

The Herald | [heraldonline.com](http://heraldonline.com)

[print](#) | [close window](#)

Attorney: Lindemann victim of media's 'obsession'

By Matt Garfield · [mgarfield@heraldonline.com](mailto:mgarfield@heraldonline.com)

Updated 08/22/08 - 1:13 AM |

 [Comment on this story](#)

COLUMBIA -- Hours before he was scheduled to appear in court on drunken-driving charges, York County Councilman Paul Lindemann filed a request for a jury to decide his fate.

Lindemann's trial will be delayed a few weeks until a suitable date can be found, court officials said. The Fort Mill representative sent word Thursday morning through his attorney, Joe McCulloch of Columbia, and did not have to appear in court.

Later in the day, McCulloch criticized the recent media coverage of Lindemann's case, saying it reflects a "disturbing obsession" that puts his client in a negative light. The attorney emphasized defendants should be presumed innocent, though he declined to say how Lindemann would plead.

"It seems to me that public pillorying went out a couple of centuries ago," McCulloch said. "I just think the system ought to work. Let this gentleman go through the process. It'll all come out in the wash."

Lindemann was questioned by The Herald on Monday night after he drove to a York County Council meeting on a license that state records show has been suspended since his July 16 arrest. The councilman said he was told it was OK for him to drive to work, church or school.

McCulloch questioned whether the case should be viewed differently just because Lindemann is an elected official.

"The criminal accusation, to me, has very little to do with his public duties," he said. "Perhaps if he were commissioner of the highway department, it might be more pertinent. ... I don't think it merits a daily comment in the news."

That stance puts McCulloch at odds with York County Republican leaders who have called for Lindemann, 29, to resign and get help for his personal troubles.

"Regardless of political party, elected officials are not above the law," county GOP Chairman Glenn McCall said in an e-mail this week. "When elected officials play fast and loose with the law, they significantly decrease the confidence of the people in their

government."

The July arrest marked the ninth time Lindemann has been cited for traffic violations in the past decade, state records show. It also was the third time Lindemann has been charged with driving under the influence since 1998. After a DUI charge in 2000, Lindemann completed an alcohol and drug safety action program, records show.

Lindemann did not return calls for comment Thursday.

Columbia police say Lindemann was "highly intoxicated" when he was pulled over near downtown. Two motorcyclists told police that Lindemann's black 2008 Audi A4 nearly ran into them several times on Harden Street. An officer picked up a strong odor of alcohol coming from Lindemann, who also had slurred speech, according to reports.

Defendants often file for jury trials because it allows for more time to review evidence and prepare arguments.

In the November election, Lindemann faces Democrat Marion Davenport and Green Party candidate Bryan Smith.

Matt Garfield &#8226; 329-4063

All rights reserved. This copyrighted material may not be published, broadcast or redistributed in any manner.

[County, PA](#)

Welcome to Keystone Custom Homes. We offer homes for sale in [keystonecustomhome](#)

[Beautiful](#)

Lancaster and Pennsylvania Dutch counties offer a variety of [bfhiestandhouse](#)

[Discover Greene County](#)

Relax and Do Something. [visitlakeoconee](#)

Ads by Yahoo!