# Erriyon Knighton Cleared to Compete in U.S. Olympic Trials Due to Contaminated Meat Explanation



American sprinter Erriyon Knighton has been cleared to compete in the upcoming U.S. Olympic track trials following an arbitration decision that ruled the positive test for a banned substance was due to contaminated meat. Knighton, who previously won a silver medal in the 200 meters at the 2023 World Championships, tested positive for trenbolone in March 2024 during an out-of-competition drug test. Trenbolone is a steroid commonly used in cattle in the U.S.

Knighton faced a provisional suspension starting April 12, 2024. However, the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) announced that an independent arbitrator concluded the positive result was likely due to the consumption of contaminated meat. This "no fault" violation ruling lifted his suspension, enabling him to participate in the trials which begin in Eugene, Oregon, on Friday.

USADA CEO Travis Tygart expressed confidence in the arbitration process, stating, "We did what the rules require us to do in all positive cases." Meanwhile, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has expressed skepticism over the ruling and is considering an appeal. WADA officials questioned the evidential basis of the decision, emphasizing that such contamination is "extremely rare" and criticizing Tygart's declaration of justice.

The ruling allows Knighton to retain his results and continue his competitive career immediately.