## McFadden sues ex-business manager for \$15M

## Darren McFadden claims ex-financial planner mishandled \$15M

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<u>Dallas Cowboys</u> running back <u>Darren McFadden</u> has sued his longtime business manager, saying he misappropriated and mishandled money throughout his NFL career, including \$3 million lost in a bitcoin business venture.

The \$15 million lawsuit was filed Tuesday against Michael Vick of Mabelvale, Arkansas, and 10 unknown others named only as "Doe."

Vick, who is not the former NFL player, told The Associated Press on Thursday that he hadn't seen the lawsuit and declined to comment immediately.

McFadden's lawsuit said that two days after his 2008 debut with the <u>Oakland Raiders</u>, Vick used fraudulent documents to gain power of attorney and later fabricated fictitious financial records to hide what he was doing. The former University of Arkansas running back said he discovered the fraud when Vick tried to sell him a building allegedly bought with McFadden's own funds.

"Rather than securing for Plaintiff a lifetime of financial security as Defendant Vick promised Plaintiff, Defendant Vick covertly used Plaintiff's income as his personal slush fund to subsidize his own lifestyle and expenses and to invest in his own projects," the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Little Rock, also said McFadden revoked Vick's power of attorney last month. McFadden told the Dallas Morning News on Thursday that he fired Vick as his business manager about six to seven months ago.

McFadden told the newspaper that Vick was "an old family friend that we knew growing up forever and ended up trusting him to do my finances and it didn't work out right for me.

"It's just one of those deals with me as a young guy I wasn't on top of my finances like I should have been and I trusted somebody to take care of everything for me and I don't feel like at the time he had my best interest."

Vick allegedly told McFadden that in order to safeguard his money, Vick needed to be "further empowered" to help the player avoid the "financial disasters that tend to flow from unsound spending habits, poor management, or speculative financial advice," the lawsuit said.

McFadden gave Vick power of attorney on Aug. 10, 2008.

McFadden, who was the fourth pick of the 2008 NFL draft, had a \$60 million, six-year contract with the Raiders at that time.

The two-time Heisman Trophy runner-up joined the Cowboys prior to the 2015 season after seven disappointing years in Oakland, where he averaged just over 600 yards per season, with a high of 1,157 in 2010. His Dallas deal was reported to be worth up to \$5.9 million over two years.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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<u>Indianapolis Colts</u> owner Jim Irsay stuck to his word and secured franchise quarterback <u>Andrew Luck</u>'s long-term future with the organization before the start of the 2016 season.

The Colts announced Wednesday that Luck has signed an extension through the 2021 season that will make him the highest-paid player in the NFL, based on guaranteed salary.

Irsay announced the massive terms in a tweet:

The NFL's previous biggest contract was the five-year, \$110 million deal the <u>Green Bay Packers</u> gave quarterback <u>Aaron Rodgers</u> in 2013. Last summer, the <u>Seattle Seahawks</u> gave quarterback <u>Russell Wilson</u> a four-year, \$87.6 million extension that included \$60 million in guaranteed money.

Sources told ESPN that Luck is guaranteed \$87 million with this extension. The previous most-guaranteed money for any NFL player was \$65 million for both <u>Eli Manning</u> of the <u>New York Giants</u> and <u>Philip Rivers</u> of the <u>San Diego Chargers</u>.

"I am thrilled and excited to continue with this great organization," Luck said in a statement. "I am thankful to the Irsay family and Mr. Irsay for providing me with this great opportunity and the trust that they've shown in me. I can't wait for this season to start."

The No. 1 pick in 2012 out of Stanford, Luck took the NFL by storm the moment he stepped onto the field. He made the franchise's transition from <u>Peyton Manning</u> a smooth one by leading the Colts to the playoffs in each of his first three seasons, including the AFC Championship Game in 2014 and back-to-back AFC South titles.

Luck has the fourth-most passing yards (14,838) by any quarterback in his first four seasons in NFL history. He also is the fourth quarterback with at least 100 touchdown passes through four years, including an NFL-leading 40 in 2014.

But Luck isn't immune to struggles.

The 26-year-old is coming off the worst season of his four-year NFL career, completing just 55.3 percent of his pass attempts and committing 13 turnovers in 2015. He also showed he's not invincible. He missed two games early in the year due to a rib injury, and then he missed the final seven when he suffered a lacerated kidney early in the fourth quarter against the <u>Denver Broncos</u> in Week 9. He also dealt with shoulder and abdominal injuries.

For months, Irsay had said he hoped and expected this agreement would be done around the Fourth of July holiday, if not before training camp. His goal now has been achieved.

"The organization is excited about getting this deal done and getting it done before the 4th of July," Irsay said. "It's a big number. It was a deal that was fair deal for both sides taking into account being [salary] cap friendly, being reasonable in the last year in 2021."

Luck was scheduled to make \$16.155 million this season, the fifth-year option on his rookie contract.

The Colts report to training camp July 26 at Anderson (Indiana) University.