

Mailing Address PO Box 1250 Niles, MI 49120 (269) 429-0671 www.tecfarm.org info@tecfarm.org



TEC Rider & Participant Program Packet

Welcome ...

Thank you for your interest in the riding and participant program at the Therapeutic Equestrian Center (TEC), where our mission is to enhance the lives of people with special needs through horse-related activities. As a participant of TEC's program, the participant will engage in a variety of horse-related activities; such as, grooming the horse, riding the horse, horse and stall care, and much more. Through these interactions the participant will experience a positive impact on their physical and emotional well-being. Research has shown that interactions with horses can improve physical, cognitive, and mental health for those with special needs. In addition, the participant has the potential to improve their balance, strength, and self-confidence. They'll also enjoy a sense of accomplishment and experience many "I did it!" moments that would otherwise not be possible.

At TEC, we follow a Code of Conduct for both the participant and TEC staff/volunteers which includes the following:

Participant agrees to ...

- Meet TEC requirements, complete <u>ALL</u> paperwork, and read the Rider/Participant Handbook
- Commit to and attend all appointments and sessions. If a conflict arises the participant/parent(s)/legal guardian(s)/caregiver, must contact TEC as soon as possible;
- Support TEC's vision and mission;
- Follow the policies, philosophy, and procedures as defined by TEC staff and volunteers;
- Be supportive of the TEC program and its activities at all levels;
- Supply TEC staff/volunteers with any changes in participant's status as they occur; such as, medical condition, medication, insurance, guardianship, etc.;
- Affirm that TEC's program actively seeks members from every race, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic group; and
- Abide by the TEC Code of Conduct.

TEC staff/volunteer(s) agrees to ...

- Provide the participant with appropriate policies and procedures;
- Provide orientation about the organization, riding/participant program, and participant roles;
- Offer PATH-certified instructors to teach the riding sessions and to oversee the participant's experience;
- Offer assistance, program support, and encouragement; and
- Track participant's hours of participation in TEC-related sessions and/or activities.

Your participation in the TEC Rider & Participant Program requires that you read the TEC Rider & Participant Program Packet in its entirety and complete <u>ALL</u> forms included in the packet.





PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Participant Evaluation: ALL NEW THERAPEUTIC RIDING PARTICIPANTS are encouraged to attend a 20 – 30-minute evaluation with one of our PATH-certified instructors, which will include an introduction to the horses and horse care. Once <u>ALL</u> participant paperwork has been properly submitted, TEC will contact you to schedule a participant evaluation appointment. *PLEASE NOTE: The completion of the participant's evaluation does not guarantee acceptance into the program as participant placement, class availability, safety, and lesson structure must be determined in order to provide a safe and positive experience for all involved.*

Payment: Fees to participate in the TEC program are as follows:

- \$25 per weekly session for group lessons (up to 4 riders). Class duration is 1.25 hours.
 - A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required for all <u>NEW</u> participants and must be submitted with application. Payment of full balance is preferred at first lesson, but payment arrangements are available.
- \$15 per weekly session for grooming and ground lessons. Class duration is 30 minutes.
 - A \$15 non-refundable deposit is required for all <u>NEW</u> participants and must be submitted with application. Payment of full balance is preferred at first lesson, but payment arrangements are available.
- \$35 per weekly session for semi-private lessons (2 riders). Class duration is 45 minutes.
 - A \$35 non-refundable deposit is required for all <u>NEW</u> participants and must be submitted with application. Payment of full balance is preferred at first lesson, but payment arrangements are available.

Scholarship/Financial Aid: Partial scholarships are available on a case by case basis through the TEC Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Complete details about TAP are included in this Rider & Participant Program Packet.

PLEASE NOTE: You are required to provide documentation of financial need and submit it with your participant application. This includes verification of you current household income (1040/pay stubs, Social Security/SSI benefits, etc.), any out of pocket medical bills from the past 12 months, any utility bills for the past six months, and any other documentation you feel may support your need for TAP. All information you provide is kept confidential by TEC. A fee and a minimum of volunteer time will be based upon financial need and family circumstances.

Scheduling: Space is limited in TEC programs and activities. TEC staff/instructors/volunteers will schedule participants in the most appropriate and beneficial manner. If TEC is unable to schedule all participants, some participants will be required to be placed on a waiting list.

<u>Attendance, Cancellation, No-Show & Refund Policy:</u> It is the responsibility of the participant or parent(s)/legal guardian(s)/caregiver to inform TEC of any schedule changes as soon as possible prior to the lesson/activity. Since each participant spot is reserved exclusively for that individual, the participant will not receive a refund for the lesson(s) missed.

However, if a situation arises where TEC needs to cancel a lesson or activity, TEC will contact the participant or parent(s)/legal guardian(s)/caregiver as soon as possible. When TEC cancels a lesson, a credit for the missed lesson will be applied to the participant's account.

Equipment: TEC provides all therapeutic riding equipment, including safety helmets. However, participants may purchase their own helmet if they desire. A TEC staff member/instructor can provide more information about where to obtain a helmet.

Your participation in the TEC Rider & Participant Program requires that you read the TEC Rider & Participant Program Packet in its entirety and complete <u>ALL</u> forms included in the packet.



As you complete the participant forms and prepare to submit your application to participate in the TEC Rider & Participant Program, please use the checklist below to make sure <u>ALL</u> necessary documentation is returned to TEC in a timely manner to ensure your participation in the program.

RETURNING PARTICIPANTS MUST provide:

- □ Schedule Request & Participant Registration Form
- □ Participant Medical History & Physician's Statement
- □ Renewing TAP Application (*If applicable, must be completed yearly.*)
- □ TAP Documentation of Financial Need (If applicable, must be completed yearly.)
- □ Verify on a yearly/annual basis that participant information is up to date. This will be done by simply reviewing the paperwork on file. If everything is still the same, the participant/parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will initial and date each necessary form. If changes need to be made, the participant/parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will make those updates to necessary forms and initial/date each form.

<u>ALL</u> forms are to be returned to:

Lisa Mearing TEC Riding Coordinator 51244 County Road 665 Paw Paw, MI 49079

Any questions regarding the TEC Rider & Participant Program can be directed to the TEC Rider Coordinator, Lisa Mearing (269-806-6892), or TEC President, Autumn Zick (269-429-0671).

Your participation in the TEC Rider & Participant Program requires that you read the TEC Rider & Participant Program Packet in its entirety and complete <u>ALL</u> forms included in the packet.



About TEC

TEC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with special needs through horse-related activities. TEC is a place for people of all ages with special needs can participate in therapeutic horseback riding and other equine-related activities. TEC serves individuals in Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties.

The TEC barn is located at:

Stockbridge Equestrian Center 615 N. M-140 Watervliet, MI 49098

TEC Mailing Address:

PO Box 1250 Niles, MI 49120

Rider Coordinator:

Lisa Mearing Phone: (269) 806-6892 E-mail: meariment@aol.com

Volunteer Coordinator:

Beth Drollinger Phone: (269) 932-5005 E-mail: beth.drollinger@gmail.com

PATH-Certified Riding Instructors:

Samie Ledyard: (269) 449-4353 Autumn Zick: (269) 921-4610 Colleen McNamara: (954) 461-5444

General TEC Info & Board Contact:

Autumn Zick, TEC Board President & PATH Riding Instructor Phone: (269) 429-0671 E-mail: info@tecfarm.org



Schedule Request & Participant Registration Form

Requested Session: (check all that apply) Participant Name:	Winter	Spring	Summer	□ Fall	Holiday
Date of Birth:	Age:	Height:	Weight:	Gend	ler: □ M or □ F
Address:					
City:			State:	Zip Co	ode:
Home Phone:			Cell Phone:		
E-mail:				Veteran: 🗆 `	Yes 🗆 No
Parent(s)/Legal Guard (If participant is a minor child dependent adult.) Address:	dora				
(If different from the participation City:	ant.)		State:	Zip Co	ode.
Home Phone:			Cell Phone:		
E-mail:					
Is there a Caregiver? Caregiver's E-mail: Please note (*) if any	Yes No	phone numbe	er:	ous registration fo	orm. Thank You!
Diagnosis:					
Preferred Riding Time: instructors and volunteers available. Please check participant would like to p	s. TEC does its l the appropriate b	pest to place partici	pants according to the	eir ability and most a	ppropriate horse
 Monday Afternoon/Evening Afternoon/Evening Afternoon/Eveni	□ Tuesday ernoon/Evening	□ Wednesda Afternoon/Even			✓ □ Sunday By Appointment
Are you registering for If a group lesson does not fi more riders register. A TEC behavior needs of the rider,	ll and has only two instructor determi	or three riders, the ri nes how a participant	's needs are best met b		C could fill the class if
Participant <u>WILL NO7</u> able to participate in:	be Uinter	er 🗆 Spring	g 🛛 🗆 Summer	□ Fall	Holiday
Participant's next session will be:	□ Winter	□ Spring	□ Summer	Fall	Holiday



Participant Health History

Participant Name:								
, , .	ardian(s)/Caregiver							
Health History of P	articipant:							
Diagnosis:				Date of Onset:				
Participant is:	Ambulatory	Non-Ambulatory	, D V	/erbal	Non-Verbal			
Participant uses:	Wheelchair	Crutches	Walker	Cane	Hearing Aid			
	□ SMO's	□ AFO's	Sign Language		munication Device			

Medications (Please include all prescriptions, over-the-counter, and include name of medicine, dose, and frequency.)

Describe participant's abilities/difficulties in the following areas, and include any assistance and/or equipment that may be needed. *Please use backside of paper, if more room is needed.*

1. Physical Function (For example, mobility skills such as transfers, walking, wheelchair use, driving/riding a bus, etc.)

2. Psycho/Social Function (For example, work/school including grade completed, leisure interests, relationships, family structure, support systems, animal companion(s), fears/concerns, etc.)

3. Goals (For example, why does the rider/participant want to be in the program? What accomplishment is the rider/participant striving for?)

Additional Comments	(Please use the backsid	de if you need more space.):
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Participar	Date:			
Parent(s)/ (If particip dependen	Date:			
For TEC U	se Only:			
Year:	2017	2018	2019	2020
Initials:				



Participant Authorization for Emergency Treatment

No individual can participate in any activity of the Therapeutic Equestrian Center (TEC) until this form has been completed by the participant <u>OR</u> their parent(s)/legal guardian(s), if the participant is a minor child or a dependent adult. You are being asked to complete this form to give an appropriate medical facility permission to treat the participant named below for minor injury or medical problems. In the event of serious injury or illness, you will be contacted; treatment will proceed before contacting you only if the situation is urgent and does not permit delay.

Participant (full name required):

Date of Birth:		Age:	Height:	We	eight:	Gender:	\square M or \square F
Address:						-	
City:				State:	Zip C	ode:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone	:	E-I	mail:		
	al Guardian (s) (full ninor child or a depende						
Relationship t	o Participant:						
Address (If diffe	erent from the participa	nt.) :					
City:				State:	Zip C	ode:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone		E-I	mail:		
Diagnosis:		Date of Onset:					
Is there a med If yes, please d	ical condition, aller	gy, etc. that may r	equire special p	recaution and/	or treatment?		🗆 Yes 🗆 No
Medications (/	Please include all pre	escriptions, over-the	-counter, and inc	lude name of m	edicine, dose, and	frequency.)	
Name of PHYS	SICIAN:				Phone Number	r:	
Address:							
Preferred Med	ical Care Facility:						
HEALTH INSU	RANCE PROVIDER	(this includes ME	DICAID coverag	e)			
Name of Polic				-	ionship to Partici	oant:	
Policyholder's	Address:						
	ess of Insurance Co <u>MEDICAID</u> coverag						
-	npany or MEDICAID	-			Policy or MEDICA	ID Number:	
Persons who	should be notified in	n case of emergen	cv:				
Name:		•	Relationship:		Pł	ione:	
Name:			Relationship:		Pr	none:	
Participant Sig	gnature:		·			Date:	
Parent(s)/Lega	al Guardian (s) Sign	ature:					
	minor child or a depen					Date:	
For TEC Use C	Dnly:						
Veer		Annual Review by F				0	220
Year: Initials:	2017	201	0	2019		20	020



This form **<u>MUST</u>** be completed by the **<u>Participant's Physician</u>** and **<u>MUST</u>** be returned in order to participate in the TEC Riding & Participant Program.

Participant Medical History & Physician's Statement (This form MUST be completed by participant's Physician.)

Participant:		DOB:	Height:	Weight:
Address:				
Diagnosis:			Date of C	Onset:
Past/Prospective S	urgeries:			
Medications:				
Seizure Type:		Controlled: Yes No	Date of Last	Seizure:
Shunt Present:	🗆 Yes 🗆 No	Date Of Last Revision:		
Special Precautions	s/Needs:			
Mobility: Independ	lent Ambulation 🛛 🗆 Ye	s No Assisted Ambulation	Yes 🗆 No 🛛 🛛	/heelchair 🛛 Yes 🗆 No

Braces/Assistive Devices Used:

 * FOR THOSE WITH DOWN SYNDROME:
 An annual medical clearance is required from a licensed physician that includes a Neurological Exam, which specifically denies any symptoms consistent with Atlantoaxial Instability (AAI).

 Physician's Signature:
 Date of Exam:
 □ Yes, they can ride!

Please indicate current or past special needs in the following systems/areas, including surgeries:

	Yes	No	Comments
Auditory			
Visual			
Tactile Sensation			
Speech			
Cardiac			
Circulatory			
Integumentary /Skin			
Immunity			
Pulmonary			
Neurologic			
Muscular			
Balance			
Orthopedic			
Allergies			
Learning Disability			
Cognitive			
Emotional/Psychological			
Pain			
Harrington Rod			
Other			

Given the above diagnosis and medical information,	, this person is not medically precluded from participating in equine					
assisted activities. I understand that the Therapeutic Equestrian Center will weigh the medical information given against						
the existing precautions and contraindications. Therefore, I refer this person to the Therapeutic Equestrian Center for						
ongoing evaluation to determine eligibility for particip	pation, and for ongoing participation.					
Name/Title:	MD DO NP PA Other:					
Signature:	Date:					
Address:						
Phone:	License/UPIN Number:					



This form MAY be completed by the Participant's Therapist or Teacher OR by the participant's parent(s)/legal guardian(s).

Participant Profile

Participant Name:	
Name of Evaluator: Relationship to Participant (OT/PT/SLP/Teacher, Other):	Date:
Diagnosis/Disability:	
Communication/Social Skills:VerbalSign LanguageEye GazeComment:	□ Communication Board/Device □ Hearing Aid □ Other
Behavior/Attitude Description:	
Behavior Plan:	
Ambulatory:	Crutches Walker Wheelchair
Physical Evaluation:	
Tone:	Strength:
Posture: Coordination:	Motor Skills: Balance:
Spatial Awareness:	Symmetry:
Suggested Activities (exercises to reinforce pres	
Future Goals:	
Additional Information/Comments (use backside	e if needed):



Participant Release Form & Liability Waiver

Please initial each section to confirm you have read the stated release and liability waiver. You must also sign this document as well in order for the participant to participate in the TEC Riding & Participant Program.

PARTICIPANT CONSENT, RELEASE, AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

I understand that UNDER THE MICHIGAN EQUINE ACTIVITY LIABILITY ACT, AN EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITY RESULTING FROM AN INHERENT RISK OF THE EQUINE ACTIVITY. I also understand that, in the event of any accident that might occur NO LIABILITY can be accepted by any organization concerned, including the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, its agents or assigns. In consideration, therefore, for the privilege of riding and/or working around horses at the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, the Undersigned does hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify Therapeutic Equestrian Center, and further release it from any liability or responsibility for accident, damage, injury, or illness to the Undersigned on the premises.

For and in consideration of the agreement of Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. to provide equine activities to the aforesaid participant, I do hereby forever release, acquit, discharge, and hold harmless the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, its officers, directors, agents, employees, instructors, representatives, and any therapists, volunteers, and other persons associated with said program and the successors and assigns of each of them from all manner of claims, demands, and damages of every kind and nature whatsoever which I or the aforesaid participant may now or in the future have against the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, its officers, directors, agents, employees, instructors, representatives and any therapists, volunteers and other persons associated with said program, and the successors and assigns of each of them on account of any personal injuries, physical or mental condition, known or unknown, to the person of the aforesaid participant, and the treatment thereof, as a result of, or in any way growing out of the acts or omissions of said parties in connection with said services or in any way incidental thereto.

_ Initial(s) of participant or parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of minor child or dependent adult

CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF MEDICAL INFORMATION

I,	the participant or I/We, the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of minor child or
dependent adult of	(participant's name), hereby
authorize	(facility, individual, physician, etc.) to release
developing a Therapeutic Riding & F	above named participant to the Therapeutic Equestrian Center for the purpose of Participant Program or Hippotherapy Program for the above-named participant. The below. (<i>Please make as many copies of this form as necessary for any additional</i>

Medical History

- Physical Therapy evaluation, assessment and program plan
- Classroom Individual Education Plan (I. E. P.)
 Occupational Therapy evaluation, assessment, and program plan
 - □ Speech Therapy evaluation, assessment and program plan
 - □ Other:

Initial(s) of participant or parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of minor child or dependent adult



(continue) Participant Release Form & Liability Waiver

PHOTO/IMAGE RELEASE

For valuable consideration given and which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby grants to the Therapeutic Equestrian Center permission to take or have taken, still and moving photographs and films including television pictures of myself/son/daughter/ward and/or pictures of parents/guardians/siblings. I consent and authorize the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, its advertising agencies, news media, and any other persons interested in the Therapeutic Equestrian Center and its work, to use and reproduce the photographs, films, and pictures to circulate and publicize the same by all means including without limitation the generality of the foregoing: newspapers, television media, brochures, pamphlets, instructional materials, books, and clinical material. I understand that the Therapeutic Equestrian Center is the owner of such photographs or films.

With regards to the foregoing material, no inducements or promises have been made to me to secure my signature to this release other than the intention of the Therapeutic Equestrian Center to use or be used such photographs, films, and pictures for the primary purpose of promoting and aiding the Therapeutic Equestrian Center and its work.

		Initials			Initials
🗆 Yes 🗆 No	Photo Release		🗆 Yes 🗆 No	Video Release	
🗆 Yes 🗆 No	Media/Marketing Release		🗆 Yes 🗆 No	Social Media Release	

Your signature below indicates that you have read, understand, and given consent to all segments of this document.

Participant Signature:	Date:	
Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Signature: (If participant is a minor child or a dependent adult.)	Date:	

For TEC Use Only:								
Annual Review by Rider/Participant or Parent(s)/Legal Guardian								
Year:	2017	2018	2019	2020				
Initials:								



TEC's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

Through the generosity of those who value the benefits of equine-assisted activities, the Therapeutic Equestrian Center (TEC) is able to offer the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) to its participants. TAP allows TEC to offer scholarships (full and partial) to participants who may not otherwise be able to afford the cost of participating in TEC's Riding & Participant Program.

TAP is awarded based on financial need, need for service, and staff recommendations. Eligibility and TAP award amounts are determined on a case by case basis by the TAP Committee. This committee is made up of at least three people: two TEC Board Members (one must be the Board Treasurer) and a current TEC Staff Member. *A minimum payment is required and full payment is preferred at first lesson, but payment arrangements are also available.*

TAP participants follow the same cancellation policy as the other TEC participants. Since each participant spot is reserved exclusively for that individual, the participant will not receive a refund for the lesson(s) missed. However, if a situation arises where TEC needs to cancel a lesson or activity, TEC will contact the participant or parent(s)/legal guardian(s)/caregiver as soon as possible. When TEC cancels a lesson, a credit for the missed lesson will be applied to the participant's account.

TEC has two types of riding lessons, group and semi-private; as well as, grooming lessons. Group lessons have up to four riders and the lesson is 1.25 hours long. Semi-private lessons have two riders and is 45 minutes long. A grooming and ground lesson is also available and typically held during a group lesson, and lasts about 30 minutes. A semi-private lesson is shorter as each participant has more of the instructor's time.

It is recommended that the recipient of any tuition assistance (or their parent(s)/legal guardian(s)/family member(s)/designated individual) participate in at least one volunteer activity at TEC within six months of tuition assistance award. Volunteer opportunities include, but are not limited to: helping with lessons, barn chores, special projects, fundraisers, and serving on committees.

If you would like to apply for TAP, please complete the TAP Application and return it to TEC, along with verification of you current household income (1040/pay stubs, Social Security/SSI benefits, etc.), any out of pocket medical bills from the past 12 months, any utility bills for the past six months, and any other documentation you feel TEC may need. Your application cannot be considered until all required documentation has been received. <u>All information submitted is kept confidential.</u>

Tuition Assistance is awarded on a yearly basis. Applicants must reapply each year and verification of income and expenses are required once every 12 months, unless income/expenses change significantly within those 12 months.

If you have questions about TAP, please contact TEC at (269) 429-0671 or e-mail info@tecfarm.org.

Return TAP Application and <u>ALL</u> required documentation to:

Lisa Mearing TEC Riding Coordinator 51244 County Road 665 Paw Paw, MI 49079



TEC's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) Application

All information provided is	kept confidential.						
Participant Name:		Date of Birth:					
Address:							
City:		State:	Zip Code:				
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:					
E-mail:							
Parent(s)/Legal Guardian: (If participant is a minor child or a dependent adult.)							
Address (If different from participant.):							
City:		State:	Zip Code:				
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:					
E-mail:							
	(If by phone, which do or □ Cell?)	you prefer: 🛛 Te	ext Message 🛛 E-mail	Snail Mail			
School Attending & Grade or Place	of Employment:						
I am applying for \$ from TAP for	or the session of:						
U Winter Spring	□ Summer 1	Summer 2	□ Fall 1	Fall 2			
Please describe the interest this rider, Program. (If capable, please have the			e wishes to participate in t	the TEC Riding			
Please describe the financial need <i>(c</i>	opies of supporting do	ocumentation is re	equired):				
Please describe how this rider/participant can benefit from the TEC Riding Program:							
Please list unusual circumstances (de	ebts, illness, etc.) that co	ontribute to the need	d for financial assistance:				
Include any additional comments:							
By signing below, I certify that the information provided in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge, and I agree to the TAP guidelines.							
Participant Signature:			Date:				

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Signature: (If participant is a minor child or a dependent adult.)

Date:



Equine Activity Participation Waiver for Stockbridge II, Inc.

If over the age of 18 years old:

In consideration of the opportunity afforded me, _______, to participate in equine activities including, but not limited to the specific activity of horseback riding, and in recognition of the possible danger to which I may voluntarily subject myself in such activities, I hereby knowingly, freely, and voluntarily waive any right or cause of action, of any kind whatsoever, arising as a result of such activity from which any liability may or could accrue to Leon E. Barber, Jr., Debra L. Barber and Stockbridge II, Inc., or the agents of any of them.

Date Signed:

Written Name of Participant/Legal Guardian(s)

Signature of Participant/Legal Guardian(s)

Witness Name

Signature of Witness

Witness Name

Signature of Witness

If under the age of 18 years old:

In consideration of the opportunity afforded my/the minor child (participant), _______, to participate in equine activities including, but not limited to the specific activity of horseback riding, and in recognition of the possible danger to which I may voluntarily subject my said minor child in such activities, I, individually, and on behalf of my said minor child, hereby knowingly, freely, and voluntarily waive any right or cause of action, of any kind whatsoever, arising as a result of such activity from which any liability may or could accrue to Leon E. Barber, Jr., Debra L. Barber and Stockbridge II, Inc., or the agents of any of them.

Date Signed:

Written Name of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)

Signature of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)

Witness Name

Signature of Witness

Witness Name

Signature of Witness