



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Technology Services and Security
One Ashburton Place, 8th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

JASON SNYDER
Secretary / CIO

MICHELLE VAUGHN
Assistant Secretary of Strategy and Planning

September 4, 2025

Mr. Barry J. Amaral
Bristol County Register of Deeds – Northern District
11 Court Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Dear Mr. Amaral,

This letter is in response to your request dated July 28, 2025, to expend \$701,980.00 from the County Register's Technological Fund. This request is consistent with your strategy for technological improvements at the Bristol County Registry of Deeds – Northern District.

I urge you to continue with information technology projects that support your long-term information technology strategy. If you need further assistance or have questions, please contact Tim Larkin in my office at: 617-626-4476.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Vaughn".

Michelle Vaughn
Assistant Secretary of Strategy and Planning

Cc: Honorable William F. Galvin
Samantha Blatchford, SEC
Keryn Cadogan, SEC
Paul McCarthy, SEC
Theresa Curtis, EOTSS
Tim Larkin, EOTSS



BARRY J. AMARAL
Register

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
BRISTOL COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

NORTHERN DISTRICT
11 COURT STREET - TAUNTON, MA 02780

Tel. (508) 822-0502
Fax (508) 880-4975
Admin. Fax (508) 821-2182
www.tauntondeeds.com

July 28, 2025

Information Technology Division
One Ashburton Place -Room 804
Boston, MA 02108

RE: GL. C. 29, §2KKK(a) Request Funds July, 2025

Pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of chapter 4 of the Acts of 2003, as codified at GL. C.29, §2KKK(a), I hereby submit this request for Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Northern District. In addition to this letter, I have enclosed a detailed account of this request.

This request provides the funding to continue work on our next phase of our technology improvement, archive restoration project, and coordination of the newer technology (scanned images) with our obsolete indices (printed books). This request also provides funding to support web functionality, provides funding for part time employees, and allows us to complete needed infrastructure and technology upgrades. Finally this request will provide the necessary funding for our satellite office in Attleboro which serves as our primary disaster recovery site and is the only physical access to the Registry of Deeds for handicapped persons.

Given the unique difficulties that emanate from our operations at the registry building, this back-up location is essential.

In total, the request is in the amount of **\$701,980**. As of June 30, 2025, the Bristol County Registry of Deeds has accumulated the sum of **\$826,667.00** in unencumbered and undedicated technology funds. As such, the funding of this request will still leave a balance of **\$124,687.00** in unencumbered technology funds.

The provisions of the County Technology Fund, as codified at GL c.29, §2KKK(a) anticipated expenditures related to real property. The statutory language says that a technology plan "shall include, but not be limited to, the cost and description of all intangible,

personal and real property to be purchased or services to be received for the automation, modernization, operation and technological improvements."

Taken together, these requests all further the intent of the legislature to assist the registry with the automation, modernization, operation and technological improvements. All requests aim to result in a capital investment that will save money, time and effort in the long run. More importantly, these improvements expand our ability to deliver valuable services to our customers.

I look forward to discussing this request with you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry J. Amaral", written over a horizontal line.

Barry J. Amaral
Register

BJA/omc
Enclosures 3

Hardware/Software Request FY2026

Web Functionality

The Registry's website is a dynamic tool that provides great value to Registry consumers: the public, municipalities, the business community. Users are able to access over 300 years of Registry data. The website changed the way the Registry delivers services and provides great benefits and resources to all parts of the registry our community. It is crucial that we invest in new equipment and to insure against loss of service and website upgrades to insure we accommodate all levels of accessibility.

Hardware/System Software Additions

20/20 Perfect Vision Application System; maintenance and annual licensing; periodic software release; program updates and mandates.

Technology Infrastructure

Without upgrading our cabling and network infrastructure, we will leave ourselves more vulnerable to cyber-attacks. We will invest in new cabling, where appropriate, and new firewalls, routers, and associated software.

Web, Hardware, Software, Microfilming, Services

Web – Hardware, Maintenance & Upgrades	=	\$43,625.00
Software Licenses, Storage & Supplies	=	\$76,592.00
Infrastructure Upgrades	=	\$85,647.00
Hardware, Microfilming, Training	=	\$99,114.00
Services – Indexing and Transcription	=	\$158,913.00
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Total		\$463,891.00

Attleboro Branch and Disaster Recovery Site
Funding Request

1. Attleboro Lease Rental:
 - a. The Registry requests \$46,790.00 for lease rental of the Attleboro Branch Office and Disaster Recovery Site for FY 2026.
2. Equipment:
 - a. The Registry requests \$70,086 for computer equipment and technical infrastructure that is required to operate the Attleboro Branch Office and Disaster Recovery Site.
3. Voice and Data Service:
 - a. The Registry requests \$9,186.00 for internet access and voice service.
4. Attleboro Disaster Site Maintenance:
 - a. The Registry requests \$14,381.00 to be used for the operation and up-keep of the Attleboro Branch and Disaster Recovery Site.

The provisions of the County Technology Fund, as codified at GL c. 29, §2KKK(a) anticipate expenditures related to real property. The statutory language says that a technology plan "shall include, but not be limited to, the cost and description of all intangible, personal and real property to be purchased or services to be received for the automation, modernization, operation and technological improvements."

Given the unique difficulties that emanate from our operations at the present registry building, this back-up location is essential.

Attleboro Branch Office and Disaster Recovery Site

Lease Rental	\$46,790.00
Equipment	\$70,086.00
Data/Voice Service	\$ 9,186.00
Up-Keep of Recovery Site	\$14,381.00
Total	\$140,443.00

Part-Time Employee Request
For FY2026

The Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Northern District has hired part-time employees to assist with a number of tasks outside of the "regular" work flow. This registry does not believe that the technology funds are an appropriate funding stream to use full-time employees or for the normal, day-to-day, operation of the registry. Therefore, since the inception of our technology implementation project, the tasks assigned to the part-time employees included but were not limited to:

1. Scanning of images for both registered land and recorded land;
2. Assisting with the operation of the Attleboro branch & Disaster Recovery Site;
3. Verifying older document entries to ensure consistency with new entries;
4. Continuing with the electronic back-indexing of all of our documents.

The request covers salary, Medicare for all of Fiscal Year 2026.

This request does not modify any of the existing components of our technology project.

Fiscal Year 2026

Salaries	\$97,646.00
Total Request	<u>\$97,646.00</u>