CITY OF NEW YORK

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February 7, 2007 **(212) 510-1479**

Report Released Today - Copies Available

Today, Special Commissioner of Investigation Richard J. Condon released a report detailing an investigation which found that Cheryl Edwards, a 37-year-old teacher assigned to PS 288 in Brooklyn, who also held a per session position with the Home Instruction Schools, submitted fraudulent documents requesting payment for services she failed to render to a student and received payment for claimed instruction to a second student who was deceased.

Edwards's actions came to light when one student's mother complained that Edwards had not appeared at her home to teach her son since the beginning of the 2006 school year. Additionally, the student confirmed to SCI investigators that he had never met Edwards. She also submitted payment for tutoring another student between January 23rd and June 12th of 2006 when in fact that student had passed away on January 29th, 2006. Edwards, on both occasions, produced fraudulent documentation confirming her instructions to these students. She declined to be interviewed by SCI investigators.

Special Commissioner Condon has recommended to the Chancellor that Cheryl Edwards's employment be terminated and that she be made ineligible for future employment in the City's schools. He has also referred his findings to the Kings County District Attorney's office for whatever action he deems appropriate.

The Office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation is part of the New York City Department of Investigation and Special Commissioner Condon reports to Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn.