



**April 4, 2025**

From the Desk of  
Richard Gendler, Esq.  
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954-728-4569

Maria Miserendino, Procurement Agent  
City of Wellington  
12300 Forest Hill Boulevard  
Wellington, FL 33414

Via Electronic Mail Only: [mmiserendino@wellingtonfl.gov](mailto:mmiserendino@wellingtonfl.gov)

Dear Ms. Miserendino,

I am writing to express my interest in serving as a Special Magistrate for the City of Wellington, Florida. As an attorney with nearly 30 years of experience and a current Special Magistrate for several municipalities, I believe my skills and background would allow me to make a meaningful contribution to your community.

I have been a member of the Florida Bar since 1997, and I currently serve as a Code Enforcement Special Magistrate for Palm Beach County, the City of Hollywood, the Town of Surfside, and the City of Miami. My experience as a neutral extends to my role as a securities arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). I live in Plantation, Florida, strategically positioned between these jurisdictions, and would be ready to serve in Wellington with a similarly convenient commute.

In addition to my experience as a Special Magistrate, I am a law partner at Gendler & Gendler, PLLC, where I focus on providing legal counsel to clients in various matters. I also serve as a faculty member at Florida Atlantic University College of Business, where I teach law and ethics to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Since 2018, I have had the privilege of serving as a Special Magistrate, making impartial determinations in disputes and hearings, and facilitating the fair application of local laws. I am confident that my background in both legal practice and teaching will allow me to bring a balanced and knowledgeable perspective to your proceedings.

In addition to my Juris Doctorate (J.D.), I hold two advanced law degrees: a Master of Laws (LL.M.) and a Doctorate of Juridical Sciences (J.S.D.), which further enrich my understanding of legal principles and their application in various contexts. I am attaching a copy of my resume for your reference.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience and qualifications align with the needs of the City of Wellington. Thank you for considering my interest in this position. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to your community.

Sincerely,



**Richard Gendler, Esq.**  
Attorney at Law  
Special Magistrate

Enclosure: Resume/CV

***RICHARD S. GENDLER, MTX, J.D., LL.M., J.S.D.***  
***Professor of Ethics and Law, Special Magistrate,***  
***Arbitrator, and Attorney At Law***  
***(954) 728-4569***  
***[Rgendler@Gendlerlawyers.com](mailto:Rgendler@Gendlerlawyers.com)***

**Employment**

Palm Beach County, Special Magistrate, 2018 to Present

- Preside over hearings and make findings of fact and conclusions of law as necessary to enforce various building and zoning related codes and ordinances.
- Issue subpoenas take testimony under oath, and issue orders having the force of law requiring whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the County's Codes.
- Levy fines and lien property where violations are not corrected within the timeframe ordered.

Town of Surfside, Special Master, 2022 to Present

- Preside over hearings and make findings of fact and conclusions of law as necessary to enforce various building and zoning related codes and ordinances.
- Take testimony under oath, and issue orders having the force of law requiring whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Town's Codes.
- Levy fines and lien property where violations are not corrected within the timeframe ordered.

City of Hollywood, Special Magistrate, 2024 to Present

- Preside over hearings pertaining to alleged violations of City Code and Ordinance regarding housing, landscaping, property maintenance, building, zoning, and sign codes, as well as health, welfare and safety standards.
- Impose fines, liens and other penalties against violators.

City of Miami, Special Magistrate, 2025 to Present

- Preside over and hear Code Enforcement Cases and such other cases referred by the City as are applicable under the City Code.
- Impose fines, liens and other penalties against violators where violations are not corrected within prescribed time period.

Florida Atlantic University, Ethics and Law Professor, 2014 to Present

- Teach Business Ethics
- Teach Business Law
- Director of Ethics, Law, and Society Certificate Program (2019 to 2023)
- Member Faculty Senate
- Member National Metrics Committee
- Member Faculty Policy and Procedures Committee
- Faculty Affiliate, Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative
- Business Law and Ethics Coordinator
- Member Assessment Committee

FINRA, Arbitrator, Arbitrator, 2020 to Present

- Preside over securities arbitration hearings.
- Take testimony
- Make findings of fact and conclusions of law
- Issue arbitration awards.

Demars & Associates Ltd, Arbitrator, 2022 to Present

- Preside over home builder and automobile manufacturer arbitration hearings.
- Take testimony
- Make findings of fact and conclusions of law
- Issue arbitration awards.

National Center for Dispute Settlement, Arbitrator, 2021 to Present.

- Preside over automobile manufacturer arbitration hearings.
- Take testimony
- Make findings of fact and conclusions of law
- Issue arbitration awards.

Gendler & Gendler, PLLC, Managing Member, 2024 to Present

- Represent individuals and corporations in myriads of legal issues including but not limited to real estate transactions, bankruptcy proceedings, civil litigation, and estate planning matters.

Thomas Jefferson School of Law, Adjunct Professor and Co-Faculty Director, 2012 to 2024



- Co-Faculty Director for J.S.D. program
- Teach Business and Consumer Bankruptcy, Loan Workouts, and Consumer Compliance

Richard S. Gendler & Associates, P.A., Managing Shareholder, 1998 to 2017

- Represent corporate debtors in chapter 7 bankruptcy proceedings
- Represent individual debtors in chapter 7, 11 & 13 bankruptcy proceedings.
- Represent consumers and corporate entities in residential and commercial foreclosures.
- Represent purchasers and sellers in residential real estate transactions.
- Supervised and trained associate attorneys and staff.

Marcia T. Dunn & Associates, P.A., Associate Attorney, 1997 to 1998

- Represented consumer debtors and corporations in chapter 7 bankruptcy proceedings and individuals in chapter 13 bankruptcy proceedings.

Robbins, Tunkey, Ross, Amsel, Raben & Waxmam, P.A., Associate Attorney, 1995 to 1997

- Represented defendants in criminal proceedings in State and Federal Court in cases involving murder, drug trafficking, sexual battery, driving under the influence, robbery, violations of probation/community control, battery, assault, and grand theft.

### **Education**

- University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, Florida, J.D. (Doctor of Jurisprudence)
- Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, California, J.S.D. (Doctor of Science of Law)
- Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, California, *Summa Cum Laude*, LL.M. (Master of Law)
- Florida Atlantic University College of Business, Boca Raton, Florida, MTX (Master of Tax)
- Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida, LL.M. (Master of Law: Regulatory Compliance: In Progress)
- University of Hartford, West Hartford, Connecticut, B.A. (Bachelor of Arts)

### **Licensure and Certification**

- Licensed to practice law in State Courts of Florida, United States District Court in and for the Southern District of Florida, United States Bankruptcy Court in and for the Southern District of Florida, United States Tax Courts, and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Scholarly Academic (SA) Qualification under *AACSB* Standard 15

### **Service and Professional Development to Profession**

Florida Bar, Committee Appointee, 2018 to 2021

- Appointment to the Student Education and Admissions to the Bar Committee

Florida Bar, Committee Vice Chair, 2016 to 2019

- Serve as Vice Chair of Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee “E”

Florida Bar, Committee Appointee, 2015 to 2018

- Appointment to the Law Education Committee

Florida Bar, Committee Appointee, 2013 to 2015

- Appointment to the Federal Rule Practice Committee and Education Subcommittee.

Bankruptcy Mortgage Mediation Committee, 2012 to 2015

- Appointment to the Bankruptcy Mortgage Mediation Committee for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.

### **Service to Community**

- Temple Kol Ami Emmanuel
  - President, 2022 to 2024
  - Executive Vice President of Administration, 2021 to 2022.
  - Executive Vice President of Education and Youth, 2020 to 2021
  - Executive Vice President of Rituals, 2018 to 2020.
- Debbie’s Dream Foundation to Cure Stomach Cancer, Board of Directors, 2020 to 2022
- Debbie’s Dream Foundation to Cure Stomach Cancer, Gala Committee member, 2011 to 2019.
- Plantation Acres Homeowners Association, Board Member, 2020 to 2023.

- Bravo Estates Homeowners Association, President, and Treasurer, 2003 to Present.

### **Awards**

Florida Atlantic University, College of Business, University Faculty Service Award Nominee, 2021

Florida Atlantic University, School of Accounting Graduate Professor of the Year, 2021

### **Publications**

- Gendler, Richard, DiCicco, Joel, Young, George, and Minkova, Teodora, Tax Advisor, Volume 54, Number 6, June 2023 Volume 54 Number 6 June 2023, Tax Fraud Dischargeability [Pages 20 – 38]
- DiCicco, Joel, Gendler, Richard, Florida CPA Today, Volume 38, Number 1 Winter, 2022, Accounting vs. U.S. Tax Taxation for Derivatives: Book Tax Differences Are Here to Stay [Pages 22 – 24]
- DiCicco, Joel, Gendler, Richard, Filatova Uliana, Minkova, Teodora, OIV Journal, Volume 3, Issue 1, Spring 2021, Level 3 Reporting Quality: Trend Analysis of Derivative Instruments' Restatements [Pages 9 – 15]
- DiCicco, Joel, Gendler, Richard, Filatova Uliana Journal of Medical Practice Management: MPM (2020) *Personal Goodwill and the Courts: An Analysis* [Pages 41 – 46]
- Crain Michael, Hopwood William, Young George, Gendler, Richard, Pacini, Carl (2019) American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Essentials of Forensic Accounting*. [Pages 55 – 143 (Chapter 3 Civil and Criminal Procedure, Chapter 4 Evidence and Chapter 5 Discovery)].
- Gendler, Richard (2014) *Mortgage Cramdown in Bankruptcy*, American Bankruptcy Institute Law Review [Pages 329 – 393]
- Gendler, Richard (2013) *Is Absolute Priority Rule "Absolute" for an Individual Chapter 11 Debtor?* American Bankruptcy Institute Committee Newsletter. [11-6 AM. BANKR. INST. COMM. NEWS (Dec. 2013)].
- Gendler, Richard (2012) *Categorizing Tax Liabilities for the Applicability of the Means Test*, American Bankruptcy Institute Journal [31-AUG Am. Bankr. Inst. J. 18]



- Editor, McGraw Hill Education for *Essentials of Business Law, Ninth Edition* by Anthony Liuzzo. Preparation of instructor's manual, test bank questions, PowerPoint slides and end of chapter quizzes for the textbook. (2014 to 2015).
- Contributing Editor, McGraw Hill Education for *Dynamic Business Law, The Essentials, Third Edition* by Nancy Kusabek, Neil Browne, Lucien Dhooge, Daniel Herron and Linda Barkacs. Prepared end of chapter quizzes for the textbook. (2014)

### **Works in Progress**

- Working Title: Chapter 13 *Bankruptcy Income Tax Dischargeability: A Historical Public Policy Perspective*
- Working Title: *Tax Fraud Dischargeability*

### **Presentations and Proceedings**

- March 2021, *Presentation on Business Ethics*, Florida Atlantic University Professional and Sport EMHA Leadership Executive Forum. Presentation to graduate students regarding corporate social responsibility and ethical leadership skills.
- February 2021, *Presentation on Business Ethics*, Florida Atlantic University Professional and Sport PMBA/MBA Leadership Executive Forum. Presentation to graduate students regarding corporate social responsibility and ethical leadership skills.
- December 2020, *Presentation on FAU Employee Computer and Emails Privacy Issues*, Florida Atlantic University College of Business Faculty and Staff Meeting. Presentation to FAU Employees regarding legal privacy considerations when using FAU computers and email account.
- September 2020, *Presentation on Business Ethics*, Florida Atlantic University Professional and Sport MBA Leadership Executive Forum. Presentation to graduate students regarding corporate social responsibility and ethical leadership skills.



- June 2019, *Seminar on Forensic Accounting*, Florida Atlantic University Center for Forensic Accounting. Presentation to Certified Public Accountants regarding relevant enhanced skills for forensic accountants including testifying, evidence, and expert reports in family and bankruptcy litigation. Attendees received continuing professional education credit.
- May 2019, *The U.S. Fight Against Corruption*, Universidad Nacional De Tres De Febrero and Florida Atlantic University College of Business. Presentation to Argentinian academics and public officials regarding the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act and Law 27.401 of the Argentine Criminal Code.
- August 2018, *Seminar on Forensic Accounting*, Florida Atlantic University Center for Forensic Accounting. Presentation to Certified Public Accountants regarding relevant enhanced skills for forensic accountants including testifying, evidence, and expert reports in family and bankruptcy litigation. Attendees received continuing professional education credit.
- January 2016, *Discharging Income Taxes in Consumer Bankruptcy Cases*, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Presentation to Certified Public Accountants regarding requirements of discharging income taxes in consumer bankruptcy. Attendees received continuing professional education credit.
- April 2015, *Home Mortgage Cramdown in Bankruptcy*, Kansas State Bar Association. Presentation regarding home mortgage cramdown research study published in the summer, 2014 edition of the American Bar Institute/St John's

University Law School Law Review. Attendees received continuing legal education credit.

- May 2014, *Home Mortgage Cramdown in Bankruptcy*, Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Presentation regarding J.S.D. dissertation regarding home mortgage cramdown research study at the law school graduate reception.
- October 2013, *Lien Stripping in Consumer Bankruptcy, Bringing or Defending Actions to Avoid Junior Mortgage Liens*, Strafford Publications. Attendees received continuing legal education credit.
- March 2013, *Topical Issues in Consumer Bankruptcy*, University of Miami School of Law Bankruptcy Assistance Clinic.
- January 2013, *Tax Issues in Consumer Bankruptcies, Navigating Discharge of Tax Liability, Impact of Tax Obligations on Means Testing, and Debt-Related Tax Consequences*, Strafford Publications. Attendees received continuing legal education credit.
- July 2011, *Best Practices for Handling Foreclosures and Delinquencies Among Condominium Owners*, Brickell Homeowners Association Property Managers Forum.

**Council**

Michael J. Napoleone, Mayor  
John T. McGovern, Vice Mayor  
Tanya Siskind, Councilwoman  
Maria Antuña, Councilwoman  
Amanda Silvestri, Councilwoman

**Manager**

Jim Barnes

**LOI No. 202516**

**Title:** Letters of Interest-Special Magistrate

**Bid Opening:** April 16, 2025 at 5:00 pm

**Addendum Date:** April 7, 2025

**ADDENDUM NO. ONE**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Addendum/NOTICE is to make changes, additions, deletions, revisions, and clarifications to the Letters of Interest (LOI) documents for the Letters of Interest-Special Magistrate. Bidders shall review the Addendum requirements in detail.

**Question 1:** Is there an incumbent for this position?

**Response 1:** There are currently three incumbent special magistrates, one of whose term is expiring. Wellington is seeking applicants interested in either replacing or supplementing the current Wellington special magistrates.

**Question 2:** We understand that any ordinance issue will be subject to a hearing if there is a violation. What are the most common violations that the county sees?

**Response 2:** The most common violations relate to property maintenance.

**Question 3:** How many hearings per year does the Village expect that the Special Magistrate would handle?

**Response 3:** This is difficult to project because it depends upon the number of notices of violation/notices of hearing that are mailed out and no compliance is obtained prior to the hearing date. During 2024, there were a total of 653 matters on the special magistrate agenda, many of which were consent items. The average number of monthly cases is 54.

**Question 4:** Are these hearings required to be conducted in person?

**Response 4:** Yes, they are conducted in person.

**Question 5:** Would the Village of Wellington consider a zoom option for the hearings?

**Response 5:** No, the Village of Wellington will only conduct these hearings in person.

**Question 6:** How often will these Special Magistrate hearings be held?

**Response 6:** Special Magistrate hearings are held each month on the third Thursday of the month.

**Question 7:** Will the Special Magistrate be responsible for putting liens on properties for non-payment of violations pursuant to Fl. Stat. 162.09 and Code of Ordinances Village of Wellington, Florida, Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-199 and 2-200?

**Response 7:** No. The Special Magistrate is only responsible for entering an initial Order Finding Violations and, if not corrected, an Order Imposing Penalty/Lien. The Clerk to the Special Magistrate takes care of recording the Order Imposing Penalty/Lien, which converts it from a fine to lien. Please note that Sections 1-99 and 2-200 of Wellington's Code of Ordinances has been renumbered as 2-38 and 2-39 and is available at:

[https://library.municode.com/fl/wellington/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR\\_CH2AD\\_ARTIVCOCO\\_S2-39DULIACFOCOCOL](https://library.municode.com/fl/wellington/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH2AD_ARTIVCOCO_S2-39DULIACFOCOCOL)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Proposers must acknowledge receipt of any and all Addenda. Failure to do so may result in rejection of the LOI. All requirements of the proposal documents remain unchanged except as cited herein.

April 14, 2025 - Richard Gendler, Esq.

Signature of Proposer Acknowledging Receipt of  
Addendum No. (1) One to be attached in front of LOI