Role of the Public Members on the State Board of Pharmacy

by Paul J. Miller, Ed.D., public member, State Board of Pharmacy

In 1978, the Pennsylvania Administrative Code was amended to provide two public members on all boards and commissions in the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA). The two members serve as representatives of the public at-large for their respective boards/commissions. Two conditions are stipulated in these appointments:

1. They are not permitted to be affiliated in any way with the profession; and
2. They are required to attend semi-annual training seminars sponsored by BPOA.

The public members have the same rights, responsibilities and privileges as the professional members. Public members are expected to provide a strong public safety and consumer protection to the boards.

To serve as a public member on the State Board of Pharmacy, a person must be recommended by the governor and approved by the state Senate. The normal term for a member is six years. Public members can serve two consecutive terms. The Board of Pharmacy has two public members, Paul J. Miller and Joseph F. Marino.

Paul J. Miller, Ed.D. has served on the board since 1998. Dr. Miller is a retired school administrator from the Garnet Valley School District. His educational background includes a Bachelor of Science from Penn State and a master’s and doctorate from Temple University. He also serves as chairman of the Probable Cause Screening Committee for the Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Miller’s second term will expire in April 2011.

Joseph F. Marino is a resident of Philadelphia and has served on the Board of Pharmacy since June 2010. He serves as a co-chair of East Passyunk Crossing Civic Association and director of the Music Ministry at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Philadelphia. Mr. Marino is a graduate of Temple University with a bachelor’s in rhetoric and communication. He also has a Master of Library Science from Drexel University.

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