

**How does a Q&A dialogue unfold  
when an attorney catches a witness lying?  
Re: Stephen R. Jackson, Part 5**

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 5**

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 catches Stephen R. Jackson.

The following is the actual sworn testimony of Stephen R. Jackson, then-untenured associate professor and interim director of the 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:

“While I've only been interim director for 21 days and on faculty spring summer of 2007, I completely support the faculty request for his [DePree's] dismissal.”

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

Q. Now, in Paragraph 4 of your letter of your first sentence, while I've only been interim director for 21 days and on faculty spring summer of 2007, I completely support the faculty request for his dismissal. Did you undertake any investigation prior to coming to the conclusion to support the termination of Dr. DePree?

A. No.

Q. And you don't think you should have?

A. No.

Pause for a second...Jackson claims he has no responsibility as School of Accountancy leader for his blind support for anyone who chooses to make an accusation about a colleague. Jackson insisted the dean and president fire DePree, a tenured full professor. He not only didn't investigate the accusations, Jackson claimed he didn't need to investigate the accusations. His responsibility was to assume the accusations

against were accurate and insist that he should be fired. We don't get to a discussion of knowledge, reason, and justice, because Jackson's behavior is just plain dumb. Not only is it dumb behavior, Jackson is exhibiting a "loose screw."

Did then-Interim Dean Alvin Williams and then-President Martha Saunders ask the simple question DePree's attorney asked Jackson: "Did you undertake any investigation?" Did Lee P. Gore, Saunders' attorney, understand Jackson's worthlessness and liability as a witness against DePree?