



## MEDIA RELEASE

### ATHLETICS

#### CHRISTIAN COLEMAN V/ WORLD ATHLETICS:

#### THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) CONFIRMS THE ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATION (3 WHEREABOUT FAILURES WITHIN 12 MONTHS) BUT REDUCES THE PERIOD OF INELIGIBILITY IMPOSED ON CHRISTIAN COLEMAN TO 18 MONTHS

*Lausanne, 16 April 2021* - The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has issued its decision in the appeal arbitration procedure between the American sprinter Christian Coleman and World Athletics relating to the decision issued by the Athletics Integrity Unit on 19 December 2020 (the Challenged Decision) in which Christian Coleman was found guilty of committing an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Article 2.4 of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules (three Whereabouts Failures within a 12-month period) and a 24-month period of ineligibility was imposed on him.

Christian Coleman's appeal was partially upheld and he will serve a reduced period of ineligibility of 18 months as from 14 May 2020.

The CAS Panel in charge of the matter, composed of Mr James Drake QC (UK), President, Mr Jeffrey Benz (USA) and Prof. Ulrich Haas (Germany), arbitrators, held a hearing with the parties by video-link on 15 February 2021.

In coming to its decision, the CAS Panel determined that Christian Coleman had indeed committed an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Article 2.4 of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules, but found the athlete's degree of negligence to be lower than that established in the Challenged Decision: the Athlete was not at home during the 60-minute time slot on the day of the out-of-competition doping control (9 December 2019), as he should have been, and the Athlete should have been on 'high-alert' on that day, given the two existing whereabouts failures against him. On the other hand, however, had the Athlete been called by the Doping Control Officer, he would have been able to return to his apartment during the 60-minute window and a test would have been concluded. Although a telephone call during the 60-minute window was not required by the rules, it was nevertheless reasonable for the Athlete to expect such a call, as a matter of standard practice among other Doping Control Officers.

In conclusion, the CAS Panel determined that an 18-month period of ineligibility was the appropriate sanction in the circumstances.