For Immediate Release
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U.S. Senator Bob Casey and National Taxpayer Advocate Nina A. Olson to Co-Host
Public Forum on IRS Plan to Reduce Face-to-Face and Telephone Service to Taxpayers

- MidPenn’s Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Attorney is One of Four Panelists

What: MidPenn Attorney Bob Hamilton is a tax lawyer for the little guy. It isn’t just the well-to-do
that run into trouble with the Internal Revenue Service. Millions of low income families receive
IRS notices every year. It is important that they know that help is available. MidPenn’s Low
Income Taxpayer Clinic has been open just over a year but Attorney Hamilton has represented
45 families, all living below the poverty level. Said Attorney Hamilton, “One woman was
seriously injured at work and was disabled. Though she received a settlement from her
employer the family quickly got into trouble due to extraordinarily high medical bills. She had to
sell her home and cash in a retirement account just to get by. She didn’t realize there would be
a tax penalty until she received a bill from the IRS for over $16,000.” Attorney Hamilton doesn’t
help people prepare their taxes, he helps them get square with the IRS after they have a
problem. In this case his representation resulted in an Offer in Compromise due to the family’s
financial plight and a payment of $25 which was accepted as payment in full.

Where: The Harrisburg University Auditorium, 326 Market Street in downtown Harrisburg.

When: Friday April 8, 2016 at 10 AM. The forum is open to the public.

Why: Concerns have been raised about the IRS plans for the future that may substantially
reduce telephone and face-to-face service to taxpayers. Attorney Hamilton has been asked to
comment on the challenges that low income taxpayers face in dealing with the IRS including the
special problems of the elderly and those who speak English as a second language.

About MidPenn Legal Services:

MidPenn Legal Services is a legal emergency room for the poor, providing free civil aid to low-
income families in critical matters including custody, domestic violence, housing, foreclosures,
public benefits, unemployment, consumer law, and bankruptcy. Primary funders are the Legal
Services Corporation (LSC), the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN), and the Pennsylvania
Interest on Lawyers’ Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Board. Additional support comes from local bar
associations and foundations, United Ways, private foundations, and individuals.

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