

## Astros Avoid Arbitration with Bourn, Lindstrom, Quintero

Written by Joe Tetreault  
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**HOUSTON, TX** — The Houston Astros announced today that the club has signed outfielder **Michael Bourn**

, right-handed pitcher

**Matt Lindstrom**

and catcher

**Humberto Quintero**

to one-year contracts for the 2010 season. The announcement was made by General Manager Ed Wade.

As a result, the club will avoid going to arbitration with each player as all three were eligible. Bourn's deal is worth \$2.4 million plus bonuses, Lindstrom's is worth \$1,625,000 plus bonuses, while Quintero's is worth \$750,000 plus bonuses. The Astros now have three unsigned players remaining that are eligible for arbitration: Tim Byrdak, Hunter Pence and Wandy Rodriguez.

Bourn, 27, hit .285 (173x606) and led the National League with 61 stolen bases en route to being named the Astros 2009 Team MVP. He set career highs in nearly every offensive category, including runs (97), hits (173), doubles (27), triples (12) and walks (63). He was also named as a Rawlings Gold Glove outfielder, becoming the first Astros outfielder to earn that distinction since Cesar Cedeño won the award in five consecutive seasons from 1972-76. Bourn has appeared in parts of four seasons with Philadelphia (2006-07) and Houston (2008-09) and owns a career .262 batting average with 121 steals in 145 attempts.

Lindstrom, 29, made 54 relief appearances for the Florida Marlins in 2009, compiling a 2-1 record and a 5.89 ERA (31ER/47.1IP). He converted 15 saves in 17 opportunities and finished the season converting 12 consecutive save chances. Lindstrom was acquired by Houston from Florida during the Winter Meetings on December 9, 2009, in exchange for three minor league players. He has spent three years in the Major Leagues with Florida (2007-09) and owns an 8-8 career record with 3.88 ERA and 20 saves.

Quintero, 30, compiled a .236 (37x157) average with four homers and 14 RBI in 60 games with

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Houston in 2009. He started 51 games for the Astros behind the plate, marking his second straight year to start 50-plus games for the club. He is a veteran of seven Major League seasons, having spent time with San Diego (2003-04) and Houston (2005-09) and owns a .232 career average. His 2010 campaign will be his sixth with the club.

These signings reduce the number of players whose cases are pending to 86. MLB clubs will exchange figures with their remaining arbitration eligible players today. Please visit the [salary arbitration page](#) for more information.

Source: Houston Astros