

GENERAL DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY OF BRYANT DOUGLAS HICKMAN

Prepared By and Return To:

Elizabeth W. Murphy
Kelly & West Attorneys
900 South Main Street, Lillington, North Carolina 27546-

I, Bryant Douglas Hickman, of 250 Tom Myers Road, Lillington, North Carolina 27546, (for the purpose of recordation "Grantor"), do hereby appoint my Wife, **Patricia Ann Hickman**, of 250 Tom Myers Road, Lillington, North Carolina 27546, **Tricia Karen Kirk Patterson**, of 5555 Hallwood Drive, Hope Mills, North Carolina 28348, and **William Lee Patterson**, of 5555 Hallwood Drive, Hope Mills, North Carolina 28348, to serve as my Attorneys-in-Fact (each of whom is individually referred to herein as my "Attorney-in-Fact" and for the purpose of recordation each Attorney-in-Fact is a "Grantee") under this general power of attorney. Any of my Attorneys-in-Fact may exercise the powers and discretions set forth below alone and without the approval or consent of any other Attorney-in-Fact named herein. The affidavit or certificate under penalty of perjury of any of my Attorneys-in-Fact shall be conclusive evidence insofar as third parties are concerned that any act of such Attorney-in-Fact has been authorized by the unanimous consent of all of my Attorneys-in-Fact. If any of my Attorneys-in-Fact shall die, resign, or be disabled, then I authorize the remaining Attorneys-in-Fact to exercise the powers and discretions set forth below. The affidavit or certificate under penalty of perjury of the remaining Attorneys-in-Fact shall be conclusive evidence insofar as a third person is concerned that the other Attorney-in-Fact has died, resigned, or is disabled. If every Attorney-in-Fact named above dies, resigns or is unable to act, then I appoint **Kathern Elaine Hickman Block**, of 809 Rudolph Street,

herein to my "Attorney-in-Fact" shall refer to my "successor Attorney-in-Fact" and for the purpose of recordation each successor Agent is a "Grantee").

ARTICLE I
EFFECTIVE DATE; DURABILITY

This power of attorney is immediately effective and shall be considered a General Durable Power of Attorney executed pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 32C of the General Statutes of North Carolina. This power of attorney (and my Attorney-in-Fact's authority) shall not be affected by my subsequent incapacity or mental incompetence.

ARTICLE II
FINANCIAL AND PROPERTY POWERS

I hereby confer upon my Attorney-in-Fact full and complete authority to exercise the following powers on my behalf:

A. **Demand and Receive.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to demand, collect, receive, or make such other appropriate disposition, as my Attorney-in-Fact deems appropriate, of all cash, rights to payment, debts, accounts or benefits to which I am entitled. My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to utilize all lawful means and methods to collect such assets, benefits or rights. My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to compromise claims and grant discharges in regard to the matters described herein.

B. **Claims.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to satisfy, or reject and defend against, claims that may be asserted against me, or against any of my property or interests, or, in my Attorney-in-Fact's discretion, to arbitrate, settle or compromise such claims.

C. **Bank and Financial Accounts.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to establish accounts of all kinds for me with any financial institution, including, but not limited to, banks and brokerage firms; to make deposits to and to make withdrawals from all accounts in my name or with respect to which I hold the right to withdraw assets; to execute and deliver any instruments or checks with respect to such accounts; and to contract for any services rendered by any financial institution.

authorized to sell or lease all or any part or parts of my real or personal estate or any interest that I may have in any real or personal estate, wherever situated, upon such terms as my Attorney-in-Fact may deem appropriate. My Attorney-in-Fact is further authorized to execute and deliver on my behalf any deeds, leases and conveyances thereof, with all necessary covenants, warranties and assurances, and to sign, seal, acknowledge and deliver the same. My Attorney-in-Fact is further authorized to buy any real or personal property on my behalf on such terms and conditions as my Attorney-in-Fact shall deem appropriate. I additionally authorize my Attorney-in-Fact to engage in such transactions concerning such real and personal property, including partial interests in such property, with him or herself on such terms as my Attorney-in-Fact deems appropriate. This power shall extend to all interests in real property, including but not limited to improvements thereon, condominiums, time share interests, interval ownership, undeveloped real property and to any interests in cooperative apartments (including all right, title and interest in any proprietary lease and any and all shares of stock or other interest in the landlord corporation).

J. **Investments.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to buy or sell stocks, bonds, Treasury securities, or other investments on my behalf. This includes purchasing, redeeming, or retitling U.S. Savings Bonds to include payable on death and designation of beneficiary. My Attorney-in-Fact shall not be required to comply with the "prudent investor" rule. I expressly authorize my Attorney-in-Fact to retain any asset purchased or acquired by me. My Attorney-in-Fact is further authorized to hire, compensate and fire investment advisors on my behalf.

K. **Safe Deposit Boxes.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized to enter any safe deposit box leased in my name, in my name jointly with others or in which I otherwise have the right to enter. My Attorney-in-Fact is further authorized to remove or add to its contents.

L. **Insurance.** My Attorney-in-Fact is authorized as follows:

1. To purchase, maintain, or terminate any (a) life insurance or annuities, (b) liability insurance, (c) hospital insurance, medical insurance, Medicare supplement insurance, long term care insurance, and disability income insurance, or (d) casualty insurance on my behalf or on behalf of any of my dependents;

2. To pay all insurance premiums for such policies, to select any options under such policies, to increase or decrease coverage under any such policy, or to borrow against any such policy;