

laws of the Northern Mariana Islands the Attorney General of the Northern Mariana Islands or any other person or persona as may be authorized by the laws of the Northern Marianas to act therein.

"**Civil action**", refers to a civil action in a district court.

The words "**demurrer**," "**motion to quash**," "**plea in abatement**," "**plea in bar**" and "**special plea in bar**," or words to the same effect, in any act of Congress shall be construed to mean the motion raising a defense or objection provided in Rule 12.

"**District court**" includes all district courts named in subdivision (a) of this rule.

"**Federal magistrate judge**" means a United States magistrate judge as defined in 28 U.S.C. §§ 631-639, a judge of the United States or another judge or judicial officer specifically empowered by statute in force in any territory or possession, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, to perform a function to which a particular rule relates.

"**Judge of the United States**" includes a judge of a district court, court of appeals or the Supreme Court.

"**Law**" includes statutes and judicial decisions.

"**Magistrate judge**" includes a United States magistrate judge as defined in 28 U.S.C. §§ 631-639, a judge of the United States, another judge or judicial officer specifically empowered by statute in force in any territory or possession, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, to perform a function to which a particular rule relates, and a state or local judicial officer, authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3041 to perform the functions prescribed in Rules 3, 4, and 5.

"**Oath**" includes affirmations.

"**Petty offense**" is defined in 18 U.S.C. § 19.

"**State**" includes District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, territory and insular possession.

"**United States magistrate judge**" means the officer authorized by 28 U.S.C. §§ 631-639.

[Amended Dec. 27, 1948, eff. Oct. 20, 1949; Apr. 9, 1956, eff. 90 days after Apr. 9, 1956; Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966; Apr. 24, 1972, eff. Oct. 1, 1972; Aug. 1, 1982; Oct. 12, 1984, P. L. 98-473, Title II, Ch. I, § 209(e), Ch. II, § 215(e), 98 Stat. 1987, 2016; Nov. 18, 1988, P. L. 100-690, Title VII, Subtitle B, § 7089(c), 102 Stat. 4409; Dec. 1, 1990; Dec. 1, 1991; Dec. 1, 1993.]