

LAW OFFICES  
BACHMANN, HESS, BACHMANN & GARDEN, P.L.L.C.

LESTER C. HESS, JR.  
JEFFREY R. MILLER

1226 CHAPLINE STREET  
P.O. BOX 351  
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003-0046

(304) 233-3511

TELEFAX (304) 233-3199

CARL G. BACHMANN (1890-1980)  
LESTER C. HESS (1903-1971)  
JOHN B. GARDEN (1925-1994)  
GILBERT S. BACHMANN (1918-2014)

January 16, 2015

Robert Herron, City Manager  
City of Wheeling  
Office of the City Manager  
City County Building  
1500 Chapline Street  
Wheeling, WV 26003

**RE: 2015-2016 Municipal Court Budget**

Dear Mr. Herron:

Pursuant to your Memorandum of December 15, 2014, this will constitute my transmittal letter regarding the proposed 2015-2016 Budget for the Municipal Court Department. Enclosed is the Departmental Budget Request Form which I have completed. I did **not** complete either the Program Justification Form or the Capital Equipment Outlay Schedule as I did not feel either was applicable to my proposed budget for the coming year. If you do require any additional information with regard to the proposed Municipal Court Budget, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Otherwise, I do not anticipate any additional unusual expenditures for the coming year. Our goals will again be to fairly administer and enforce the Ordinances of the City of Wheeling. I do, however, want to continue the discussion that Don Nickerson and I initiated with you two years ago regarding the prospect of Don and I being added to the City of Wheeling's health insurance program. Don and I are both still very much interested in being added to the City's health insurance program consistent with other City employees if at all possible.

As we discussed last year, both of our workloads have increased significantly these past few years. It is not uncommon for either of us to have dockets on a single day that total 40-50 cases. Furthermore, we are having to schedule and conduct more and more individual trials than in the past. All of this would seem to support a request on our part for an increase in our base salary.

However, Don and I have discussed this issue at length, and we are both in agreement that we are willing to forgo any salary increases for the foreseeable future if, in the alternative, the City is willing to add us to its health insurance program.

We believe the Municipal Court Department is self-sufficient enough to bear this additional expense without necessitating a significant increase in our Budget. When we first discussed this issue two years ago and you ultimately advised us that you did not believe there were sufficient monies in the City's overall Budget to cover the cost of adding Don and I to the health insurance program, you assured us that you would make every effort to "make that happen" if and when possible. Therefore, Don and I would formally request that we both be added to the City's health insurance program consistent with other City employees at the next available opportunity.

If you ultimately determine that Don and I cannot be added to the City's health insurance program, then, in the alternative, Don and I would ask that our base salaries be increased.

If you have any questions of Don or me regarding our request to be added to the City's health insurance program, please feel free to contact me directly. We are both willing to sit down with you and discuss this matter further if you think that would be helpful.

Otherwise, I look forward to another successful year for the Municipal Court Department. Thank you once again for the privilege of allowing me to continue to serve the City of Wheeling as its Municipal Court Judge.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jeffrey R. Miller

*Author's Internet E-mail:*

*Jmiller@bhbglaw.com*

Enclosure

