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Contact: Patrick Rush, prush@ssc.edu, (708) 596-2000, ext. 2697

## SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM RECEIVES RE-APPROVAL FROM ABA

SOUTH HOLLAND, IL— South Suburban College's Paralegal/Legal Assistant Program recently was recently re-approved by the American Bar Association (ABA) for another seven year term. SSC has one of the only ABA approved paralegal programs in the entire Chicago Southland region.

"I am pleased to announce that the American Bar Association House of Delegates has granted re-approval to our Paralegal/Legal Assistant Program at South Suburban College," said Jason Cieslik, program coordinator. "I am especially grateful to all those who spent countless hours with me during the re-approval process, including President Manning, our staff, advisory board, faculty, and students."

As an ABA approved institution, SSC's Paralegal/Legal Assistant Program graduates have a huge advantage when entering the workforce. Many firms in the Chicago area are placing a heavy emphasis on paralegal applicants with a degree or certificate from an ABA approved program.

Cieslik added, "We are proud to serve that demand, and our students are proud to have earned a degree from an ABA approved institution. All of our instructors are attorneys who teach our students to be successful paralegals upon graduation. We work hard to stay abreast of legal technology and legal trends to make sure our graduates transition from student to professional as seamlessly as possible."

The paralegal profession is an exciting career that is expected to grow 18% through 2020 according to the US Department of Labor. It is also a rewarding field of work, and SSC offers an affordable opportunity for residents of District 510 and the south suburban community. Residents of neighboring community college districts can also enroll in SSC's Paralegal/Legal Assistant Program at the "In-District" tuition rate through cooperative agreements.

The curriculum prepares students to work in a variety of legal environments including civil and criminal litigation, insurance, banking, public and governmental agencies, law offices and corporate legal departments. Emphasis is placed on the development of core skills in legal research and writing techniques including compilation and analysis of data, understanding legal vocabulary, law office technology, and preparation of legal documents.

While the majority of the paralegal classes are offered at the *UCC* in Oak Forest (conveniently located at 16333 South Kilbourn Avenue), some classes are offered online and others are offered at the Main Campus in South Holland. For more information, please contact Mr. Cieslik at (708) 596-2000, ext. 2579 or email *JCieslik@ssc.edu*.