

## **ALERT TO MICHIGAN RESIDENTS' UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A "POWER OF ATTORNEY"**

A "power of attorney," is a document that creates and is evidence of a relationship generally between two people. The person authorized to act is the "agent," "donee," or "attorney-in-fact."

Although a power of attorney may authorize the agent to manage and to make decisions about the principal's business affairs, it cannot and does not authorize a nonlawyer to act as a lawyer to give legal advice or engage in the law business to represent the interests of the principal. The term "attorney-in-fact" and the authority which may be granted to an "attorney-in-fact" must not be confused with the authority granted by the Michigan Supreme Court to lawyers licensed to practice law in this jurisdiction by virtue of their education and training.

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