

Lee Gore, The University of West Florida and The Florida Bar Association
Part 2

Zabetti Pappas has provided usmnews.net with documents relating to Lee Gore's employment obtained through a Florida Open Records request. The records paint a troubling picture which will not be surprising to many of Gore's former colleagues. Sources tell usmnews.net that fast and loose interpretation and application of rules were part of his history at Southern Miss.

Part 1 [published the agreement](#) under which Gore became General Counsel for UWF. Part 2 addresses [President Bense's letter to Gore](#) dated 7-July-2013 in which she specifically instructed Gore to provide the documents necessary to be admitted to the Florida bar.

that you long remain as an attorney in Mississippi requires that you expedite that process of submitting your credentials of good standing, and any other documents required to the required courts and bar by July 31, 2013.

Significantly, Bense's letter instructing Gore to get admitted by 31-July-2013 was dated barely two weeks after a [letter from the Bar Association](#) to Gore advised him that an investigation had been opened relating allegations that he was practicing law without a proper license.

Faced with two bar complaints, and consistent with his reported history of playing fast and loose with the rules, Gore and UWF simply [changed his title](#) while he remained in charge of the Office of the General Counsel. With indifference to the laws of Florida, and presumably under the advice of General Counsel/Special Assistant Lee Gore, Bense directed that Gore's duties would remain unchanged. Rather, one of Gore's subordinates would review his work.

At this time, I am appointing you as Special Assistant to the President. Your work assignment will continue in the Office of the General Counsel with appropriate reviews of your legal work by Florida licensed attorneys within the office. It is my understanding, in consultation with you

However, Bense's letter and a threat of termination of employment did not induce Gore's to submit the necessary paperwork. Sources advise usmnews.net that the "credentials of good standing" mentioned in Bense's letter are normally provided by the Mississippi Bar Association in less than two weeks upon payment of a nominal fee.

to the bar. Therefore, I am giving you until October 31, 2013 to become a member of the Florida Bar or it will result in the termination of your employment, no further notice will be provided.

October 31, 2013 come and went, yet Gore still did not comply with the instructions of the President of the University of West Florida. Instead of terminating his employment, effective 1-Nov- 2013, Bense [appointed Gore](#) as an assistant to Provost Martha Saunders who was

formerly president of USM and Gore's former boss, leading some to comment that perhaps the rules really don't apply to Gore.

Part 3 of this report will follow.