

- 4) The largest city in Massachusetts is Boston. The population is six hundred forty five thousand nine hundred and sixty six 645,966. The law firm of Simons, Winslow, Willis and Abbott are a good law firm that specialize in estate planning, settlement of estates, trust management, and probate proceedings. What impresses me about “SSWWA” is their high rating. In a rating range that goes from 4.5 – 5.0, this law firm has been consecutively awarded the highest “AV” rating (5.0) for their professional excellence by Martindale-Hubbell, the national lawyers directory, in its peer review of attorneys. This means, that this firm consists of an attorney's attorneys. Their website is simple and conservative, but, informative. The link is <http://www.swwalaw.com/index.htm>.
- 5) As far as a real estate appraiser, I was taken by Greater Boston Valuation. This firm has been in business for the past twenty years and they perform appraisals of both commercial and residential properties. “GBV”, as they are referred to by their colleagues in the field, is recognized as one of Massachusetts' top real estate appraisers. This is because of their ability to assess a fair market value. As with SWWA, Greater Boston Valuation's website is Boston traditional and no frills. However, the message is clear, it says, “this is what we do and we're good at it.” The link to GBV is: greaterbostonvaluation.com.
- 6) Probate court in Boston, Massachusetts has concurrent jurisdiction with family court. The address for the Boston Probate Court is: Probate and Family Court, Administrative Office, John Adams Courthouse, Mezzanine, One Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108.



- 7) In Boston, MA, one can earn an Associates or Baccalaureate degree in Paralegal Studies at Suffolk University. There is also a nine month certificate program that is offered to Post baccalaureate candidates. This school is ABA approved and is more expensive than City Tech because it is a private institution. City Tech is part of the City University System of New York and tuition is much more cost effective. The link to the school is: www.suffolk.edu/paralegal.

For those interested in a Paralegal Career:

ALS-365 Wills and Probate – Course Description:

State laws affect the disposition of an individual's estate at death, and upon death, the estate must be probated in court. Focus on estate information gathering, drafting of wills, and the probate of estates for those with and without wills. Emphasis on the role of the paralegal

in a law office handling wills and probate. Prerequisites: ALS 360 or 363 or permission of instructor. 1 term - 4 credits. Normally offered yearly.