

Part 16

Questions directed to President Martha Saunders at her deposition on April 12 and 13, 2010--Q is question; A is President Saunders' answer.

Q. Are there any other specific allegations of acts that Dr. Depree has undertaken to make people fearful?

A. (Saunders looks at document.) There is -- and this is from Dr. Posey -- Eruptions over the years.

Q. Does he describe any specific events?

A. He does. The lock on the departmental safe was broken, and he was told that Dr. Depree had broken it.

Q. Do you have any evidence that Dr. Depree actually broke it?

A. No.

Q. And did Dr. Posey have any evidence that Dr. Depree broke it?

A. He doesn't say here.

Q. He just says "he heard?"

A. And then --

Q. No. Is my characterization correct, Dr. Saunders?

A. He said: When I asked what had happened, I was told by Jerry King that Mark had broken it.

Q. Did you talk to Jerry King?

A. No.

Q. Do you know where that information came from?

A. Well, it came to me from Rod Posey who said he got it from Jerry King.

Q. Did you ask Dr. Posey?

A. No. Do you want me to go on?

Q. Yes, please do.

A. He also says: Mark broke the thermostat in the accounting offices.

Q. Do you have any evidence for that?

A. Well, in Dr. Posey's letter, he said that Mark told him he was cold and someone needed to do something about it.

Q. And how would breaking the thermostat do something about it?

A. I don't know.

Q. Does he say that Dr. Depree told him he broke the thermostat?

A. Not specifically, no.

Q. Continue.

A. And that he [DePree] has increased his verbal abuse against people.

Q. What has Dr. Depree done according to Dr. Posey increasing his level of verbal abuse?

A. He doesn't say.

Q. Did you ask?

A. No.

Q. Did you rely on this letter?

A. I did.

Q. Do you know if there are any reprimands or disciplinary action against Dr. Depree for any of these claims?

A. I don't know.

Q. Have you looked at his personnel file?

A. I have not. I looked at his file at the last deposition because I was asked to get the file that the president's office had. If there are others, I have not seen them.

Q. Have you asked to see them?

A. No.

Q. Do you have any reason to believe that there is any disciplinary action taken against Dr. Depree for any of these allegations?

A. I don't.

Q. Did you ask for the human resources personnel file concerning Dr. Depree?

A. No.

Q. Could you have?

A. Yes.

Q. Any reason you did not?

A. No.

President Saunders, does Shirley Sherrod remind you of anything close to home? The accusations against Ms. Sherrod were corrected in a few days because leaders were concerned enough about the facts to correct their rush to judgment. You have had three years, with the clock still running, and you refuse to correct your decisions.

Dr. Hank Bounds and IHL members, does Shirley Sherrod remind you of anything closer to home? You have participated in the same mistaken decisions based on a failure to gather facts. Why don't you act responsibly?