

## McHenry campaign worker indicted for voter fraud

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge  
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One of Congressman Patrick McHenry's former campaign workers has been indicted by a Gaston County grand jury for felony voter fraud. The charge dates back to the 2004 Republican primary.

26-year-old Michael Aaron Lay is accused of fraudulently claiming residence in Gaston County when he served as a paid campaign worker for McHenry's election bid. Lay resided at McHenry's house (that also doubled as campaign headquarters) in Cherryville from February through August of 2004. McHenry released a statement this week standing behind Lay, saying it is unfortunate that someone attacked him to get to the politician. He called Lay an ethical law student and a good Christian. Though McHenry's campaign workers charge district attorney Locke Bell with having political motives for the charge, Bell says he is only pursuing justice.