

**How does a Q&A dialogue unfold
when an attorney catches a witness lying?
Re: Stephen R. Jackson, Part 1**

Let me modify the title and substance a bit:

**How does a Q&A dialogue unfold when an
attorney catches a witness exhibiting “a loose screw”?
Re: Stephen R. Jackson, Part 1**

Here's one of many examples from our usmnews.net's archives of how a Q&A unfolds when an attorney catches a witness lying, or being or acting just plain dumb, or exhibiting “a loose screw.” The following testimony of catches Stephen R. Jackson.

The following is the actual sworn testimony of Stephen R. Jackson, then-untenured associate professor, School of Accountancy, College of Business, University of Southern Mississippi, taken on July 7, 2008, in the case, *DePree v. University of Southern Mississippi*. (Q. is DePree's attorney's question directed to Jackson; A. is Jackson's response).

First consider that in a letter Jackson wrote at the end of August 2007 requesting then-Interim Dean Williams and then-President Martha Saunders to fire DePree, Jackson cited the following reason to fire DePree:

“Based on what I have observed ... I feel that Dr. DePree must be terminated...”

Now consider the deposition and sworn testimony of Stephen R. Jackson:

Q. The limited interactions you had with Dr. DePree [the first time you were at Southern, 1992 -96], can you give us a brief overview of what that might have entailed?

A. Discussions about all kinds of issues, sometimes I would ask his opinion of research ideas, just general collegial interaction.

Q. You use the tem collegial. Did you get along with Dr. DePree?

A. Yeah.

Q. Did you have any problems with Dr. DePree?

A. None.

Q. Now, when you came back to Southern, which I believe would be January 2007, okay, let's talk about how your opinion of Dr. DePree changed.

A. Things were not the same, **not necessarily between Dr. DePree and myself**, but other faculty that had indicated to me that there were problems ... it's best to stay away from him.

Q. We'll get to that in just a second. Let me ask you as far as your interactions with Dr. DePree, between you and he, the second time you were here starting in January 2007, how often did you interact with Dr. DePree?

A. Probably two or three times. And I don't remember specifically but not often.

Q. Can you describe for me those interactions since they were so few?

A. Just general discussions about whatever, meeting in the hall, I'd stop by his office a couple of times, talk about old times, it was—

There was a pause, while the attorney waited for Jackson to finish. He did not complete his answer, so the attorney asked another question.

Q. And so how would you describe your relationship with Dr. DePree today [July 2007]?

A. I don't think we have a relationship today.

Q. Would you say you get along with him?

A. I don't know if I get along or don't get along. I haven't talked to him since – until this morning when he said hi.

Let's remember what Jackson wrote to fire DePree: ““Based on what I have observed ... I feel that Dr. DePree must be terminated...” His sworn testimony was that his observations were that he and DePree were collegial during his first stint at USM and continued when he returned to USM in 2007. Collegial is not a reason to insist on firing a colleague. On what basis is he insisting that DePree be fired? On the basis of others' observations? In future reports of Jackson's testimony, you will see just how dishonest and dumb Jackson is.

When Jackson answered his description of his 2007 discussions with DePree, he said: “Just general discussions about whatever, meeting in the hall, I'd stop by his office a couple of times, talk about old times, it was--” Jackson caught himself before he finished. He stopped short of saying fun or pleasant because it would have been true and it would have been dumb slip in light of his insisting that DePree be fired. The truth was we joked and laughed and had a couple of pleasant talks.

Don't forget Steve Jackson still works at the University of Southern Mississippi and

teaches our students. If you do something he doesn't like, will he make up stories, or ignore or misrepresent facts, to have you fired? Is he still that desperate to belong?