Atlanta February 25, 2008

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment. The following order was passed:

## IN THE MATTER OF SHIRLEY WHITE EDWARDS

This disciplinary matter is before the Court pursuant to Respondent Shirley White Edwards' petition for voluntary discipline which she filed pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (b) prior to the filing of a Formal Complaint. In the petition, Edwards, who has been a member of the State Bar since 1997, admits that she agreed to represent a client in a real estate closing; that she did not have a separate contract to represent the lender at closing; that she did not have a clear understanding in her own mind or with her client as to which parties she was representing; that she made numerous errors in preparing the closing documents; and that she failed to properly disburse the property tax payment indicated in the closing documents; that her errors cost her client money, time, and anguish. Edwards generally admits that by her behavior she violated Rules 1.2 and 1.15 (I) of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct, see Bar Rule 4-102 (d), the maximum penalty for which is disbarment. Edwards requests a Review Panel Reprimand, however, and the State Bar has indicated that it has no objection.

After a review of the record, this Court accepts the facts and violations as admitted by Edwards and finds in mitigation that she has since corrected her errors and reimbursed her client not only for the costs associated with her errors but also for the original legal fee paid by the client; that her errors were caused by negligence rather than malice or self-interest; that she has no prior disciplinary history; that she has been cooperative to the best of her ability during the course of the investigation; and that she has since educated herself on the written disclosures

necessary to clarify representation in real estate closings. Based on the record, therefore, this Court accepts Respondent's petition for voluntary discipline and imposes a Review Panel reprimand for her violations of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct, see Bar Rule 4-102 (d).

## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I hereby 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.

The Deputy Clerk