FREEHOLDIP

The Certificate of Fiduciary Authority

How it works, end to end

A portable, self-verifying proof of a power of attorney – **owned by the client**, issued and maintained by the firm, and confirmable by anyone, without a phone call.

A WALKTHROUGH · PATENT PENDING · 2026

WHAT IT IS

A power of attorney that proves itself

A Certificate of Fiduciary Authority turns a power of attorney into a secure digital record that states **who is authorized to act**, on what scope, and whether the authority is still in force. The client owns it. The firm issues and maintains it. And anyone who needs to rely on it can confirm, on the spot, that it's **genuine** and **not revoked** – without calling the firm.

It proves *who is authorized*; it never holds the client's assets or keys, and it **accompanies** the executed instrument rather than replacing it.

THE PARTIES

Four roles, one record

ISSUER

The law firm

Holds its own signing key and an identity on the public record; signs each certificate.

PRINCIPAL

The client

Grants the authority and *owns* the record, held with their own key.

AGENT

The attorney-in-fact

May act under it – bound to their own key so they can prove they are the named agent.

VERIFIER

Bank · title · custodian

Anyone who needs to confirm the authority is genuine and current.

THE FLOW

Start to finish

1 The firm becomes a verified issuer

The firm generates its signing key in its own browser and records an identity on the public ledger. That identity is the trust root: a forger can't recreate it, so a forged certificate can't pass.

ONE TIME · THE FIRM

2 The firm invites the client and the agent

A one-click invitation sends each of them a short guide and a link. They create their own FreeholdIP identity in about two minutes – their keys stay with them – and reply with their identity name.

THE FIRM → THE CLIENT & AGENT

3 The attorney issues the mandate

The attorney fills in the scope, effective condition (immediate or springing on incapacity), jurisdiction, and limitations, and attaches the executed power of attorney – whose fingerprint is sealed in. It's signed in the attorney's browser with the firm's key.

THE ATTORNEY

4 The client receives it

The client and agent get a verify link, a QR code, and a copy they can download – and can save all of their records as a single file to keep on a phone or computer.

THE CLIENT & AGENT

5 Anyone verifies it

A verifier pastes the ID or scans the QR. Their browser checks the firm's signature against the firm's identity on the public record and reads the live status – confirming it's genuine and in force. **No account, no call to the firm.**

THE VERIFIER

6 The firm keeps it current

The firm can revoke, renew, suspend, or re-scope the mandate at any moment. The change is instant for anyone who checks – and "revoked stays revoked."

THE FIRM

7

It survives everyone

Because the record carries its own proof, it keeps verifying – offline, by math – from the saved copy and the public ledger, even if the firm, or FreeholdIP itself, someday is gone.

ALWAYS

HONEST SCOPE

Where it helps most — and what it doesn't claim

Digital & self-custodied assets

Where there's no clerk and proving an agent's authority is genuinely hard. This is where a portable proof is uniquely needed.

A live status check

With a traditional bank it *supports* the paper power of attorney – most usefully as the "has this been revoked?" check – rather than replacing the bank's own process.

The firm's own registry

An authoritative, current, revocable record of every mandate the firm has issued – useful whether or not any institution ever scans it.

The trusted circle

Successor agents, co-trustees, family, and other advisors can confirm authority today, because they already trust the firm.

> **IN PLAIN TERMS**
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> This is not a claim that a bank will accept a QR code in place of its process tomorrow. Institutional acceptance is a journey. What works today is the proof of authenticity and status, the digital-asset cases where nothing better exists, and the firm's own authoritative record.

WHY IT'S DIFFERENT

The four properties

Forgery-proof

Checked against the firm's identity on the public ledger – which a copycat cannot recreate. A fake can't pass.

Client-owned

Held with the client's own key. It can't be taken from them, deleted, or shut off.

No custody

No one – not the firm, not FreeholdIP – ever holds the client's assets or keys. It proves authority; it never moves money.

Outlives the issuer

Keeps verifying offline, by math alone, even if the firm or the platform disappears. Most records die with their issuer; this one doesn't.

SEE IT LIVE

A working demonstration

The links below show a live, end-to-end example issued by a fictional demonstration firm, *Harlowe Estate Law*.

The firm page — authority.freeholdip.com/issuer?id=HARLOWEESTATELAW

Verify a real mandate — authority.freeholdip.com/verify?id=HARLOWEESTATELAW_POA_767E495C

The client's guide — authority.freeholdip.com/guide-client

The attorney's guide — authority.freeholdip.com/guide-attorney

WHERE THIS STANDS

An honest status

FreeholdIP is a working system with the live demonstration above. The legal framing – that this is a tool a professional uses, not legal advice and not custody – is being developed with counsel. The underlying mechanism is the subject of a filed patent. It is offered as software and coordination: it proves *who is authorized*, and it pairs with – never replaces – the executed instrument and the institutions that hold the assets.

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