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Street Swags founder Jean Madden being arrested last year.

[National](#)

Former Young Australian of Year and Street Swags founder Jean Madden on further fraud charges

David Murray, The Courier-Mail
January 30, 2017 12:00am
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FORMER Young Australian of the Year Jean Madden faces new fraud charges in an ongoing investigation into her spending at charity Street Swags.

Madden, who has been banned from attending the charity she founded, is understood to have been charged with nine more fraud counts by detectives at her Upper Brookfield home yesterday.

Madden was last year charged with fraud for allegedly hijacking the Street Swags website, emails and bank accounts in a bitter dispute over control of the charity.

The latest charges are believed to relate to allegations of unauthorised spending by Madden, including payments to her de facto partner to build cabins for the homeless.

A police investigation is continuing into claims Madden used charity funds to pay a family law firm during a long-running private legal issue, *The Courier-Mail* can reveal.

Madden was sacked as Street Swags chief executive in May after a report by Worrells Forensic Accountants indicated she had incurred more than \$440,000 in unauthorised expenses in a year.

She denies any wrongdoing and has said she will fight the allegations against her.



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Street Swags director Paul Daley yesterday confirmed the charity had been advised of the new charges against Madden.

“It relates directly to the forensic report where we identified she had (allegedly) operated outside her authority and without the knowledge of the board and directors,” Mr Daly said.

“We’ve left the matter in the hands of police. In the meantime our focus has been on getting the charity back where it needed to be, which we’ve been able to do quite successfully.”

Hundreds of Street Swags were distributed to the homeless over the Christmas-new year period, with an updated version including additional bedding, the charity’s website says.

“We’re very fortunate our donors have continued to support us and the work we’re doing in getting comfort to the homeless,” Mr Daly said.

As part of her bail conditions for the earlier fraud offence, Madden was banned from attending the charity, accessing its accounts or contacting directors.

Originally published as [Charity founder faces fresh fraud claims](#)