

PRESS CUTTING

The Scotsman
26 May 2009

Martin Currie faces GBP 77,000 claim over unfair dismissal

BYLINE: Hamish Rutherford

A SENIOR fund manager who won an unfair dismissal claim against Martin Currie is seeking legal costs of GBP 77,000 from his former employers.

Dino Fuschillo is asking for the sum - more than the employment tribunal can award in compensation - as part of a wider claim against the Edinburgh fund manager.

The firm last week conceded Fuschillo's claim of wrongful dismissal, just days ahead of the full case coming to a tribunal. But a hearing to determine who should foot Fuschillo's legal costs was adjourned yesterday after lawyers for the firm's former head of European Investment tried to call him as a witness to question Martin Currie's attempt to postpone the case.

Martin Currie has maintained that it wanted to explain its case to the hearing, but was unable to because its key witness - chief investment officer James Fairweather - is in America pitching for new business.

Ronnie Fox, Fuschillo's solicitor, said his client believed that conceding the case so close to the hearing had been unreasonable.

A spokesman for Martin Currie said it was "not in the best interests of the Martin Currie business, its clients or shareholders to jeopardise a major business opportunity" by stopping Fairweather's business trip.