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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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Decision to Throw Out Charge Against Stewart "Gutsy," Says IWU Professor

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Today's decision by a federal judge to throw out the securities fraud charge against Martha Stewart was called "gutsy" by a business law expert at Illinois Wesleyan University.

David Marvin, assistant professor of business administration, said that he was surprised by the decision of Judge Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum of the Federal District Court.

"I thought this is what should be done, but I doubted it would be," said Marvin.

Before the case began, Marvin said he thought the prosecution would have a difficult time convincing a jury. "I don't think that this will be a slam dunk for the prosecution," said Marvin prior to the trial. "I would not be surprised at all if a jury heard all this and thought that her version of the facts could be true and therefore she didn't obstruct justice or make false statements."

To discuss the Stewart case with Professor Marvin, contact either Jeffery Hanna or Ann Aubry at 309/556-3181.