

County of Westmoreland



PROCLAMATION

Record Your Veteran's Discharge Month November 2014

WHEREAS, discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces are entitled and encouraged to record their Discharge Certificates (DD214's) or any other certificate of discharge or release from duty that was issued by the United States Government or any State Government in reference to those who served with the Military, Reserve Unit, or National Guard Forces, at the Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds office *free of charge*; and

WHEREAS, discharge records have restricted access and are confidential and *not Public Record* and no disclosure thereof shall be made except as permitted by law. Therefore, a copy of a Military Discharge record may be made available only with the proper identification, to the subject named on the document, a surviving spouse, a member of the subjects immediate family, or to that subjects agent or representative duly authorized in writing, or when required by process of a court order, and department or agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States Government, or a county Director of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, discharge papers are proof of military service, and can be used to establish eligibility for a variety of benefit purposes including employment, retirement, civil service, financial aid, and property tax exemption programs; and

WHEREAS, original discharge records should be safeguarded by storage in a safety deposit box, vault, or fire proof strongbox and never given out or distributed; and

WHEREAS, the process of recording discharge papers is done at the Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds on any business day, is fast, efficient, simple and free; and

WHEREAS, the Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds through Westmoreland County Courthouse can provide veterans, their dependents, or others authorized, with certified copies of discharge documents that will be of full force and effects as an original, free of charge, at any time in the future.

THEREFORE, we the Commissioners of Westmoreland County, Charles W. Anderson, R. Tyler Courtney, and Ted Kopas do hereby proclaim the month of November, 2014 **"RECORD YOUR VETERAN'S DISCHARGE MONTH"** in Westmoreland County and urges all veterans who have not already done so to record their discharge documents at their convenience as soon as possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and caused the Seal of the County of Westmoreland to be affixed this 23rd day of October, 2014.

Charles W. Anderson, Chairman

R. Tyler Courtney, Vice- Chairman

Ted Kopas, Secretary

Board of County Commissioners