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‘Desk Drawer Roundup’: NIL Contract Fights, Eligibility Battles, and the CSC Participation Agreement

SPEAKERS

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In this episode of *Highway to NIL*, Troutman Pepper Locke attorney Cal Stein is joined by colleagues Mike Lowe, Philip Nickerson, George Pla, and Derek Centola for a “desk drawer” tour through some of the most consequential recent developments in NIL and college sports. The group unpacks a wave of NIL contract disputes involving high-value athletes, the escalating legal fights over eligibility and the five-year rule, and the emerging governance battles around the College Sports Commission’s (CSC) participation agreement.

Key Topics Include:

- The CSC participation agreement and governance battles (24:08).
- The rise of school-athlete NIL/revenue-sharing contracts post-*House* settlement (4:01)
- Contract disputes and tampering allegations (5:38)
- Why injunctive relief over NIL rights may be more important than chasing damages (9:20)
- The Diego Pavia JUCO litigation, the expanding plaintiff group, and how the five-year rule is being challenged under antitrust theories (12:18)
- Trinidad Chambliss, Puff Johnson, and contract-law challenges to eligibility limits (18:21)

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