



Archer & Greiner Wins NCAA Eligibility for Melvin Council Jr.

Press Releases

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Archer & Greiner, P.C. announced today that New York Supreme Court Justice Daniel J. Doyle granted a preliminary injunction against the NCAA and its President on behalf of client Melvin Council Jr., restoring his eligibility to compete in NCAA basketball during the 2026-27 season. Judge Doyle's ruling also prevents the NCAA from retroactively penalizing Council or any institution that chooses to add him to its roster.

Archer attorneys [Trevor A. Prince, Jr.](#), [Patrick K.A. Afriyie](#), [Mark J. Oberstaedt](#), and [Stephen A. Pina](#) represented Council throughout the proceedings. All four are members of Archer's [Sports, Media & Entertainment](#) Practice Group, which represents college and professional athletes. "We appreciate the Court's careful consideration and thorough analysis. We are proud to represent Melvin and are deeply gratified that this ruling will allow him to compete at the highest level of NCAA basketball during the 2026-27 season," said Archer Partner Stephen A. Pina.

Read the court decision [here](#).

About Archer Sports, Media & Entertainment Practice

Archer Sports, Media & Entertainment Group has long-standing experience representing college and professional athletes. Our attorneys bring deep knowledge across professional and collegiate sports, entertainment, media, and emerging technologies, along with firsthand knowledge of the industries we serve. We pair that experience with the full resources of a firm that handles sophisticated transactions, intellectual property prosecution and enforcement, litigation, and regulatory matters across every relevant discipline.

About Archer

For over 95 years, [Archer & Greiner](#) has been providing full-service litigation and transactional legal services to clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations and small and middle-market companies, to closely held and family-owned businesses. Our 175 attorneys span nine offices serving clients' interests across a wide range of industries. As a full-service firm, we draw on the strength of all our practices and multidisciplinary teams. This

collaboration ensures that our clients receive complete, coordinated and comprehensive counsel in every area of the law that impacts their business.

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