

## Probate Records - Respecting the Wishes of the Deceased

As the name implies, probate records are documents that are kept and maintained by a probate court. A probate court is tasked with determining the authenticity of a last will and testament of a deceased individual. In cases wherein a will does not exist, inheritance laws become the reference for how personal effects, assets and other belongings are distributed.

Estates of individuals often have probate records dating back to the early twentieth century. Information that can be obtained from probate wills include the time and place of death of the individual, the family members that survived him or her, as well as everything that was left behind by the deceased in terms of physical and financial property.

If the deceased person did not have a will, probate records may also include a letter of administration allowing the executor to carry out the distribution of the deceased's estate as per his/her known wishes.

### Online Probate Records - Faster, Easier and Simply More Convenient

If you are disputing a claim over a piece of land that you believe rightfully belongs to you, it would be advantageous to turn to probate wills. More often than not, probate wills also include land records, which help in determining who should be given ownership of a particular piece of land.

Another advantage that probate records have is that they are often very helpful in determining your genealogy. You will be able to trace back the long history of your family through probate wills since the maiden names of women in the family can also be found in these documents.

Trying to access probate records used to be a long and tedious process. It entailed going to the county courthouse where the death occurred. Getting to the county courthouse, there may not even be a clerk or staff member available to assist you with your request for certain probate wills. Sometimes, you will even have to hire an external researcher to do all the leg work for you.

Fortunately, many probate records are now accessible online, helping you do away with the task of sifting through outdated files and documents. Websites offering probate wills save you from traveling from one county courthouse to another and provide organized indexes for finding the documents that you need... fast!

Although complete and detailed probate records may not always be available online owing to the sheer volume of these in existence, you may still be able to find the case file number of the one you are looking for or the date of death of the individual. When you do travel to the county courthouse to ask for the probate wills, providing them with these information will make it easier for them to assist you.

Most companies that allow you to order probate records online also offer compiled records. With compiled records, you can be assured that these were obtained directly from the county courthouse and include all the documentation from the original such as the written manuscripts and verbal testimonies.

Source: <http://www.articlecircle.com>

### About the Author

Want to Know the Top Sites to Find Probate Records? Read Dr. Amit Mehta's Unbiased Reviews - [http://recordssitereviews.com/court\\_records.php](http://recordssitereviews.com/court_records.php)