

Improving Consistency with Low-Contrast Complex Lines of Division

SENA is somewhat inconsistent in how it describes which low-contrast complex lines of division are registerable; sub-sections of A.3.B.3 say that they must be attested and that Appendix H has a list of acceptable ones, but Appendix H instead describes more generalized standards. Additionally, SENA is inconsistent in terminology, using "poor contrast" sometimes and "low-contrast" other times.

These changes are intended to make things more consistent between A.3.B.3 and Appendix H; however, the primary standard remains identifiability. Regarding "poor contrast" and "low-contrast", we are making the smallest possible change, to make it explicit that we use both interchangeably, in section A.3.B.2.

The current relevant portion of A.3.B.2 reads:

Pairings such as a color and a color or a metal and a metal are said to have poor contrast.

We are changing this portion of A.3.B.2., effective immediately, to read:

Pairings such as a color and a color or a metal and a metal are said to have poor contrast or to be low-contrast.

The current relevant portions of A.3.B.3.a and A.3.B.3.c are identical; both read:

Thus, any pairing of low-contrast tinctures with a complex line of division must be attested in order to be registered. A discussion of currently allowed low-contrast combinations and their designs is included in Appendix H.

We are changing these relevant portions of A.3.B.3.a and A.3.B.3.c, effective immediately to read:

Thus, any pairing of low-contrast tinctures with a complex line of division must meet the standards in Appendix H.

As Appendix H is changing substantially, we are giving only the new version. We are changing Appendix H, effective immediately, to read in whole:

The primary standard for low-contrast complex lines of division is that they be readily identifiable.

In many cases, a charge overlying a low-contrast complex line of division will render the line of division unidentifiable. Thus, divided fields with low-contrast tinctures with complex lines of division will be registered with a charge overlying the line division only if the line of division remains readily identifiable.

In some cases, even if there is no overlying charge, a low-contrast complex line of division may be unidentifiable and thus unregisterable. Similarly, in some cases, the specific shades used in a submission may render a low-contrast complex line of

division unidentifiable and thus unregistrable, even if the combination has previously been registered.

Some low-contrast complex line combinations which have been registered recently are:

- argent and Or: with a right step
- azure and gules: embattled
- azure and vert: embattled
- gules and sable: arrondi; indented; rayonny
- gules and purpure: indented
- gules and vert: enarched
- purpure and vert: wavy
- sable and vert: dovetailed; indented

Some low-contrast complex line combinations which have been ruled unregistrable, even when there is no overlying charge, are:

- sable and purpure
- sable and azure