



# NEWS RELEASE

## **U.S. TRACK & FIELD COACH, RAYMOND STEWART, RECEIVES LIFETIME SUSPENSION IN ARBITRATION DECISION**

*Independent Arbitrator Finds Maximum Penalty for Trafficking and Administering Prohibited Substances*

Colorado Springs, Colo. (June 28, 2010) - USADA announced today that Raymond Stewart, a coach in the sport of track and field, and four-time Olympic sprinter who competed for the country of Jamaica, has received a lifetime suspension in a decision by an independent American Arbitration Association (AAA) arbitrator. The suspension was imposed for Stewart's participation in trafficking in prohibited substances, as well as administration and attempted administration of prohibited substances, in violation of applicable sport anti-doping rules, including International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code (Code). Mr. Stewart's sanction resulted from information recently received by USADA during separate investigations arising from information obtained during the BALCO conspiracy.

The panel, in its decision, indicated that the facts plus Stewart's position as coach - which presents him as trusted advisor and confidant - places an inviolable responsibility on him to be a role model and leader.

Stewart is the third coach to receive a lifetime period of ineligibility for involvement in assisting drug use by athletes, in a case brought by USADA. "As necessary as appropriate sanctions are in cases of athletes using performance-enhancing substances, it is important that the most stringent penalties be applied when coaches participate in assisting and encouraging athletes to dope," said Travis T. Tygart, USADA CEO. "Violating the sacred responsibility and standards of a coach by aiding athletes with doping is truly reprehensible."

A link to the AAA ruling can be found at <http://www.usada.org/what-we-do/results-management/arbitration-rulings.aspx>.

In an effort to aid athletes, as well as all support team members such as parents and coaches, in understanding the rules applicable to them, USADA provides comprehensive instruction on its website on the testing process and prohibited substances, how to obtain permission to use a necessary medication, and the risks and dangers of taking supplements as well as performance-enhancing and recreational drugs. In addition, the agency manages a drug reference hotline, conducts educational sessions with National Governing Bodies and their athletes, and proactively distributes a multitude of educational materials, such as the Guide to Prohibited Substances and Methods, easy-reference wallet cards, periodic newsletters, and protocol and policy reference documentation.

*USADA is responsible for the testing and results management process for athletes in the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement, and is equally dedicated to preserving the integrity of sport through research initiatives and educational programs.*

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