

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2006 MEETING
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
EQUAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
COMMITTEE ON CIVIL JUSTICE**

The first meeting of the Supreme Court of Georgia Equal Justice Commission Committee on Civil Justice was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2006 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Banc Room of the Supreme Court of Georgia, State Judicial Building, 40 Capital Square, Atlanta, Georgia. Marc Gary, Chair, presided.

Welcoming Remarks

Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears welcomed the Committee Members and the Advisory Council Members and thanked the members of both groups for agreeing to serve in their respective capacities as the Court begins this important work.

Operational Overview

Marc Gary provided the Committee members with a brief description of how the Committee would undertake its work for the next six months.

Introductions

Each Committee member introduced the Committee member sitting next to him or her.

Video

The Committee watched a video that was produced by the Texas Equal Justice Commission, regarding its work in Texas.

A Blueprint for Action

Eleanor Crosby Lanier gave a Power Point presentation outlining the challenges in Georgia and describing the circumstances that led to the Court forming the Committee on Civil Justice in Georgia. In addition, the Committee members received the Equal Justice Commission Committee on Civil Justice notebook *A Blueprint for Action*. (Appendix A)

Report on the National Meeting of the State Access to Justice Chairs

Anne Lewis reported to the Committee about the national meeting of the state access to justice chairs that was held as part of the American Bar Association/National Legal Aid and Defender Association's Equal Justice Conference in March 2006 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Future Meetings

Mr. Gary told the Committee that Karlise Grier would contact them to get information about their schedules so that she could devise a proposed meeting schedule for the remainder of 2006.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karlise Y. Grier, Executive Director