

Special Report Series

Hop on Gus

Former CoB Dean in Hot Water Once Again

PART 18

In light of former CoB dean Harold Doty's litigation history, USMNEWS.net reporters periodically check the courts near where Doty lives and works. Recent documents [obtained from](#) the Smith County, Texas Court Clerk, indicate that Doty is once again likely headed back to court, this time in his capacity as [dean of business](#) at the University of Texas–Tyler. These documents indicate that former UT-T business student advisor, Karen St. John, is suing UT-T for harm caused by [actions largely taken](#) by Doty vis-à-vis St. John's employment. In late fall of 2011, St. John's husband, Jeremy St. John, another former member of UT-T's business school, joined her cause as co-plaintiff in the case against UT-T. This is Part 18 in a series of news stories about this developing situation.

After filing a retaliation complaint with UT System and the EEOC specifically naming Dean Doty and Bushardt and after being forced to find employment elsewhere, Dr. St. John began to be contacted by UT Tyler professors and informed that Dean Doty had opened a formal ethics investigation against them and included Dr. St. John by association. Dr. St. John was told by UT Tyler professors that Dr. Browne, a professor at UT Tyler, was upset and making the accusations because his contract was not renewed by the Defendant. Dr. St. John was furthermore told that Dean Doty had appointed himself as judge and Bushardt as investigator with President Mabry as final authority. Although Dr. St. John was never formally charged, formally notified of the investigation, or formally asked to provide evidence, UT Tyler professors contacted him repeatedly by phone and email to keep him informed. Dr. Marilyn Young told Dr. St. John, to contact Bushardt, that Bushardt told her that if Dr. St. John cooperated he was sure they could "work things out" and avoid the necessity of having Dean Doty contact Dr. St. John's new employer, Texas A&M Commerce. Dr. St. John was further told by Dr. Young that the focus of the investigation centered not on Dr. Young, but on Dr. St. John, Dr. Gus Gordon (who is currently employed by the Defendant) and Dr. Isaura Flores (another professor no longer in the employ of the Defendant).

The final portion of Jeremy St. John's complaint against UT-T [business school](#) dean [Harold Doty](#) and other UT-T officials is inserted above. It begins with St. John's recounting of his EEOC and UT System [complaint against Doty](#) and UT-T management chairman [Stephen Bushardt](#), both formerly of USM. According to St. John, other UT-T b-school faculty contacted him to inform him that [Doty](#) had initiated ethics investigations of them, and that St. John had [been included](#) in these investigations given [his association](#) with these [UT-T b-schoolers](#). One of these b-school faculty appears to have been "Dr. Browne," presumably a tenured faculty member, who was accusing the UT-T administration of malfeasance for failing to renew his contract. To long-time

readers of USMNEWS.net, this likely reads like the [classic form of mobbing](#) that so many faculty have, in the past, suffered [at the hands](#) of Doty and his cohorts.



Harold Doty

Stephen Bushardt

The newer victims of Doty's mobbing program in UT-T's business school later informed St. John that [Doty](#) had appointed Bushardt as [the investigator](#) in the aforementioned [ethics investigation](#). Additionally, [Doty](#) became the self-appointed judge in that same investigation, while UT-T president Rodney Mabry was put in a position akin to a Supreme Court Justice. Despite never being [formally charged](#), notified, nor asked to provide a defense, St. John reports that he found himself sitting as some type of defendant in Doty's murky [ethics investigation](#). Again, all of [this seems](#) much like a classic Doty-led mobbing campaign, at least according to sources.



Rodney Mabry

This portion of St. John's complaint ends [with even more](#) intrigue. He reports that UT-T professor Marilyn Young, [another popular target for Doty](#), contacted him and stated that Bushardt wished to work things out - colleague to colleague - and [avoid having Doty](#) contact Texas A&M University-Commerce, St. John's new (current) employer. USMNEWS.net sources recognize this tactic as one that was used by Doty, Farhang Niroomand and George Carter in a mobbing campaign against Franklin Mixon at USM during 2006-07. Niroomand is now the business school dean at the University of Houston-Victoria, an organization that has been experiencing all sorts of problems since his arrival there (see USMNEWS.net Archives for more on these), while Carter, Doty and Mixon have all since moved on from USM.



Marilyn Young

Harold Doty

Finally, Young also informed St. John that he, Gus Gordon and Isaura Flores were the main subjects of Doty's new ethics investigation. As mentioned above, St. John is now employed with TAMU-C, while Flores has since moved on to California State University-San Bernardino. Gordon, however, remains at UT-T, which is yet another interesting twist to this story. Gordon was also employed by the CoB at USM, and was even then a target of Bushardt. As sources suggest, it is very likely that Doty's attack on Gordon came at the request of Bushardt, given that the USM careers of [Doty](#) and Gordon did not overlap. According to sources, Gordon's presence at UT-T was likely seen by Bushardt as simply one of the perks associated with moving there from Spring Hill College in Alabama, Bushardt's briefly-held academic post after departing from USM. As the UT-T management chair, Bushardt could mob away at Gordon with impunity. Yet again another feature of mobbing in academics reveals itself.