



# NEWS RELEASE

## INDEPENDENT PANEL ISSUES TWO-YEAR SUSPENSION TO U.S. TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE, BARNWELL, FOR DOPING OFFENSE

Colorado Springs, Colo. (March 3, 2010) - USADA announced today that Val Barnwell, a Masters track and field athlete, has received a sanction for testing positive for a banned substance at the 2009 Masters World Championships in Lahti, Finland.

Barnwell, 52, of Brooklyn, N.Y., tested positive for testosterone prohormones in a sample collected from him on August 3, 2009, after winning a gold medal in the 200 meter event at the Masters World Championships. Testosterone prohormones are prohibited as Anabolic Agents on the World Anti-Doping Agency Prohibited List, which has been adopted by the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing and the International Association of Athletics Federations ("IAAF") Anti-Doping Rules.

Pursuant to the IAAF rules, the case of this U.S. athlete was referred to USADA for adjudication. The sanction is a result of a decision issued by an independent, three-member, American Arbitration Association/Court of Arbitration for Sport ("AAA/CAS") panel, which heard evidence during a February, 25, 2010 hearing. The panel, in an Interim Order issued on February 26, 2010, found that Barnwell had committed an anti-doping rule violation for his use of testosterone prohormones and that no exceptional circumstances justifying a reduced sanction were present. The panel's full written decision will follow, including a reasoned award, and will be posted on the USADA website upon issuance. In its Interim Order, the panel issued Mr. Barnwell a two-year suspension beginning December 11, 2009, the date he accepted a provisional suspension.

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, Drug Reference Online ([www.GlobalDRO.com](http://www.GlobalDRO.com)), conducts educational sessions with National Governing Bodies and their athletes, and proactively distributes a multitude of educational materials, such as the Prohibited List, 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.*

— # —

### CONTACT:

Erin Hannan, Communications & Outreach Director

Phone: (719) 785-2009

E-mail: [ehannan@usada.org](mailto:ehannan@usada.org)

---

*United States Anti-Doping Agency*

1330 Quail Lake Loop, Suite 260, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80906

Tel: 719.785.2000 • Fax: 719.785.2001

[usada@usada.org](mailto:usada@usada.org) • [www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)