

BAR ASSOCIATION April 26, 2017 - For immediate release - On May 16, 2017, Westmoreland County voters will nominate one Republican and one Democrat candidate for an open judicial seat on the Court of Common Pleas.

Three candidates, who have crossed filed on both the Republican and Democratic primary tickets, are seeking the nomination for the judicial post. Those attorneys are: L. Anthony Bompiani, Lisa G. Monzo and James P. Silvis.

The Westmoreland Bar Association's intention is to educate the voting public about the judicial election and the qualifications of the candidates. Attorneys who practice in the Westmoreland Court system are in a unique position to assess the professional qualities that are necessary for good judges. For that reason, the WBA polled its members about the overall qualifications of the Westmoreland County judicial candidates.

Participating members of the Westmoreland Bar Association responded to a survey of judicial candidates. The survey asked the local attorneys to rate each candidate as: Highly Recommended, Recommended, Not Recommended or Not Familiar With Candidate. Certified Public Accountant Teresa Shanta tabulated the results and reported the following:

	Highly		Not	Not
	<u>Recommended</u>	Recommended	Recommended	Familiar
L. Anthony Bompiani	13%	33%	25%	29%
Lisa G. Monzo	32%	28%	12%	28%
James P. Silvis	57%	26%	7%	10%

The Court of Common Pleas is the general trial court of Westmoreland County. Major civil and criminal cases are heard in this court, along with appeals from the minor courts (such as appeals from Magisterial District Judges), appeals not exclusively assigned to another court and matters involving children and families.

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