



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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New magistrate sworn into office in Berkeley County

For immediate release

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – In a ceremony conducted July 1 in the Berkeley County Judicial Center, Christopher C. Wilkes, Chief Judge of the Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit of West Virginia, administered the oath of office to William “Bill” Norris, Berkeley County’s newest Magistrate.

“I’ve known Bill for more than four decades and can think of no one more qualified to serve out the unexpired term of retiring Magistrate Overington,” said Judge Wilkes.

Magistrate Norris won the election for magistrate in Division 3 in Berkeley County on May 10. Normally, the start date for new magistrates and other judicial officials elected into office in the 2016 elections is January 1, 2017. Norris was appointed to start his duties July 1, 2016, to fill the vacancy left by Magistrate Jo Ann Overington upon her retirement June 30.

“I thank [Magistrate Overington] for her years of dedicated service to the citizens of Berkeley County,” said Chief Judge Wilkes.

Magistrate Norris has a varied background – he has been a radio personality, a marketing representative, a media salesperson, and a longtime wedding and event DJ. He also is a past member of the Berkeley County Board of Education. He is active in Destiny Baptist Church and was selected South Berkeley County Citizen of the Year. Magistrate Norris is an Eastern Panhandle native and a Musselman High School graduate, and he earned his bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University.

For more information on the Magistrate Courts of the State of West Virginia, please visit <http://www.courtswv.gov/lower-courts/magistrate-courts.html>.

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