

**MAUGER & METER**  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

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**LEE F. MAUGER**

lmauger@maugermeter.com

**NICOLAS F. METER**

nmeter@maugermeter.com

**MICHAEL L. MAUGER**

mmauger@maugermeter.com

1401 East High Street  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 698  
Pottstown, PA 19464

**L. STANLEY MAUGER**

1920-2015

610-323-4100

Fax: 610-323-4141

Website: [MaugerMeter.com](http://MaugerMeter.com)

May 13, 2019

Pottstown Borough Council  
100 E. High Street  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Re: Pottstown Borough Land Bank Board Vacancy

Dear Council,

I am writing to express interest in the appointed position of Board Member of the Pottstown Borough Land Bank.

I believe you have my credentials on file, but in case there are any Councilmen or Councilwomen who may not be familiar with me, I will briefly summarize the interests and qualifications that make me well-suited for appointment to the Land Bank Board.

In the 1960's, my grandfather and his partner, Richard Spare, opened up their own law practice, Mauger & Spare, right here in the Borough. My father joined the firm in 1983, and, just last year, I was blessed to be able to join him and become the third generation Mauger to practice law in the very buildings where my grandfather and father both grew up. In fact, up until just last week, my family's law firm sat on King Street, right across from the old Borough Hall. We have seen first-hand the unfortunate economic trends of the downtown district.

However, having recently just purchased our first home almost two years ago right here in the Borough, my wife and I have also witnessed first-hand the beginnings of the rejuvenation of Pottstown. To say we are excited about the growth and nearly limitless potential of our hometown would be an understatement. We know this is only the beginning of Pottstown's resurgence, and I believe that the Land Bank can and will play a crucial role in it.

As many of you know, I have been openly critical of certain aspects of the Land Bank in the past. In fact, members of the Land Bank (wrongfully) accused me of "trying to kill" the Land Bank. I assure you that nothing could be further than the truth. The fact is that I have been critical of certain policies of the Land Bank *because* I believe strongly in the key role the Land Bank will play in the rejuvenation of our town, and I want to ensure the Land Bank's effectiveness and efficiency, its accountability and transparency, and its success and longevity. I want the Land

Bank to earn the confidence and trust of our community, and our leadership. I want the Land Bank to be on the forefront of the future of our Borough. I want the Land Bank to be strong. I want the Land Bank to thrive as Pottstown will thrive.

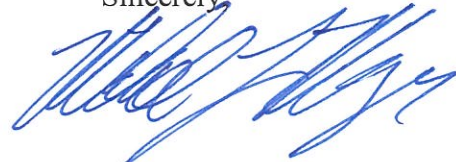
Because of this, I have spent countless hours researching Pennsylvania's Land Bank Act, studying the policies, procedures, successes, and even failures of the Land Banks of dozens of other counties, cities, and municipalities across Pennsylvania. I have even reached out and spoken with experts in the area who helped draft Pennsylvania's Land Bank Act. I have done all of this in my own personal time, and in my capacity as a citizen of this town, in an effort to be able to make educated contributions to discussions at Land Bank Board meetings (which I have also attended, again, in my capacity as a citizen of the Borough). I have done all of this so that I can help.

But it is not only my passion that I will bring to the Land Bank, but education, experience, and knowledge. In addition to estate planning and administration, my legal practice focuses on the precise issues that the Land Bank will face: real estate, land-use and zoning, municipal law, and taxation. I am eager to bring this wealth of resources to the Land Bank, and to work together with other Land Bank Board members so that we can continue moving Pottstown in the right direction.

Attached to this letter is my resume. I thank you for your time and consideration, and I am confident that you will find my experience and passion make me a well-qualified candidate for appointment to the Pottstown Borough Land Bank Board.

As always, I am available for any questions the Council may have, and I look forward to continuing to work with our Borough's leadership as we march towards a greater Pottstown.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Mauger, Esq.", written in a cursive style.

Michael L. Mauger, Esq.

# Michael Mauger

822 Brookside Ave. • Pottstown, PA 19464 • 484-948-0969 • mmauger@maugermeter.com

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## EMPLOYMENT

- Law Offices of Mauger & Meter** August 2018 – Present  
*Associate Attorney*
- Admitted to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
  - Specialize in Estate/Elder Law, Real Estate/Property Law, Small Business Representation, and Family Law;
  - Firm Lead on matters of Entertainment, Copyright, and Litigation.
- Office of Chief Counsel, Immigration & Customs Enforcement** May 2017 – August 2017  
*Law Clerk*
- Represented the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security in immigration proceedings in the Philadelphia EOIR Court.
  - Prepared briefs, and memoranda advising ICE Office of Chief Counsel on legal positions.
- Clinic for Asylum, Refugee & Emigrant Services, Villanova, PA** May 2016 – May 2017,  
December 2018 – May 2018  
*Certified Legal Intern*
- Conducted client intake interviews, prepared refugees for asylum hearings in EOIR Courts;
  - Successfully represented clients in EOIR Court proceedings, prepared briefs, and affidavits.
- Craig Scott Inc., West Chester, PA** November 2012 – August 2015  
*Business Development Manager*
- Led overhaul of dealership prospecting process for internet and phone clients, leading to a 59% YOY increase in sales from web sources.

## EDUCATION

- Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Villanova, PA** May 2018  
J.D.
- *Federalist Society* – President
  - *Moot Court Board* – Director of Recruitment & Alumni Relations
    - **Champion** – 2018 UNLV Schreck Gaming Law Competition
    - **Semifinalist** – 2017 UNC Law Craven Constitutional Law Competition
    - **Quarterfinalist** – 2016 Villanova Law Theodore L. Reimel Competition
- West Chester University, West Chester, PA** May 2013  
M.A., English
- *West Chester University Writing Center* - Graduate Assistant
  - *Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association Conference 2012* – Research Presenter
- Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA** May 2010  
B.A., English
- *Track & Field* – Captain
  - *WWEC 88.3 FM* – DJ Director, Station Manager
- The Hill School, Pottstown, PA** May 2006  
H.S. Diploma

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## COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP

### **Pottstown Human Relations Commission**

*Commissioner*

2018 – Present

### **Centro Cultural Latinos Unidos**

*Director, Board of Directors*

2019 – Present

### **American Bar Association**

*Member*

2018 – Present

*Student Member*

2016 – 2018

### **American Immigration Lawyers Association (Philadelphia Chapter)**

*Member*

2018 – Present

*Student Member*

2016 – 2018

### **Berks County Bar Association**

*Member*

2018 – Present

### **Chester County Bar Association**

*Member*

2018 – Present

- Membership Committee

*Student Member*

2017 – 2018

### **Federalist Society**

*Member, Philadelphia Lawyer's Chapter*

2018 – Present

*Member, Villanova Student Chapter (President)*

2015 – 2018

### **Montgomery County Bar Association**

*Member*

2018 – Present

- Lawyer Referral Service
- Modest Means Legal Access Program

### **Pennsylvania Bar Association**

*Member*

2018 – Present

- Appellate Advocacy Committee