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## **Westmoreland Bar Foundation Hires New Pro Bono Director**

GREENSBURG (July 17, 2019) The Westmoreland Bar Foundation is pleased to announce that **George C. Miller, Jr.** has accepted the position as Executive Director of the Westmoreland Bar Foundation Office of Pro Bono Services. He succeeds the current Program Director, David Millstein, who has served in a volunteer capacity as Pro Bono Director from 2011-2019. Attorney Millstein has made the decision to cut back on his professional obligations as he is no longer practicing law and spends most of his time away from the county.

Chair of the Bar Foundation, David S. DeRose explains, “Attorney Millstein deserves total credit for single-handedly restructuring the Pro Bono program to make it efficient in serving the neediest of Westmoreland County residents. We are greatly indebted to David for his years of service his expertise in training staff and his willingness to always financially help support the program.”

Attorney Miller is a member of the WBA and has been practicing law in Westmoreland for five years, and is presently the managing partner at Skala Miller, PLLC. Prior to opening his private practice, he clerked for Judge Joseph M. George, Jr., of the Fayette County Court of Common Pleas, followed by Judge Harry F. Smail, Jr., of the Westmoreland County Court of Common Pleas.

In accepting the position George is enthusiastic about meeting the challenges that lay ahead and of taking the program to the next level. “From my perspective, Pro Bono services represents a series of opportunities – helping those in greatest need, engaging and educating the public, reducing burdens on the courts, improving the standing of lawyers in our community, and fostering collegiality among participating members. Also, it just feels good to work true justice once in a while. I look forward to these things, and to promoting a strong groundwork for Pro Bono services in Westmoreland County, for years to come.”

In addition to hiring George the Bar Foundation has also hired Melissa Poteste as legal secretary/administrator/receptionist. Melissa brings 30 years of legal secretary experience in family law to the program. She worked for many years with several Pittsburgh law firms, most recently Pollock Begg Komar & Vertz. Melissa started with the program on July 1, 2019 and will be responsible for client screening, program communications, administrative duties and serve as Jacquelyn of all trades.

It is both the intention and the ambition of the foundation to continue to provide excellent services to those in need and to expand the program as new opportunities present themselves.

As always, the success of the program will depend on the generosity of volunteer attorneys, who, as in the past, will be generous with their time and their commitment to serving the needy. **Attorneys willing to provide pro bono services, including limited representation and brief advice, are asked to contact the Pro Bono Program or the Executive Director.**

The Pro Bono program will be operational on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 am – 3 pm. Inquiries are best made by phone at 724-837-5539** so that intakes can be conducted and follow-up appointments scheduled on an as-needed-basis. The program will be providing services in the areas of family law, social security, workers compensation, unemployment, debt collection, bankruptcy, landlord/tenant, license suspensions, expungements, estate and trust issues and other areas of general civil law.