

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

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For Immediate Release

FORMER USD BASKETBALL PLAYER BRANDON JOHNSON SENTENCED FOR CONSPIRING TO COMMIT SPORTS BRIBERY

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY – March 1, 2013

United States Attorney Laura E. Duffy announced that Brandon Johnson was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by the Honorable Anthony J. Battaglia to serve six months in custody, followed by one year of supervised release, for his role in a conspiracy to commit sports bribery in connection with influencing the outcome of University of San Diego (USD) basketball games during the 2009-2010 season and soliciting a USD player to do the same during the 2010-2011 season. Johnson pled guilty to an indictment charging him with conspiring to commit sports bribery on November 15, 2012. To date, eight of the ten defendants indicted have pled guilty.

According to court documents and admissions from co-defendants' guilty pleas, Brandon Johnson, the all-time points and assists leader at USD, received bribe money to influence the outcome of basketball

games during the 2009-2010 season while he was a member of USD's basketball team. Utilizing Johnson, the conspiracy profited by placing bets at Las Vegas casinos on games Johnson influenced. Co-defendant Steve Gorla, who was sentenced to 30 months imprisonment in October 2012, admitted that the conspiracy profited more than \$120,000 from the game-fixing scheme. Johnson admitted in his guilty plea that during the 2010-2011 season, he solicited a then-current USD basketball player to influence the outcome of basketball games for bribe money.

Judge Battaglia ordered the defendant to report on May 31, 2013 to begin serving his sentence.

DEFENDANT

Criminal Case No. 11CR1345-AJB

Brandon Johnson

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Count 1: Title 18, United States Code, Section 371 - Conspiracy

INVESTIGATING AGENCY

Federal Bureau of Investigation