

## **SUGGESTED BONDING COMPANIES WHO ISSUE ESTATE BONDS IN MONONGALIA COUNTY**

The following should serve as a guide to bonding companies who issue “Estate” type bonds. These are just suggestions. If you know an insurance agent, you can call that person to inquire whether or not his/her company can issue “estate bonds”.

If you are a West Virginia resident and are the spouse, parent, sibling, lineal descendent or sole beneficiary, the bond will be equal to *the value of personal property in the decedent's name only*, i.e., bank accounts, stocks bonds, titles of vehicles, mobile homes, boats and motorcycles. It also includes refund monies, state or federal income tax refunds made payable to the estate.

If you are a nonresident of West Virginia and/or not the spouse, parent sibling, lineal descendent or sole beneficiary, the amount of bond is to be doubled according to West Virginia Code 44-5-3(b)(1).

If there is a will but does not stipulate that you be permitted to serve without bond, a bond is needed based on the above. NOTE: The value of the real estate is to be included in that bond amount if the will states the personal representative has the “power to sell real estate” in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-1-7.

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