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# Charges Dismissed Against Man Accused of Voter Fraud

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A judge has dismissed all the charges against Colin Patrick Small, who was accused of voter fraud.

The political operative was charged with voter fraud and obstruction of justice after investigators say he dumped a bag with eight voter registration forms into a recycling bin last October.

Small, who was working in Rockingham County, was then splashed across the news of the nation.

"I think the LA Times, the New York Times, CNN - all the liberal rags jumped on it because it was a presidential election and crucified the kid," said John Holloran, Small's attorney. "And what happened was that the Republicans in this jurisdiction decided that they would feed their own to the sharks so that there wouldn't be any questions that Republicans were granting somebody else favor."

After a judge dismissed eight felony counts of misusing Social Security numbers, five misdemeanor voter fraud charges were brought against Small, but Tuesday, those were dismissed.

Small, a 23-year-old from Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, testified that in late August of last year he became a voter registration supervisor employed by a private company hired by the Republican Party. His goal was to register voters.

"He hits October 15, which is the last day to register. He's cleaning his desk. He's doing 47 other things, reaches into his milk crate and pulls a folder that has outdated problematic registrations, and goes, 'what do I do about this?'" Holloran said.

But he didn't shred them or burn them. "He wrapped them up in a manila envelope in a trash bag and tossed them in a dumpster going, 'oh they'll be safe in there, because these people are already registered to vote and they're all Republicans,'" Holloran said.

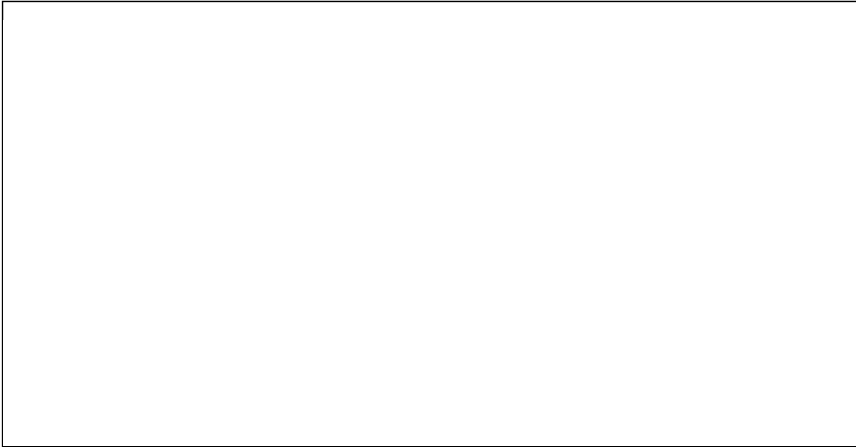
That's right: Republicans just like Small.

"The registrar that he went to talk to said that four of the ones that he had turned in had not been registered to vote and that's when his face turned ashen," Holloran said.

Prosecution said that Small intentionally interfered with people's right to vote. Small admitted that he was careless, but the judge said carelessness is not always a criminal offense.

"For Collin Small this is justice. Finally," Holloran said.

Small, an Eagle Scout and cum laude college graduate, is waiting tables. His attorney says he'll have to work hard to regain people's trust despite Tuesday's victory in court.



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