



## **The Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals Announces the 2023 Edition of the ACAN Benchbook And New Publicly-Available Training Materials**

After extensive work led by former Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals President, Professor Roger Haydock, the Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals (ACAN) is excited to invite people to use the [new 2023 edition of the ACAN Benchbook](#) along with brand new publicly-available [training modules based on the Benchbook](#).

The ACAN Benchbook is the best guide in existence for courts, court administrators, and practitioners who are considering using court-appointed neutrals. It builds on the work of numerous skilled neutrals over the years to assist people in considering and using the profession, and

- Updates previous editions to address the rebranding of the profession, what a “court-appointed neutral” is and how the term better serves the profession
- Describes the ways in which neutrals can be used
- Discusses and provides samples of appointment orders
- Outlines and discusses ethical issues in the appointment and use of neutrals
- Provides insights on the January 2019 ABA Guidelines on the Appointment and Use of “Special Masters” in Federal and State Civil Litigation
- Provides a table of state laws and rules on court-appointed neutrals
- Provides appendices of additional resources and articles.

The ACAN Training Modules track the Benchbook with outlines designed to assist people in developing training to help bring new people into the profession and to improve the work that court-appointed neutrals do.

ACAN makes these tremendous works publicly available to help advance our profession and ensure the highest quality of services to judges, court administrators, and practitioners. We urge everyone to take advantage of these resources so that they can better use the professional resources available in this exciting and growing field.

For more information about ACAN, the Benchbook, the Training Module, or the work we are doing to create more opportunities and improve our profession, please contact ACAN’s Executive Director Merrill Hirsh [merril@merrilhirsh.com](mailto:merril@merrilhirsh.com). For information in accessing and making use of ACAN materials, contact ACAN’s Administrative Director Aubrie Leigh Eagerton [Admin@courtappointedneutral.org](mailto:Admin@courtappointedneutral.org).