

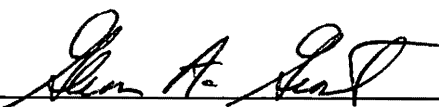
NOTICE TO THE BAR

SUPREME COURT ANNOUNCES ADOPTION OF TERM “SPECIAL ADJUDICATOR” TO REPLACE USE OF “SPECIAL MASTER”

The Supreme Court has adopted the term “Special Adjudicator” as a replacement for the former use of “Special Master.” In the context of attorney disciplinary proceedings, the term “Special Ethics Adjudicator” will replace the term “Special Ethics Master.”

The Court determined that the term “Special Adjudicator” is not only more descriptive of the role – reflecting the appointed person’s circumscribed decision-making function and authority to determine a matter or make findings in dispute – but also fosters greater sensitivity with regard to the use of language in the court system.

The Supreme Court’s adoption of the term “Special Adjudicator,” and the elimination of the term “Special Master,” is effective immediately. Full implementation will require amendments to the Court Rules and any Directives that make use of the now-replaced terminology. That work is underway. In the meantime, existing proceedings should transition to using the term “Special Adjudicator,” even when the adjudicator’s original assignment order used the old terminology.



Hon. Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: April 5, 2024