

## McHenry campaign worker: prosecution deferred

Written by  
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26-year-old Michael Aaron Lay of Raleigh, a former campaign worker for 10<sup>th</sup> District Representative Patrick McHenry, has been granted a deferred prosecution in Gaston County Superior Court.

Lay will be on unsupervised probation for six months. If he completes the probation- all charges will be dismissed according to the District Attorney 's Office. Other terms of the agreement include his performing 100 hours of community service and paying a \$440 fine.

In May, a Gaston County grand jury indicted Lay on two counts of felony election fraud. Lay is accused of voting in the 2004 primary and primary runoff elections in Gaston County: illegally. Lay listed his address at McHenry's Cherryville home. McHenry, who has called the charges "political,

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stated,

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for Aaron Lay

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s sake, I am glad this matter has been resolved. Aaron is a fine young man with a bright future ahead of him.

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Lay graduated from University of Tennessee law school in May and plans to take the bar exam in February.