

NEWS & INSIGHTS

LIGHTFOOT'S TAKE ON ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY'S LACK OF INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL AND FAILURE TO MONITOR

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Author: [Enrique \(Henry\) J. Gimenez](#)

On September 11, 2018, the Division I Committee on Infractions (COI) found that Alabama A&M University (AAMU) exhibited a lack of institutional control (LOIC) when it improperly certified 101 student-athletes in nearly all of the university's sport programs during the 2011-12 to 2015-16 academic years. The case, considered through the summary disposition process, was ultimately classified as Level I-Standard.

BACKGROUND

The parties agreed that: AAMU's compliance staff lacked the requisite experience and rules education and training to conduct certification; AAMU did not appropriately involve staff outside of athletics in certification; and the certifying staff failed to correctly apply the legislation. The COI described AAMU's systemic problems as some of the most extensive and widespread certification failures in recent case history. [Read more.](#)