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## Definition

An agent (<http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/agent>) authorized to act on behalf of another person, but not necessarily authorized to practice law, e.g. a person authorized to act by a power of attorney ([http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/power\\_of\\_attorney](http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/power_of_attorney)). An attorney in fact is a fiduciary (<http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/fiduciary>). Also known as attorney in fact or private attorney.

For example, Person A might give a power of attorney to Person B that allows Person B to manage Person A's bank accounts. In this example, Person A is the principal, and Person B is the attorney-in-fact.

## Illustrative case law

See, e.g. *Sperry v. State of Fla. ex. rel Florida Bar*, 373 U.S. 379 (1963) (<http://supreme.justia.com/us/373/379/case.html>).

## See also

- Agency (<http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/agency>)
- Attorney (<http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/Attorney>)

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