



Academy of
Court-Appointed
Neutrals

PRESS KIT

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The Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals is both the expert and the central resource for information on Court-Appointed Neutrals (also known as Special Masters).

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FACT SHEET

The Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals (ACAN) is the national association for Court-Appointed Neutrals.

ACAN's members include some of America's most experienced court-appointed neutrals - whether they are called "special masters," "monitors," "facilitators," "claims administrators" and numerous other titles. ACAN's members are thought leaders on the creative use of court-appointed neutrals as tools to assist in the administration of justice and on how to develop and broaden the profession. ACAN's members have dedicated themselves to ACAN's mission of helping:

- People become court-appointed neutrals
- Court-appointed neutrals become better and
- The profession better serve justice.

Professional Standards

ACAN works with the American Bar Association and other organizations interested in dispute resolution to develop ethics and professional standards. Its members agree to adhere to highest professional standards reflecting a commitment to providing service to the courts and the community that promotes the just, speedy and inexpensive resolution of disputes.

Annual Meeting

The Academy has a long history of unique annual meetings with extraordinary speakers, cutting-edge discussions and opportunities to develop professional skills and contacts.

Partnership with Other Organizations

ACAN reaches out to a wide community of judges, court staff, public and private organizations, practitioners and the dispute resolution community who share the goals of improving the administration of justice and employing the latest in skills and technology to meet that end.

Benchbook with Sample Appointments

One of the Academy's key accomplishments is the production of a Benchbook, providing invaluable information to judges and lawyers regarding the best use of court-appointed neutrals. The latest edition can be accessed [here](#).

Court-Appointed Neutral vs. Special Master

In 2022, ACAN changed its' name from the Academy of Court-Appointed Masters to the Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals. The Academy wanted to move away from the negative connotations of the word 'Master' and determined that 'Neutral' better describes what our profession does. 'Court-Appointed Neutral' better describes the diverse community that can serve in these roles and the diverse array of roles that can serve courts.

ACAN does not take or advocate for political positions. It is available to assist the press on all things about how courts have and can use neutrals in the administration of justice and what services these neutrals provide.

ACAN LOGOS



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MEDIA LINKS

Press Releases

- [Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals Applauds Decision by ABA Committee to Also Change Its Name and to Issue a New Draft Model Rule for Court-Appointed Neutrals](#) (August 1, 2022)
- [The 'Academy of Court-Appointed Masters' is Now 'The Academy of Court-Appointed Neutrals \(ACAN\)'](#) (July 7, 2022)
- [Academy of Court-Appointed Masters Announces Special Masters 101 Training May 4, 2022 and May 5-6 Annual Meeting](#) (April 4, 2022)
- [Academy of Court-Appointed Masters Announces Program to Train and Mentor New Special Masters and Improve the Profession](#) (January 24, 2022)
- [Academy of Court-Appointed Masters Opens Membership to Help People Become Special Masters; Former Director of the Federal Judicial Center Hon. Jeremy Fogel \(Ret.\) to Participate in Development Training for the Profession](#) (November 19, 2021)
- [Academy of Court-Appointed Masters to Open Its Membership to Help People Become Special Masters and Expand the Profession](#) (September 2, 2021)

ACAN in the News

- [What a Special Master Does, as Told by a Special Master](#), David Cohen (NPR - September 5, 2022)
- [ACAN President David Tenner on Using Court-Appointed Neutrals in the Review of Records Part 2](#) (Newsy - September 6, 2022)
- [ACAN President David Tenner on Using Court-Appointed Neutrals in the Review of Records](#) (Newsy - August 30, 2022)



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