

Dr. Doty & Mr. Fundraiser

The Story of Harold Doty – the *Real* Jekyll-and-Hyde Former CoB Dean

Former CoB dean Duane Harold Doty recently jaunted off to Tyler, TX, to tell the good folks of the UT-T business school that he makes an excellent candidate to lead them (as their new b-school dean) into the future. To do that Doty likely chose to tell some tales about his days as dean of USM's CoB from 2003-07. He probably told stories about how a few malcontents made life in the CoB hard for many CoBers, including himself. He also likely wove tales about "mental health concerns" and other difficulties in dealing with the people over in Hattiesburg.

14. The Plaintiff also reported the wrongdoing to others (other than Mr. Nicholson) including but not limited to: Mr. Tim Ryan, Harold Doty, Dr. Bill Gunther and the State Auditor of the State of Mississippi.
15. After the foregoing had occurred, Mr. Tim Ryan, individual defendant herein, and Mr. Harold Doty made the work environment of Plaintiff so difficult, so unpleasant, and so hostile that Plaintiff had to seek medical attention.

Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net are, of course, aware of the trials and tribulations that USM's CoB had to face while being led by one of the most inept administrators the 100-year old institution has ever known. What was worse for CoB faculty and staff, however, was that Doty's ineptitude came with a companion – **malice**. That companion was arguably felt most significantly by Doty's former development officer, Frank Pickering, who was dismissed by USM after a period of mistreatment at the hands of Doty and other USM executives. Like so many other former 2002-07 period USM employees, Pickering is now telling his story, and this one is coming to us via a Forrest County Circuit Court [lawsuit](#) against USM and various USM execs.

16. In spite of the obvious accomplishments of the Plaintiff, the Plaintiff was treated with great hostility by Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Ryan untruthfully told Plaintiff that his job performance was poor or words to that effect. On one occasion Plaintiff was kept a virtual prisoner by Ryan and Doty for two and a half hours. They maintained a ruthless course of action which included threatening Plaintiff with termination, making untruthful statements to Plaintiff about his job performance, telling Plaintiff that Dr. Shelby Thames wanted Plaintiff fired, criticizing Plaintiff because of his age, embarrassing Plaintiff, ridiculing Plaintiff, yelling at Plaintiff, and intentionally inflicting emotional distress upon Plaintiff.

Pickering's original 28-June-04 CC complaint is linked above, and it contains some juicy stories about Doty and verbal/mental abuse, a haranguing, and unprofessional, perhaps

immoral comment made about Pickering's wife. It's all there, and if you're visiting this website from the business school at UT-Tyler you should be reading this, no matter how much time it takes (you should really be *printing* this, and dispensing it to all of your colleagues).

19. Additionally, Mr. Doty made inappropriate comments with regard to Plaintiff's wife in the presence of others.
20. All of the foregoing contributed to a hostile work environment .

If you're a b-school faculty at Nova Southeastern, or Rollins College, you should be doing the same. Finally, if you work anywhere in the business school division at the University of Houston – Victoria, you should be “digging in.” Though not mentioned in this particular case, your new dean Farhang Niroomand has been a “defendant” before, and he proudly wore the tag “Doty's Lieutenant” (associate dean) – some would even say “Doty's ‘attack dog’” – during the whole 2003-07 period.