

Insurance settlement

■ Team, company OK deal involving claim on Bagwell

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The Astros reached a settlement Thursday with Connecticut General Life Insurance over a lawsuit filed against the company after it denied the club's claim to recoup a portion of Jeff Bagwell's salary from 2006.

The amount of the settlement wasn't disclosed.

Attorneys for the Astros filed a lawsuit in April against the insurance company, claiming breach of contract, because the company denied the Astros' claim to get back \$15.6 million of Bagwell's \$17 million salary.

Bagwell, 38, announced his retirement Friday.

Houston attorney Ty Buthod, who represents Connecticut General, and Astros attorney Wayne Fisher released a joint statement Friday that read: "The Houston Astros and Connecticut General Life Insurance Company have reached an amicable resolution of the lawsuit brought by the club relating to the total disability policy on Jeff Bagwell. The details of the resolution are confidential."

Astros owner Drayton McLane directed all questions about the settlement to Fisher of the Houston law firm Fisher, Boyd, Brown, Boudreaux and Huguenard.

"It was a total coincidence that this occurred about the same time that Jeff's announcement of his retirement (did)," Fisher said. "We . . . got together and resolved it. It's over and done with."