

## Rafael Feijao Cavalcante Tests Positive

Brazilian mixed martial artist, [Rafael Custodio a.k.a. Rafael Feijao Cavalcante](#), has tested positive for a banned substance.

The California State Athletic Commission has suspended Rafael Cavalcante for a period of one year for testing positive to [stanozolol metabolites](#). The Strikeforce light heavyweight champion tested positive following his win over Mike Kyle last month in San Jose, California.

The MMA fighter has been suspended for one year and fined \$2,500 by the California State Athletic Commission. His suspension was applied retroactively to May 18, 2012 and the result of his last fight with Mike Klye will be changed to a "No Decision" with Rule 368. **According to Commissioner George Dodd of the California State Athletic Commission (CSAC), "Feijao," who submitted "MAK" last month on the main card of the Strikeforce Heavyweight Grand Prix Final tested positive for stanozolol metabolites.**

The suspension of Cavalcante marks the third high-profile Strikeforce fighter getting suspended for banned substances after Cris "Cyborg" Santos and Muhammed Lawal were both suspended by the California State Athletic Commission and Nevada State Athletic Commission, respectively.

Cavalcante trains with Anderson Silva and Antônio Rodrigo Nogueira as part of the Black House camp and is best known for his aggressive Muay Thai style and explosive knockout power. He made his professional MMA debut on February 10, 2006 by knocking down Eduardo Maiorino by TKO at a Pantanal Combat event in Brazil.

On May 15, 2010, he became the number one contender for the Strikeforce Light Heavyweight Championship by knocking out Antwain Britt at Strikeforce: Heavy Artillery. His next fight against Muhammed Lawal in Houston, Texas for the Strikeforce Light Heavyweight Championship saw him become the new Strikeforce Light Heavyweight Champion by defeating Lawal by TKO due to elbows from the clinch at 1:14 of round 3.

In May 2011, Rafael "Feijao" Cavalcante was defeated by Dan Henderson, the former Pride champion of two different weight classes, in Columbus, Ohio with a third-round technical knockout. Henderson started slow but drilled Cavalcante with a hard right hand to knock him down and then finishing him with about half-a-dozen punches on the ground to get the TKO win. Feijao, defending the title for the first time, falls to 10-3, while the record of Henderson after the win improved to 27-8. Cavalcante, however, rebounded with a second-round knockout of Yoel Romero Palacio to improve his overall Strikeforce record to 4-2.

The former Strikeforce light heavyweight champion would be making an appeal against the one-year license suspension at the next meeting of the California State Athletic Commission on October 6.

Ed Soares, the manager of Cavalcante, said the MMA fighter would be represented by a drug expert who witnessed the testing of the fighter's "B" sample and a lawyer. *This was announced after the second test that was conducted on June 26. If the appeal fails, the suspension of Cavalcante would run until May 18, 2013, one year from the date he was tested. The MMA fighter may challenge former champion Gegard Mousasi for the vacant light heavyweight title after the suspension.*