Atlanta   June 20, 2011

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

It appearing that the "Pilot Project" for domestic relations cases, established by the Court on January 6, 2003, and extended periodically since then, is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2011, it is ordered that effective July 1, 2011, the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of Georgia be amended by incorporating the standards and procedures for when the Court will grant an application for discretionary appeal from a final judgment and decree of divorce, by amending Rule 34 by adding subsection (4) and an additional paragraph and by amending Rule 54 by inserting a phrase at the end of the first sentence, so that such Rules shall read as follows (with the new language underlined):

Rule 34. STANDARD FOR GRANTING. An application for leave to appeal a final judgment in cases subject to appeal under OCGA § 5-6-35 shall be granted when:
    (1) Reversible error appears to exist;
    (2) The establishment of a precedent is desirable;
    (3) Further development of the common law, particularly in divorce cases, is desirable; or
    (4) The application is for leave to appeal a judgment and decree of divorce that is final under OCGA § 5-6-34 (a) (1) and timely under OCGA § 5-6-35 (d) and is determined to have possible merit by a majority vote of the Court.

An application filed by an attorney seeking to rely on the standard set forth in Rule 34 (4) must be accompanied by a certificate of good faith stating as follows:

"I, the undersigned attorney of record in the above-styled case, am a member of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing and make this certificate of good faith as required by Rule 34 of the Supreme Court of Georgia. I hereby certify that I am familiar with the trial court record in the above-styled case and, based on the record and my understanding of the applicable law, I have a good faith belief that this application has merit and that it is not filed for the purpose of delay, harassment, or embarrassment. I further certify that I have

been authorized by my client, the applicant, to file this application. This the _____ day of _____, 20___."

If the application is nevertheless found to be frivolous, a sanction of up to $2,500 may be imposed upon the attorney filing the application. See Rule 6.

Rule 54. TIME. Unless otherwise provided by the Court, oral argument is limited to 20 minutes for each side except in direct appeals of judgments imposing the death penalty, which are limited to 30 minutes for each side, and appeals granted under Rule 34 (4), which are limited to 10 minutes for each side. Appeals, cross appeals, and companion cases shall be considered to be one case for the purpose of oral argument. Parties must divide the allotted time by agreement among themselves. The yellow podium light indicates 5 minutes of argument time remain; the red podium light indicates that time has expired.

All the Justices concur, except Melton, J., who dissents.

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.

Thiiise A Baunne ,Clerk