

tunity to register to vote or otherwise to qualify to vote at any election, or (b) found by state election officials not qualified to register to vote or to vote at any election.

"In any proceeding before the Special Master or Masters, unless otherwise directed by the Court, the applicant shall be heard *ex parte*. His statement under oath shall be prima facie evidence as to his age, residence and his prior efforts to register or otherwise qualify to vote. Where proof of literacy or an understanding of other subjects is required by valid provisions of state law, the Special Master or Masters shall examine the applicant and his answers shall be included in the transcript of the hearings. All statements of the applicant shall be under oath and shall be taken down stenographically and a transcription thereof shall accompany the report of the Special Master or Masters to the court.

"Upon receipt of such report, the court shall cause the Attorney General to transmit a copy thereof by mail to each party defendant and to each state election official, thereafter to be furnished a certified copy of the original or any supplementary decree pertaining to such report, together with an order to show cause within ten days why an order of the court should not be entered in accordance with such report. Any party defendant or such state election official desiring to show cause why such an order of the court should not be entered shall within such ten day period, or such other period as the court may specify, file written exceptions with the court.

"Any such report of the Special Master or Masters together with the exceptions filed thereto, after an opportunity for oral argument and, subject to limitations to be imposed by the court, the presentation of additional evidence by the persons filing such exceptions, shall be reviewed by the court. After such review the court shall issue a supplementary decree which shall specify which person or persons named in the report are qualified and entitled to vote at any election within such period as would be applicable if such person or persons had been registered or otherwise qualified under State law. The Attorney General shall cause to be transmitted certified copies of the original decree and any supplementary decree confirming or modifying such report to the appropriate election officials of the State, and any such official who, with notice of such original or supplementary decree, refuses to permit any person named as qualified to vote in such original or supplementary decree to vote at any election covered thereby, or to have the vote of any such person counted, may be proceeded against for contempt.

"The court may authorize the Special Master or Masters to issue to each person named in the original decree or any supplementary decree as qualified and entitled to vote at an election a certificate identifying the holder thereof as a person qualified and entitled, pursuant to the court's original decree or supplementary decree, to vote at any such election.

"The court may authorize any Special Master or Masters appointed pursuant to this subsection (or may appoint other Special Masters) (1) to attend at any time and place for holding any election at which any person named in the court's original decree or any supplementary decree is entitled to vote and report to the court whether any such person has been denied the right to vote, and (2) to attend at any time and place for counting the votes cast at any election at which any person named in the court's original decree or any supplementary decree is entitled to vote and report to the court whether any vote cast by any such person has not been properly counted.

"Any Special Master or Masters appointed by the court pursuant to this subsection shall have all the powers conferred upon a master by Rule 53(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The compensation to be allowed such Special Master or Masters shall be fixed by the court. Such compensation and the cost of conducting the hearings, including the cost of the transcript, shall be payable by the United States.

"The court shall have authority to take any other actions, consistent with the provisions of this subsection, reasonably appropriate or necessary to enforce its decrees."

(b) Add the following sentence at the end of subsection (c) :

"When any official of a state or subdivision thereof has resigned or has been relieved of his office and no successor has assumed such office, any act or practice of such official constituting a deprivation of any right or privilege secured by subsection (c) or (b) hereof shall be deemed that of the State and the proceeding may be instituted or continued against the State as party defendant."