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How to Get a Certified Copy of Your Power of Attorney

Certified by a California Notary Public (Probate Code Section 4307)

INSTRUCTIONS — KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS. DO NOT ATTACH THIS PAGE TO YOUR CERTIFIED COPY OF POWER OF ATTORNEY.

About this service. Banks, brokerages, and other institutions often want to keep a copy of a power of attorney. Instead of handing over your original, you can give them a **certified copy**. Under California law, a copy certified by a California notary public has **the same force and effect as the original**. A power of attorney is one of the few documents a California notary may certify a copy of directly.

1. **Bring the original power of attorney**
   The notary must examine the **original** — a copy of a copy cannot be certified. Bring every page.
2. **Bring or let us make the copy**
   Bring a clear, complete copy of every page, or ask us to make the copies at your appointment. Tell us how many certified copies you need.
3. **Fill in the top box**
   Enter the principal, the agent, the date and type of power of attorney, and the number of pages. The notary completes the rest.
4. **The notary compares and certifies**
   The notary compares the copy to the original page by page, completes and signs the certification, applies the seal, and attaches the copy behind it.
5. **One certificate per copy**
   Each certified copy gets its own certificate. Order extras if several banks or agencies will need one.
6. **Keep your original safe**
   Give institutions the certified copies and keep the original in a safe place.

Good to Know

- California notaries generally cannot certify copies of other documents. For diplomas and similar documents, use a Copy Certification by Document Custodian; for birth, death, and marriage records, get certified copies from the issuing agency.
- A certified copy is only as current as the original. If the power of attorney is revoked, the certified copies are revoked too.
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California-Commissioned Notaries

SCAN TO BOOK

Questions about this document? Talk to an attorney. Gavrilov & Brooks Law Firm has attorneys licensed in California, Nevada, and other states. Phone and video consultations are available. **(916) 504-0529** · **www.gavrilovlaw.com**

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CERTIFIED COPY OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

(California Probate Code Section 4307; Government Code Section 8205)

POWER OF ATTORNEY BEING COPIED (completed by the person requesting the certified copy)

_____
(name of principal — the person who signed the power of attorney)

_____ _____
(name of agent / attorney-in-fact) (date power of attorney was signed)

_____ _____
(type, e.g., “Uniform Statutory Form Power of Attorney” or “Limited Power of Attorney”) (number of pages in copy)

NOTARY PUBLIC’S CERTIFICATION OF COPY

State of California)
County of _____) ss.

I, the undersigned notary public of the State of California, certify that I have examined the original power of attorney described above and the attached copy, and that the attached copy is a **true and correct copy of the original power of attorney**.

Under California Probate Code Section 4307, a copy of a power of attorney certified under that section has the same force and effect as the original power of attorney.

Date: _____

_____
(signature of notary public)

_____
(printed name of notary public)

(Seal)

Attach the certified copy of the power of attorney behind this certificate.

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