

Miguel Tejada Receives Second-Longest PED Suspension in MLB History for Stimulants

Written by Maury Brown
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Kansas City Royals infielder [Miguel Tejada](#) has received a 105-game suspension without pay after testing positive for an Amphetamine in violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program. It is the second-longest PED suspension handed down by MLB behind only [Alex Rodriguez](#) pending 211 game suspension, which could see those games lowered, or overturned entirely. The only other drug related suspensions that have been longer were Pasual Perez being suspended for the entire 1992 season for cocaine, and [Dwight Gooden](#) suspended for all of the 1995 season for violating a drug aftercare program.

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Tejada tested positive twice in close proximity to each other thus garnering a 25 game and 80 game suspension concurrently for a total of 105 games. The drug agreement between the players and the league states that for a first positive test for stimulants, a player receives no suspension, but follow-up testing. Therefore Tejada has tested positive three times. If he were to come back and play after a lengthy suspension, and test positive again, he could be banned from the game for life. Based upon the drug agreement a player that has a fourth violation can see permanent banishment from MLB and Minor League Baseball by the commissioner, which would automatically be brought forward to an arbitrator to ultimately rule on the case.

Tejada released a statement through the MLB Players Association saying, "I apologize to my teammates, the Royals organization and to the Kansas City fans. I have a medical condition that requires medication to treat. I took that medication while re-applying for a Therapeutic Use Exemption. Under the requirements of the Joint Drug Program, I made a mistake in doing so."

Sources confirm that the Therapeutic Use Exemption was for Adderall, a powerful stimulant

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used to treat ADD and ADHD. The exemption expired on April 15 of this year but Tejada did not get it renewed.

Earlier this week, the former 2002 AL MVP shortstop was placed on the 60-day DL for a minor calf strain, leading to speculation that he might be facing a potential suspension.

Tejada has been tied to PEDs in the past. He admitted in 2009 to lying to Congress about using PEDs, which a misdemeanor charge that could have had him serving a year in jail. Based on sentencing guidelines, he did not serve time.

In 2008, he admitted to lying about his age saying at the time he was 33, two years older he was listed in the team media guide for the Astros.

Some information within this story comes courtesy of The Associated Press



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. He [writes for Baseball Prospectus](#) and is a [contributor to Forbes](#)

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