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**For Immediate Release: August 13, 2018**

### **Delaware County Clerk of Orphans' Court Launches Online Marriage Applications**

The Delaware County Clerk of Orphans' Court announced the launch of online marriage applications on August 13. Couples residing in Delaware County will now be able to complete a marriage application online and submit it to the County prior to coming to the office, expediting their visit. Instructions, marriage license information and PA rules are conveniently located on the website as well.

"We are excited to add this service for our constituents," said Mary J. Walk, Clerk of Orphans' Court. "Our office realizes that time is valuable and we want to assist local couples as much as possible. Residents can now complete the application in the privacy of their home and then just arrive at our office with the necessary paperwork to sign and process the application."

It is still necessary for both of the applicants to visit the office in person in order to be sworn in and to be issued the actual marriage license. There is a three day waiting period from the date the license is issued before a couple can be married.

The Delaware County Clerk of Orphans' Court is also planning to offer kiosks within the office to allow couples to start their applications when they arrive if desired, especially during high volume times.

The link to the Online Marriage Applications can be found here:

<http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/registerofwills/marriage.html>

For further information, please call the Delaware County Clerk of Orphans' Court 610-891-4548 or 610-891-4547.

#### **About the Register of Wills/Clerk of Orphans' Court:**

Mary J. Walk, Esquire took office on January 2, 2018 as the Register of Wills and Clerk of the Orphans' Court. An attorney licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for over 18 years, Ms. Walk brings both her legal experience and commitment to public service to the Register of Wills office.

The Register of Wills' principal duty is the probate of wills and the acceptance for filing of all documents necessary to complete the administration of a decedent's estate. If a person dies without a will (i.e., intestate), the Register, upon petition, will appoint an administrator of the estate. The Register is also the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's authorized agent for the collection of inheritance tax.

The Register of Wills is a quasi-judicial position, meaning that if necessary, the Register can conduct a hearing to determine who should be appointed as executor or administrator of an estate. The parties have a right to appeal the Register's decision to the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas.

The Register also serves as the Clerk of the Orphans' Court. Therefore, our office serves as the filing office and custodian of records for matters involving adoptions, guardianships and estate litigation. The office also issues all marriage licenses for Delaware County.

The Register of Wills office belongs to you, the citizens of Delaware County. Our goal is to serve your needs with efficiency and compassion. We welcome your feedback.

The Register of Wills Office located on the 1st Floor of the Government Center, 201 West Front Street, Media, PA.

**Hours of Operation:** 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, please arrive no later than 3:30 PM.