

[1978](#) - [Charles O. Finley & Co., Inc. v. Bowie K. Kuhn, et al \(US Appeals, 7th Circuit\)](#) [Court of](#)

Opinion by the US Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit

Decided April 7, 1978

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Action was instituted on claim of professional baseball club and counterclaim of commissioner of baseball with respect to issues whether commissioner was contractually authorized to disapprove player assignments and whether waiver of recourse clause in major league agreement between professional baseball clubs was valid and enforceable. The plaintiff, Charles O. Finley & Co., Inc. an Illinois corporation, is the owner of the Oakland Athletics baseball club, a member of the American League of Professional Baseball Clubs (Oakland). Joe Rudi, Rollie Fingers and Vida Blue were members of the active playing roster of the Oakland baseball club and were contractually bound to play for Oakland through the end of the 1976 baseball season. On or about June 15, 1976, Oakland and Blue entered a contract whereby Blue would play for Oakland through the 1979 season, but Rudi and Fingers had not at that time signed contracts for the period beyond the 1976 season.