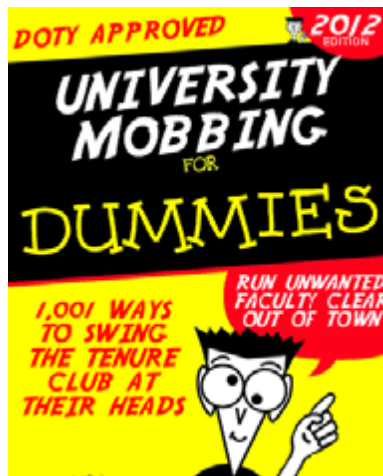


# Gerald Case So Familiar by Now

*A Guest Editorial by C. Anna Hall*

The [recent news from](#) Jesse Bass of *The Hattiesburg American* informing us that former USM professor Bonnie Gerald has filed an employment discrimination lawsuit against USM, naming also former USM president [Martha Saunders](#), former USM provost Robert Lyman, CoH dean Michael Forster, and Forster's lieutenant Kathy Yadrick, opened some eyes within the USM community and beyond. It's not just that another suit was filed – and they certainly are piling up as this website's **. Breaking News . . .** series points out – it's the devil in the details that rings so familiar, and so true to so many, that is so disturbing. The idea that Gerald suffered “two broken legs, two broken ankles, a broken arm, multiple fractures, spleen damage and a broken clavicle,” all as a result of a car accident, is enough to give one pause, and to be thankful for one's health and security. But to think that Gerald was subsequently subjected to some of the treatment that she alleges that she faced at the hands of Yadrick is more than heartbreaking.



The [treatment alleged](#) in Gerald's complaint is [very reminiscent](#) of that allegedly [faced by](#) Karen St. John at [the hands of](#) former USM b-school dean Harold Doty, [who is now](#) b-school dean [at the](#) University of Texas – Tyler, and who was St. John's supervisor at UT-T just a few months ago. St. John's "car accident" came in the form of [a high-risk pregnancy](#), a health concern [that was as](#) debilitating to her, given Doty's [alleged misconduct](#), as Gerald's auto accident [was to her](#) during her time under Yadrick at USM. It's as if these administrators – Yadrick, Doty, Saunders, Forster, and the rest – all took a course on administrative mobbing, and are now putting what they learned into practice. Heck, Doty appears to have the equivalent of a PhD in the subject, along with years of experience perfecting his version(s) of it. Doty's alleged treatment of St. John didn't stop with her. From other legal documents, it allegedly extended on to her husband, Jeremy St. John, who Doty allegedly [targeted well beyond](#) his (St. John's) days at UT-T.

It's well past time that the USM faculty senate began standing up for faculty and staffers who are suffering at the hands of USM administrators, and put on the back burner any and all concern about USM administrators like Saunders – individuals earning hundreds of thousands of dollars per year, yet have sketchy administrative records – who are resigning their posts. While we wait on that to occur, if it ever does, we can all send good vibes to the attorneys of these faculty, particularly Kim Chaze, who are being harassed into oblivion at the hands of wayward university leaders.