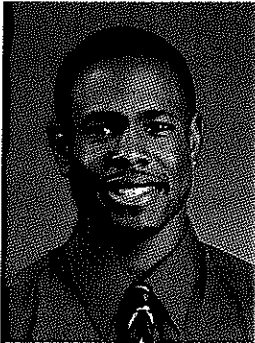


Former Piscataway teacher not guilty of official misconduct

Susan Loyer, @SusanLoyerMyCJ Published 6:05 p.m. ET Feb. 21, 2017 | Updated 17 hours ago



(Photo: ~File)

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - A former Piscataway physical education teacher was found not guilty of official misconduct on Tuesday.

Adrian McConney was charged in connection with allegedly having sexual relations with an 18-year-old student. He was found not guilty in a jury trial that lasted about four weeks before Middlesex County Superior Court Judge Pedro Jimenez. Assistant Prosecutor Falguni Patel prosecuted the case.

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"It's a beautiful day for justice," said Fairfield-based attorney Timothy Smith, who represented McConney. "The government tried to fight this battle as if it was outside the realm of the Constitution — as if it was in some foreign land. In the name of all who fought and died for the Constitution, we could not stand for that. The jury got it. Good for them, and good for Adrian McConney."

McConney, who also was a girls soccer and boys volleyball coach, was arrested at his home on April 12, 2013, and charged with the second-degree offense after police said he allegedly had sexual relations with the student in February 2013.

The indictment was dismissed Feb. 4, 2014, by Superior Court Judge Bradley J. Ferencz, just as McConney's trial was set to be begin but was later reinstated by the state Appellate Division.

McConney was named the Home News Tribune's 2009 Girls Soccer Coach of the Year and 2009 Volleyball Coach of the Year.

Staff Writer Susan Loyer: 732-565-7243; sloyer@gannettnj.com

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