

BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

IN RE: JUDGE LILLIAN FARISS JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2, PLACE 1 SUNDOWN, HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS (CJC No. 02-0345-JP)

VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO RESIGN FROM JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

This Agreement is being entered into by the undersigned parties pursuant to §§33.001(b) and 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code.

WHEREAS on November 14, 2001, a complaint was filed with the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (hereinafter the "Commission") containing allegations of judicial misconduct against Judge Lillian Fariss, Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2, Place 1, Sundown, Hockley County, Texas, and

WHEREAS on or about February 21, 2002, in connection with the above-referenced matter, the Commission received an affidavit (hereinafter the "February 21, 2002 Sworn Complaint") from Roger Rountree, the Executive Director of the Texas Justice Court Training Center, confirming the allegations of misconduct raised in the original complaint (a true and correct copy of the February 21, 2002 Sworn Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A), and

WHEREAS on or about March 12, 2002, the Commission notified Judge Fariss that a suspension hearing would be held on April 10, 2002 at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas, and

WHEREAS on or about April 10, 2002, Judge Fariss failed to appear before the Commission to give testimony at the suspension hearing, and

WHEREAS on April 25, 2002, the Commission recommended to the Supreme Court of Texas that Judge Fariss be suspended, without pay, until further action by the Commission, pursuant to Article 5, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution and Rule 15(b) of the Procedural Rules for the Removal or Retirement of Judges, and

WHEREAS on May 9, 2002, the Supreme Court of Texas ordered the immediate suspension of Judge Fariss, without pay, pursuant to its authority under Article 5, §1-a(6) of the Texas Constitution, and

WHEREAS no Notice of Formal Proceedings has been filed by the Examiner against Judge Fariss in connection with the above-referenced matter, and