

## What to Make of Chris Perez and Josh Gordon News?

Written by {ga=tommoore}

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When we first heard the news about Chris Perez and Josh Gordon and their "indiscretions," our first reaction was, are you kidding?

Then, after we heard more of the details, our reaction started to change a bit.

Let's start with Perez, who has been charged with a misdemeanor, along with his wife, Melanie, after a package of marijuana was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service to their rental house earlier this week. [According to media reports](#), the package contained less than 9 ounces of marijuana.

"Clearly, we take these matters seriously and are disappointed whenever there is any negative attention brought to the Indians organization or one of our players," Indians general manager [Chris Antonetti said on the team's website](#). "We understand and respect that there is an ongoing legal process that we will allow to evolve."

OK, drugs are obviously bad and no matter where you stand on the marijuana issue, it is currently illegal to possess it in Ohio. Having said that, we have a hard time getting worked up about this latest incident with Perez.

Do we wish Perez hadn't been involved in any of this? Of course. The Tribe has enough on its plate as it struggles to break a stretch that has seen them lose 15 of their last 19 games without having to worry about what their injured closer is up to in his free time. But other than being a bit disappointed, we just don't see where this incident calls for outrage or angst from Tribe fans.

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We are interested, however, in how Major League Baseball is going to deal with this. Even though Perez is currently charged, the package was reportedly addressed to Brody Baum. Brody is the name of the Perez family dog and Baum is Melanie's maiden name. While someone could argue that Perez knew the package was coming, his name isn't on the package. As far as we know, spouses and family pets don't have to follow any of the rules about drug use or personal conduct that Major League Baseball has in place.

Perez reportedly admitted to police the marijuana is his and Melanie Perez reportedly said she is not a user. But what if Perez is called before commissioner Bud Selig and changes his tune? What happens if he claims the package was for his wife and he had no knowledge that it was coming in the mail? Would baseball have the guts to try and discipline him and, if so, how hard would the player's union push back? (And how much of an anniversary present will Perez have to buy his wife if she acts as a human shield for him?)

Overall, we just can't that worked up about Perez. We hate to use the phrase, "it's only marijuana," but ... it is only marijuana. It may be because, as we've gotten older, we've looked at sports and athletes with a different perspective. With so many things going on in the world that are true problems, the fact that the Tribe's closer allegedly likes to fire up every once in a while falls very far down on the list.

The news is worse on Gordon, who has been suspended for the first two games of the season for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

