

Federal Charges Filed Against Pastor in Shocking \$300K Fraud Case

A Louisiana pastor is in hot water after authorities allege a years-long pattern of financial misconduct involving church-related funds.

According to reporting by ChurchLeaders, Dale Sanders, a pastor in the New Orleans area, has been indicted in a case that is now drawing attention both legally and within ministry circles.

Fraud and Obstruction Charges Detailed

Federal prosecutors allege that Sanders carried out unauthorized financial transactions over a four-year period. Information released by the U.S. Department of Justice states that he faces 11 counts, including access device fraud and obstruction of a federal investigation.

Authorities claim the alleged activity took place between April 2020 and April 2024 and involved the use of a debit card connected to a company account without authorization. The total amount in question is approximately \$343,293, according to federal officials.



To order Amanda Grace's new book, Brace For Impact, visit .

In addition to the financial allegations, prosecutors say Sanders attempted to interfere with the investigation.

Possible Penalties if Convicted

If found guilty, Sanders could face severe consequences under federal law. The charges carry potential penalties, including:

- Up to 20 years in prison
- Fines reaching \$250,000
- A period of supervised release following incarceration

Impact on Ministry and Public Trust

The case has sparked concern due to Sanders' position as a spiritual leader. As ChurchLeaders noted, Sanders took to social media, where he posted a message saying, "I feel your prayers. God is already working and moving by His need you to pray a Matthew 5:44 prayer. I need you to pray for my enemy."

Trust, stewardship and accountability are foundational in spiritual leadership, making cases like this particularly significant.

This case serves as a sobering reminder of the weight carried by those in positions of spiritual authority. In a time when the credibility of the church is under increasing scrutiny, moments like these highlight the importance of transparency and righteousness in leadership.

Abby Trivett is a writer and editor for Charisma Media and has a passion for sharing the gospel through the written word. She holds two degrees from Regent University, a B.A. in Communication with a concentration in Journalism and a Master of Arts in Journalism. She is the author of the upcoming book, *The Power of Suddenly: Discover How God Can Change Everything in a Moment*. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.