

Francisco Rodriguez Drops Grievance Against New York Mets

Written by Maury Brown

Tuesday, 19 October 2010 13:55



THIS IS BREAKING NEWS...

Francisco Rodriguez, the 28-year-old closer for the New York Mets, who was involved in a physical altercation with the father of his long-time girlfriend, has dropped his grievance against the club for lost wages.

He issued the following statement through the MLBPA regarding the resolution of his grievance:

"As I have expressed in the past, I deeply regret the incident that occurred on August 11, 2010. I sincerely apologize to Fred Wilpon, Jeff Wilpon and Saul Katz, Mets' fans, my teammates, and the entire Mets' organization. I have worked hard since the incident to make myself a better person and member of this organization. I have been participating in an anger management program since August, and I will continue in the program for the foreseeable future. I feel that anger management counseling is undoubtedly making me a better person and a better father, and will make me a better teammate and member of this great organization.

"I am responsible for my injury that occurred as a result of this incident, and prevented me from finishing the season with the Mets. As a result, I have instructed the Major League Baseball Players Association not to pursue the issue raised in the grievance regarding payment of my salary during the time that I was injured. Personally, in this situation, I do not feel that it is right for me to take a salary for the period of time in which I could not contribute as a player as a result of my off-field actions. In addition, I am directing each of my \$100,000 annual charitable contributions to New York metropolitan area charities that further the purposes of the New York Mets Foundation.

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"I appreciate the faith and support that this organization has shown me throughout this matter. I look forward to being a part of the 2011 Mets and hopefully beyond. I want to put these issues behind me, and behind this organization and its fans. I have instructed my attorneys to work toward amicably resolving the other legal matters resulting from this incident. I want my focus to be on my family, my team and being the best closer in baseball in 2011."

Source: MLBPA



Maury Brown is the Founder and President of the [Business of Sports Network](#), which includes The Biz of Baseball, The Biz of Football, The Biz of Basketball and The Biz of Hockey, as well as a [contributor to FanGraphs](#) and [Forbes SportsMoney](#).

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