Guilty: Former Charlotte Mayor Patrick Cannon Admits To Corruption

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Former Charlotte Mayor Patrick Cannon stepped before a magistrate in Charlotte Tuesday and admitted he engaged in public corruption. Cannon, a Democrat, pleaded guilty to a charge of honest services fraud, according to the Charlotte Observer.

"Today, I have acknowledged being guilty of accepting money for constituent services, which I never should have done while serving in elected office," said Cannon, according to the newspaper. Honest services fraud is a catch-all category that essentially means the official has broken the public trust and deprived his or her constituents of the " honest services" to which they were entitled. Cannon is reportedly cooperating with law enforcement on its continuing investigation. He will sentenced at a later time, with the potential for 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The stunning decline of the 47-year-old rising star in the Democratic Party followed a multi-year investigation by the FBI into his dealings.