

Lenoir man sentenced in fraudulent permits case

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge
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Former Caldwell County Health Department environmental health specialist Michael Gerald Beane, 54, pleaded guilty yesterday in Caldwell County Superior Court.

Beane was arrested March 16 and charged with felony receiving a bribe by an official. At the courthouse, Beane apologized to the court, Caldwell County citizens, and everyone embarrassed by the incident, saying he accepted full responsibility for his actions. The charge is a Class F felony, punishable by up to 21 months in jail. Beane was sentenced to 36 months supervised probation and electronic house arrest for six months instead of jail time. Beane was also ordered to complete 144 hours of community service and to pay a \$4,000.