

Alex Rodriguez Came To Conte For Legal Supplements

BALCO founder Victor Conte has told the *New York Daily News* that he met in 2012 with New York Yankees slugger [Alex Rodriguez](#) about legal performance enhancement.

The *Daily News* revealed that A-Rod made an attempt to get ex-NFL player [Bill Romanowski](#) to arrange a meeting with the BALCO founder in Los Angeles or New York. Initially, Conte declined but Rodriguez and Romanowski showed up uninvited at Conte's office in San Marcos, California, in May 2012. The newspaper quotes Conte as saying he flushed it out with Romanowski before they ever showed up at the office and he clearly told Romanowski it (anything he could do for Rodriguez) was about legal performance enhancement.

Conte disclosed he met with MLB's department of investigations for two hours some weeks ago. In the past, the company owned by Conte, Bay Area Laboratory Cooperative was accused of supplying a number of world-class athletes with performance enhancing drugs and Conte was sent to prison in 2005 for his role in the scandal. Victor Conte now runs Scientific Nutrition for Advance Conditioning, a legal sports supplement company, with his daughter, Veronica Conte.

Conte said he was eager to meet with Major League Baseball officials because he wanted to answer their questions about Alex Rodriguez. The BALCO founder remarked he also wanted to give his input and have them take it back to MLB Commissioner Bud Selig. He went on to remark that he was keen to share his ideas about improving the drug program of MLB and was waiting for this opportunity for a long time.

Alex Rodriguez, the American baseball third baseman for the New York Yankees of Major League Baseball (MLB), is the youngest player ever to hit 500 home runs. He recently received a suspension of 211 games for his ties with Biogenesis, a Miami anti-aging clinic run by Anthony Bosch. Conte remarked A-Rod referred to Bosch as "his nutrition guy."

In another development, the New York Yankees has hand-delivered a letter to A-Rod written by general manager Brian Cashman. The letter reprimanded Rodriguez for his recent actions surrounding his rehab assignment, including seeking a second medical opinion with Dr. Michael Gross without giving a prior notice to the team. It also reprimanded Rodriguez for his failure to show up to a July 12 game after meeting with MLB officials regarding the Biogenesis investigation. The team has also fined him \$153,846, equivalent to one day's pay under Rodriguez's contract, which calls for him to earn \$28 million for 2013.

The team also fined Francisco Cervelli for his failure to appear for treatment for his injured hand and elbow. He was fined \$2,831, a day's pay out of the \$515,350 he currently makes. The baseball slugger remarked he felt "too stressed out" to report to the facility of Yankees in Tampa after he learned of his suspension. The Italo-Venezuelan professional baseball player accepted 50-game suspensions from MLB after his name emerged among those discovered in the records of Biogenesis when the list was published by the *Miami New Times*.