

Preface

Originally John Lombard wrote a five-volume series for Massachusetts Practice entitled *Probate Law and Practice*. The estate planning volume was one chapter in this set. When it came time to update the volumes a lot had changed. The Honorable Sean T. Dunphy wrote the two-volume series on Probate Law and Practice and I wrote the two-volume series on Estate Planning. I am privileged to author these probate volumes after Judge Dunphy's death. In the 20 years since these volumes were published it is clear that once again the law pertaining to probate and estate planning is interwoven. Over the cycles of time the areas practitioners pay attention to changes. There have been and will be significant tax law and statutory law changes that impact the way that we view this practice area. These four volumes together present a comprehensive view of estate planning and probate law in Massachusetts. I look forward to updating these volumes annually from the combined perspective of estate planning and probate. Thank you for your continued support of these volumes.