

Special Report Series

Smith County Court is Now in Session

Former CoB Dean in Hot Water Once Again

PART 10

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 based on [actions largely taken](#) by Doty vis-à-vis St. John's employment. This is Part 10 in this series.

On March 4, 2011, St. John sent an email to Joseph Vorsas to explain the delay in her receipt of the February letter and requesting a new hearing date and a new date certain by which both parties would exchange evidence for the hearing in keeping with the University's Handbook. On March 7, 2011, Vorsas sent St. John another letter denying her request and maintaining that St. John waived her right to an appeal hearing and stood firm on its position of St. John's termination.

As the excerpted portion of St. John's complaint above points out, this installment in the series picks up on 4-March-2011, after the postal address "rope-a-dope" game played by officials at UT-T in order to delay St. John's receipt of the rules for an appeal of her employment termination. On 4-March-2011, St. John e-mailed UT-T human resources director Joe Vorsas to "explain the delay in her receipt of the February letter" and to request a new hearing date for her appeal. Vorsas, pictured below, responded by "denying her request" and "maintaining that St. John waived her right to an appeal hearing" given that she had failed to meet the deadline for her response.



Joe Vorsas

At this point, there were only one or two other administrative options open to St. John in dealing with what sources refer to as the bullying campaign against her. One of those

had been dealt with in late Feb-2011, when the EEOC issued a dismissal of St. John's allegations. After filing a second charge with the EEOC on 8-April-2011, St. John received a second dismissal conclusion, this time on 16-May-2011, from the EEOC. These remaining actions, and others, are summarized in the insert below.

After its investigation of Plaintiff's charge, on February 25, 2011, the EEOC issued a Dismissal and Notice of Rights. She also received the same from the TWCCRD on April 5, 2011. Accordingly, all administrative prerequisites have been exhausted prior to filing this petition.

On April 8, 2011, St. John filed a second retaliation charge with EEOC regarding her termination. After its investigation of Plaintiff's charge, on May 16, 2011, the EEOC issued a Dismissal and Notice of Rights. She also received the same from the TWCCRD on May 24, 2011. Accordingly, all administrative prerequisites have been exhausted prior to filing this petition.

By late May-2011, St. John found herself on an island of sorts. The bullying she was subjected to by UT-T officials had led to her termination as a UT-T staffer and her dismissal as a UT-T PhD student. As sources point out, UT-Tyler business college dean Harold Doty, his associate dean Mary Fischer, UT-T HR director Joe Vorsas, and two UT-T *assistant professors* of business, Tammy Cowart and Kerri Keech, had seemingly pulled off a successful mobbing. This mobbing success was accomplished, of course, in the name of UT-T president Rodney Mabry. However, as part 1 in this series indicates, the story doesn't end in the b-school at UT-T. It is now ongoing in the Smith County (TX) Courthouse, where a jury will determine exactly what, if anything, St. John was subjected to at the hands of Doty and the others.