



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

**Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORMER SENIOR PASTOR OF CARBONDALE CHURCH PLEADS GUILTY  
TO THEFT RELATED OFFENSES

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a former Senior Pastor of a Carbondale church pled guilty to three theft related counts on Wednesday, January 8, 2015, in Jackson County Circuit Court.

Joshua Swain, 34, former senior pastor at The View Church in Carbondale, pled guilty to Aggravated Identity Theft in excess of \$10,000 but not exceeding \$100,000, a Class 1 felony; Theft in excess of \$10,000 but not exceeding \$100,000, a Class 2 felony; and Loan Fraud, a Class 2 felony. The Class 1 felony carries a potential sentence of four to fifteen years in the Department of Corrections, and the Class 2 felonies carry a potential sentence of three to seven years. All are probationable.

The charges arise out of offenses which occurred between June 2011 and July 2013, and involve the theft of money from the church, the theft of identity information from a senior citizen who was a member of the church board to obtain a credit card, and providing false information to a local bank by indicating that the church board had approved a loan application for \$40,000. As part of the plea, the defendant has agreed to repay the church and the credit card company over \$76,000 in restitution. Sentencing has been set for Wednesday, March 4, 2015, at 10:30 a.m.

This case was investigated by the Carbondale Police Department in conjunction with the board of the View Church. State's Attorney Michael C. Carr is handling the prosecution.