish a prepaid irrevocable funeral trust that will qualify as an "exempt resource" for Medicaid purposes if I have not previously done so or made any advance funeral arrangements myself.
  - 6. Carry out all the provisions of my Health Care Representative Designation.

### ARTICLE V PROVISION APPLICABLE TO ARTICLE III

With respect to Article III (general asset and financial powers), it is to be understood that the authority I have conferred to my Attorney-in-Fact in no way is intended to limit or restrict my own authority or decision making capabilities covering such powers and authority as long as I remain mentally competent.

FURTHERMORE, THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY AND THE AUTHORITY I HAVE CONFERRED AND SPECIFIED UNDER ARTICLE III ABOVE SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS I MAY HEREINAFTER REVOKE THE SAME IN WRITING, PROVIDED FURTHER THAT THE SAME SHALL NOT BE AFFECTED BY MY SUBSEQUENT DISABILITY, INCOMPETENCE, OR LAPSE OF TIME.

#### ARTICLE VI THIRD-PARTY RELIANCE

No person who relies in good faith upon any representations by or authority of my Attorney-in-Fact shall be liable to me, my estate, my heirs or assigns for recognizing such representations or authority.

#### ARTICLE VII EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION

This power of attorney shall become effective upon my incapacity and disability wherein I am no longer able to personally handle my financial and business affairs or take care of my personal needs. I direct the named Attorney-in-Fact to secure a medical statement from my doctor with regard to my condition prior to assuming his authority under this document.

#### ARTICLE VIII NOMINATION OF GUARDIAN

In the event a judicial proceeding is brought to establish a guardianship over my person or property, I hereby nominate my Attorney-in-Fact, JOSEPH JOHN SOTAK, hereinabove designated and appointed, to be my guardian. In the event that he dies, resigns, or is unable to serve, then I nominate EMILY HUIZENGA as my alternate guardian.

### ARTICLE IX MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 1. This durable power of attorney is intended to be valid and given full faith and credit in any jurisdiction or state in which it is presented.
- 2. My Attorney-in-Fact shall not be entitled to any compensation for services performed hereunder, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for all reasonable expenses incurred and paid, including transportation costs, as a result of carrying out any provisions of this instrument.
- 3. My Attorney-in-Fact, including her heirs, legatees, successors, assigns, personal representatives, and estate, acting in good faith hereunder, is hereby released and forever discharged from any and all liability (including civil, criminal, administrative, or disciplinary) and from all claims or demands of all kinds whatsoever by me or my heirs, legatees, successors, assigns, personal representatives, or estate arising out of the acts or omissions of my Attorney-in-Fact, except for willful misconduct or gross negligence.
- 4. My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to make photocopies of this instrument as frequently and in such quantity as she shall deem appropriate. Each photocopy shall have the same force and effect as any original.
- 5. If any part or provision of this instrument shall be invalid or unenforceable, such part or provision shall be ineffective to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability only, without affecting the remaining parts or provisions of this instrument in any way.
- 6. This instrument, and actions taken by my Attorney-in-Fact properly authorized hereunder, shall be binding upon me, my heirs, successors, assigns, legatees, guardians, and personal representatives.

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STATE OF INDIANA )
COUNTY OF LAKE ) SS:

Before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Vernamae Elizabeth Sotak, who acknowledged the execution of the foregoing General Durable Power of Attorney this 400 day of October, 1999 My Commission Expires:

Notary Public, Resident of Lake County

This General Durable Power of Attorney was prepared by Laura Navta Bergmann, Attorney-at-Law, #9579-98, 1522-119th Street, Whiting, IN 46394 (219) 659-3505