



## SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

Atlanta November 12, 1996

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed.

On December 13, 1995 the Supreme Court of Georgia established the Supreme Court Commission on Equality ("the Commission") to continue the implementation phase of the work of the Supreme Court Committee for Gender Equality and the Supreme Court Commission on Racial and Ethnic Bias in the Courts. The initial term of this Commission will expire on December 13, 1996. We hereby extend the period of existence of the Commission from December 13, 1996 until December 13, 1998. The general objective of the Commission shall continue be to address concerns related to bias or prejudice in Georgia's court system.

The specific objectives of the Commission shall be to:

- 1) submit an annual written report to the Georgia Supreme Court of the discharge of its duties;
- 2) formulate and propose guidelines, standards and procedures to implement the Commission's recommendations;
- 3) develop appropriate mandatory judicial and legal education course material and/or programs on equality, including appropriate instruction to be included in Georgia's new judge and new lawyer orientation programs;
- 4) develop and participate in programs about equality for professional and lay audiences;
- 5) serve as a resource to the media;
- 6) advise the legislature on legislation needed to further the aims of the Commission;
- 7) facilitate a plan to educate the public about the dynamics of the cycle of domestic violence, resources for victims and protection available under Georgia law;

8) develop a mechanism for the processing of complaints received about judges' and lawyers' biased behaviors:

9) work with the Judicial Nominating Committee to encourage more racial and ethnic minorities, women and men to apply for appointments as judges:

10) act as a resource to Georgia law schools in revising teaching and curricula to promote the elimination of biased conduct on the part of attorneys.

It is the hope that the Commission will build on the foundation which has been begun and work to further promote equality in the Georgia court system. The Commission's task is a challenging one, and it needs active and energetic members. After consideration, we have decided to further insure continuity of the Commission's work we will stagger appointments by appointing half of the Commission for one-year terms and half for two-year terms. Accordingly, we make the following appointments for the terms indicated to the Commission:

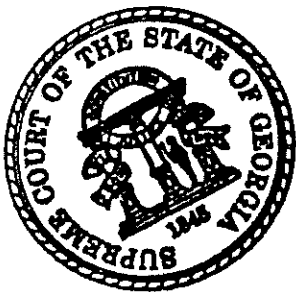
(Term to begin December 14, 1996 and end December 13, 1998)

Hon. Kathlene F. Gosselin, Co-Chair, for one year  
Carl A. Bryant, Esquire  
Jesus A. Nerio, Esquire  
Professor Marjorie Girth  
Linda A. Klein, Esquire  
Hon. Spencer Lawton  
Dr. Helen Ridley

(Term to begin December 14, 1996 and end December 13, 1997)

Hon. John H. Ruffin, Jr., Co-Chair  
Hon. John Allen  
Ruth F. Claiborne, Esquire  
Hon. Cheryl Custer  
Hon. Barbara Harris  
Ms. Carol Jackson  
John Mayoue, Esquire

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA,  
Clerk's Office, Atlanta



I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

*Shirley M. Kuleh*

, Clerk