

**Houston Texans**  
Two NRG Park  
Houston, TX 77054

p. (832) 667-2143

@TexansPR // @HoustonTexans  
<http://media.houstontexans.com>



**Amy.Palcic@houstontexans.com**  
Senior Director of Communications

**Brett.Maikowski@houstontexans.com**  
Communications Manager

**Omar.Majzoub@houstontexans.com**  
Communications Coordinator

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HOUSTON TEXANS ROLAND RAMIREZ NAMED 2016 AFC TIM DAVEY ASSISTANT ATHLETIC TRAINER OF THE YEAR**

**HOUSTON** – Houston Texans Coordinator of Rehabilitation/Assistant Athletic Trainer Roland Ramirez has been named the 2016 AFC Tim Davey Assistant Athletic Trainer of the Year.

The Tim Davey Assistant Athletic Trainer of the Year award is presented annually at the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society meeting at the NFL Combine in Indianapolis. The recipient is nominated by the membership and selected by a committee that includes past recipients. This award is emblematic of the commitment, dedication and high level of integrity that Tim Davey, an employee of the New York Jets and the NFL for 33 years (1969-2002), brought to the profession of athletic training and is representative of his level of service which he dedicated to his surrounding community.

Ramirez just completed his eighth season with the Texans, where his primary responsibility is designing and implementing cutting edge and innovative rehab programs for all Texans players. Ramirez will be presented with a framed honor and monetary award for his efforts during the NFL Combine in Indianapolis (February 23-29).

“As an assistant athletic trainer, Roland exhibits the most important qualities; he is loyal, trustworthy, disciplined, passionate, dedicated, professional and a tireless worker,” said Texans Director of Sports Medicine/Head Athletic Trainer Geoff Kaplan. “Roland is the ultimate team player and works hard to make sure the Texans training room is organized and runs smoothly. Roland has a thirst for knowledge and is constantly trying to improve his athletic training skills. He has the unique ability to make the players work hard and believe they are going to get well.”

Ramirez is board certified as a clinical specialist in sports physical therapy by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists. He also holds a certification as a strength and conditioning specialist and is a member of the NATA, APTA, NSCA, and PFATS. In 2013, Ramirez and the Texans sports medicine staff were recognized by the Pro Football Athletic Trainers Society as the Athletic Training Staff of the Year, an annual award voted on by all NFL athletic trainers.

Before joining the Texans, Ramirez worked for the Atlanta Falcons (2007), Tennessee Titans (2005-06), and Nashville Kats Arena Football team (2006). He earned a dual masters degree in physical therapy and athletic training from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in 2004 and 2005, respectively. Ramirez also played football at Texas Tech from 1998-99 and was named outstanding alumni of the year in 2015.

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