

How to fill out MV386 — Power of Attorney to Conduct Motor Vehicle Business

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Delaware · written against MV386 (Rev 02/22), issued under the owner, who appoints an attorney in fact before a notary and indemnifies the State against the consequences

/forms/delaware/mv386-power-of-attorney-to-transfer-a-vehicle-title/

The only Delaware document that lets a name other than yours go on the seller's line of a certificate. It appoints a named person as your attorney in fact to sign all papers and documents that may be necessary in order to conduct motor vehicle business for one described vehicle - and it is sworn in front of a notary, which is one of the five places Delaware does want a notarial seal.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank MV386 from the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles at https://www.dmv.de.gov/forms/veh_serv_forms/pdfs/ve_frm_poa.pdf — always take the current revision from the agency rather than a copy. Print this and keep it beside you while you complete theirs.

Every line, in the order you meet it

1	YOU	Your name, on the undersigned line	The principal. As the certificate carries it, not a shortened version. Watch out: If two names are on the front of the title joined by AND, this document needs both of you and the co-owner line at the foot is where the second signature goes.
2	YOU	Your address, city and state	Street on one row, then City of and State of on the next. Watch out: The address the Division holds for you. A mismatch here is one more thing for a clerk to query on a document whose whole job is to be unquestionable.
3	YOU	Appoint: the attorney in fact	The full legal name of the person you are authorising to sign for you. Watch out: One person. This form has no room for alternates, and a name written in later is an alteration on a notarised document.
4	YOU	Their address, city and state	The same three rows again, for the person being appointed. Watch out: They will need a copy of their own photo identification when they use it. Tell them that now rather than at the counter.
5	YOU	Make of Vehicle	First of three boxes on the vehicle line. Watch out: The authority reaches this vehicle and no other. A second car needs a second form.
6	YOU	Year of Vehicle	The model year as the certificate states it. Watch out: From the front of the title. Model year and build year are not always the same number.
7	YOU	Vehicle Identification Number	All seventeen characters, in the widest of the three boxes. Watch out: This is what ties the authority to the car. A transposed character makes the document authorise nothing.
8	YOU	Date and Signature of Owner	Date on the left, signature on the right, and the printed indemnity sitting above both. Watch out: Do not sign until you are in front of the notary. The block at the foot says the Subscriber personally came before me, and that has to be true.
9	YOU	Signature of Co-Owner	The second line, under the first, for a title that names two owners joined by AND. Watch out: Both of you in front of the same notary on the same day is the simple version. Delaware does not print two notarial blocks on this form.
10	OTHER	The notarial block	State of Delaware, County of _____, be it remembered that on this ____ day of _____, A.D. _____, the Subscriber personally came before me - then the notary's own signature. Watch out: The Division wants the original of this back. Photocopy it for your records and send the signed original with whoever is acting for you.

What gets this one rejected

- A photocopy. Every Delaware title application that accepts a power of attorney demands the original: original documents are required when a Power of Attorney is used, and the Division repeats it on the duplicate title procedure as an original notarized power of attorney.
- The wrong signature format. The Division prints the pattern twice on its own title application so it cannot be misread: John Smith by Shannon L. McDonald POA - the owner's name, then by, then the attorney's name, then POA, signed and printed that way on every document.
- A form that is half typed and half handwritten. The MV212's instructions require a power of attorney to be either all typed or all handwritten and to include all vehicle information.
- A vehicle description left vague. Make, year and VIN are three separate boxes and the authority granted reaches the vehicle they describe and nothing else.
- One owner signing where the title carries two names joined by AND. The form prints a co-owner signature line for exactly that reason.
- No notary. The block at the foot is not decoration - it is what makes this a Delaware power of attorney rather than a letter.

☒ Amber is what you write ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes ☐ The completed example follows overleaf.



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
www.dmv.de.gov

POWER OF ATTORNEY TO CONDUCT MOTOR VEHICLE BUSINESS

1 I, Merrick A. Dunavant the undersigned
2 of (address) 118 Chestnut Ridge Road,
City of Milton, State of Delaware,
3 appoint Verena D. Dunavant,
4 of (address) 118 Chestnut Ridge Road,
City of Milton, State of Delaware,
as my attorney in fact to sign all papers and documents that may be necessary in
order to conduct motor vehicle business for the following described vehicle:

6 Honda, 2015, 2HKRM4H5XFH614293 7
Make of Vehicle Year of Vehicle Vehicle Identification Number

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Delaware and all public officials
from the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles from any and all liability that may accrue
from motor vehicle work for the so described vehicle.

8 07/30/2026 Merrick Dunavant
Date Signature of Owner

9
Signature of Co-Owner

State of Delaware

10 County

Be it remembered that on this day of , A.D. ,
the Subscriber personally came before me.

Notary Public