



Kansas City T-Bones Official Release

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Kansas City Inks Veteran Closer

Former Phillies farmhand signed by T-Bones

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – The Kansas City T-Bones and manager Tim Doherty have announced the signing of right-handed pitcher Franklin Perez to a contract for the 2010 season.

A native of the Dominican Republic, Perez, 32, began his professional career after signing with the Philadelphia Phillies as an international free agent in 1999. He spent eight years in the Phillies system before splitting time between the Pittsburgh Pirates and St. Louis Cardinals organizations during the 2006 season. Perez has spent time at the Triple-A level during three different seasons.

“Franklin is a big right-handed closer that has seen time at the Triple-A level,” Doherty said. “He comes in with veteran experience and has big shoes to fill with James leaving.”

The right-hander entered independent baseball in 2007 and has played in the Atlantic League for the past three seasons. Now starting the 12th year of his career, Perez holds a career 4.42 ERA over 669 and two-thirds innings.

Perez made his T-Bones debut in last night’s game versus the Flyers, throwing a scoreless ninth inning in an 8-1 victory. He takes the roster spot of Justin James, who was signed by the Oakland Athletics on June 17.

– *Kansas City T-Bones* –