

The Supervised Intelligence Method (SIM)

Five Stages · Three Human-Only · Two AI-Assisted Under Supervision

01 Legal Framing HUMAN ONLY

The advocate alone identifies the legal question, applicable framework, and issues to be researched. No AI system participates. The framing is the advocate's intellectual act and professional responsibility — non-delegable.

▲ Risk if skipped: Legal theory is AI-generated. Every subsequent stage is built on a foundation the advocate did not lay. This is the root...

02 Pattern Expansion AI ASSISTED

AI tools search, retrieve, and generate candidate materials within the frame the advocate has set. Every output is presumptively unverified. No client-confidential data enters any system without auditability and control.

▲ Risk if skipped: Research is constrained to what the advocate already knows. The velocity and breadth advantage of AI-assisted rese...

03 Doctrinal Reconstruction HUMAN DOMINANT

The advocate applies legal reasoning to candidate materials, reconstructs the argument, selects authorities, and determines application to facts. AI may assist under direct supervision. Editing preserves the AI's structure. Reconstruction replaces it with the advocate's analysis.

▲ Risk if skipped: Submission applies a generic type-pattern rather than engaging the specific facts of this dispute. Judges and opposing ...

04 Verification HUMAN ONLY

Every citation confirmed against SCC Online, Manupatra, or Indian Kanoon — actual judgment located and read, not the AI summary. Verification of authorities and verification of statutory provisions are separate professional obligations. Neither may be delegated to AI.

▲ Risk if skipped: Professional misconduct. The Supreme Court in *Gummedi Usha Rani*, the Bombay HC in *Deepak Bahry*, and the Kera...

05 Strategic Judgment HUMAN ONLY

The advocate determines which arguments to advance, which to withhold, how to sequence submissions before a bench, what tactical concessions to make. This requires knowledge of the court, the bench, and the client. No AI system has ever sat in this seat.

▲ Risk if skipped: All arguments presented at equal weight, without strategic hierarchy, without pre-emption of obvious counter-argument...

ACCOUNTABILITY REFERENCE TEMPLATE (ART)

Four questions to answer before filing any AI-assisted work product — applied to your own work, and to the opponent's.

01 Framing Diligence

Did I personally identify the legal issue before engaging AI?

02 Supervisory Adequacy

Did I maintain meaningful oversight of all AI-generated content?

03 Verification Completeness

Did I independently verify every citation and statutory provision?

04 Judgment Independence

Did I exercise independent professional judgment in final decisions?

"The machine processes. The advocate authors."

Extracted from AI for Indian Advocates: The Practitioner's Standard for Supervised Intelligence · Shivam Shukla · 2026

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