

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PUBLIC HOURS OF THE COURT**

Plymouth County Register of Probate Robert E. McCarthy has announced that the Plymouth Probate and Family Court will implement new office hours for public access to the court from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm effective September 19, 2011 at both the Plymouth and Brockton locations of the Court consistent with the directive of Chief Justice Paula M. Carey of the Probate and Family Court Department of the Trial Court. The directive applies to all Probate and Family Courts in the state.

The purpose of the new hours is to provide added time for the Registry staff to process current and backlogged cases. Decreases in staff combined with a Trial Court wide hiring freeze and substantial budget cuts have caused serious delays in the processing of cases. It is anticipated that the court will be able to better serve the public, including litigants and attorneys, by reducing the backlog to ensure the orderly processing of cases. Trials will continue as scheduled.

Register McCarthy expressed his appreciation to the public and attorneys for the consideration and cooperation which they have shown to date with the staff shortages and which he is confident will continue as the new hours are implemented.

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