**Title:** Chain-of-Custody Issues Continue to Plague Drug Testing in Professional Sports

**Subtitle:** The National Football League is the latest sports organization to face chain of custody issues over drug testing.

**Meta Description:** Chain-of-Custody Issues Continue to Plague Drug Testing in Professional Sports

**Date:** 2-5-2012

**Author:** Anthony R. Caruso

**Formatted Content:**

Two Denver Broncos players have filed a sports lawsuit seeking to have their suspensions overturned because the league failed to follow proper protocol.

Ryan Braun, the MVP of the National League, recently became the first major-league player to have a positive drug test overturned on appeal, after he alleged problems in the chain-of-custody. In that case, the collector kept the sample stored in his home refrigerator for two days because he thought FedEx was closed.

In the current lawsuit, D.J. Williams and Ryan McBean contend that the NFL should have cleared them after the collector was fired for not following proper procedures. Their appeal was denied, and both players are facing six game suspensions without pay to start the 2012 season.

As reported by the Associated Press, the NFL alleges that the urine samples they provided to an NFL specimen collector for testing in August weren't from a human. However, Williams’ attorney contends that the specimen collector said he watched Williams void directly into the specimen bottle, negating the possibility that the specimen was non-human.

The lawsuit further points out that the NFL fired the collector for dereliction of duties and acknowledged that the collector made many mistakes. The players argue these chain-of-custody problems should negate the tests and their suspensions.

The NFL hearing officer didn’t agree. Now, we will have to wait and see if the players are more successful in the courtroom.

**Raw Content:** <!-- wp:heading -->
<h2>The National Football League is the latest sports organization to face chain of custody issues over drug testing.</h2>
<!-- /wp:heading -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>Two Denver Broncos players have filed a <a href="/practices/entertainment-and-media/">sports lawsuit</a> seeking to have their suspensions overturned because the league failed to follow proper protocol.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>Ryan Braun, the MVP of the National League, recently became the first major-league player to have a positive drug test overturned on appeal, after he alleged problems in the chain-of-custody. In that case, the collector kept the sample stored in his home refrigerator for two days because he thought FedEx was closed.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>In the current lawsuit, D.J. Williams and Ryan McBean contend that the NFL should have cleared them after the collector was fired for not following proper procedures. Their appeal was denied, and both players are facing six game suspensions without pay to start the 2012 season.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>As reported by the Associated Press, the NFL alleges that the urine samples they provided to an NFL specimen collector for testing in August weren't from a human. However, Williams’ attorney contends that the specimen collector said he watched Williams void directly into the specimen bottle, negating the possibility that the specimen was non-human.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>The lawsuit further points out that the NFL fired the collector for dereliction of duties and acknowledged that the collector made many mistakes. The players argue these chain-of-custody problems should negate the tests and their suspensions.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->
<!-- wp:paragraph -->
<p>The NFL hearing officer didn’t agree. Now, we will have to wait and see if the players are more successful in the courtroom.</p>
<!-- /wp:paragraph -->