

# Houston Texans Media Conference

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Houston, Texas, USA

## Justin Reid

### Press Conference



JUSTIN REID: Oh, man, I thought it was excellent. I wanted to get in on the action myself but it was fun seeing guys fly around and making plays. You could see the emphasis on what Coach Lovie Smith has been preaching on the turnovers. Should have had three more of them but that's just continuing to find the ball. Take advantage of those opportunities, had two three and res to start the game, can't ask for a better way to start it.

#### Q. Inaudible.

JUSTIN REID: Great. Did an awesome job. A lot more aggressive, guys are downhill. I'm personally a fan of the 4-3 system a lot because it's more aggressive downhill and guys are able to make their reads faster.

#### Q. What's the atmosphere coming off the first present game?

JUSTIN REID: It's great for the locker room. This is a preseason game and at the end of the day, these scores and these settings are going to get, but I think it just does a tremendous job for the locker room and guys being able to see that, hey, this system works, the plays that we are putting in, the atmosphere we are creating, if guys put into it works and we are going to get turnovers with it. It's really big for team morale in that sense.

#### Q. Are you seeing more confidence at the safety position?

JUSTIN REID: Absolutely, got another interception today. He's continuing to buy into it more and all it is experiencing reps, he's trained from cornerback his first year in the league and the more reps and experience he gets, the better he'll get at seeing things faster and he'll be like, I've seen this play before and know I need a fit here. He's continuing to take better. He's doing a great job.

#### Q. How much pride to you take in becoming one of the leaders on this team?

JUSTIN REID: I love it. It's fun for me on the back end just

because I like being the guy that gets guys off the line, I feel like safety, middle linebacker too but safety you get to be a chief on the back end and the whole picture to put guys in the right spot. I feel like my job as far as the rest of the guys on the team is to be a resource for them because if I'm playing my best ball and nobody else is, we're not going to win that way. The only way to move forward is get everybody on the same page and better, and I want to get everybody on the lineup into their best position as possible in order to make plays and that's my job, as well.

#### Q. You were probably a born leader but when you got to the NFL --

JUSTIN REID: I've been lucky that I've had a bunch of guys I got to look up to. I got to look up to J.J. Watt, Jonathan Joseph, Tyron Matthew was a strong emotional leader that came through, Kareem Jackson just was a pro's, pro. All those guys I got to take a bit of everything from them and add it to myself and in turn try to spread that to the rest of the guys on the field around me.

#### Q. This is the first time you're not going to play with a new safety next to you --

JUSTIN REID: It's awesome.

#### Q. What are the benefits?

JUSTIN REID: Chemistry, me and Murray and he loon I, I know their strengths and weaknesses I know the chemistry and know where we like to be at in certain coverages. Communications, we're speaking the same language and terminology from last year we can use those same terms together and we are able to use things from that experience together in order to be just tighter, you know what I mean. It's really nice that I get to have a partner in crime that I've had before for the first time.

#### Q. Is it particularly hard last year without the off-season program?

JUSTIN REID: It was definitely different. It was definitely different. It's an adjustment because teams that had cohesive units throughout time had a better advantage



when we had those represents and teams that were new did not. It's nice to see on the back end some of that chemistry.

**Q. How much is learning the defense?**

JUSTIN REID: Coach Smith is going to add stuff as we go. We haven't even gotten the game plan yet. This is still preseason. The defense is fun for me and I'm lucky it's not my first time learning it. My brother played in this system back in 2013 so we talked ball about it before. It's funny to see it come full circle from the defense he taught me back then is the one we are playing in now.

**Q. What are some of the helpful things he's told you?**

JUSTIN REID: Really it's just like some of the back side reads, I don't want to get too much into the details of the coverages, you know what I mean. But it's just keys. You can read your own linebackers in this defense just because it's so aggressive and how the linebackers are making their reads, you can actually get a read off them for your read, so you can read the offense and you can read your own players, so it just goes hand-in-hand and you have keys that let you play faster.

**Q. What did you see from Smith?**

JUSTIN REID: Tremon Smith? Oh, man, I wish he took that one to the crib, that one-to-one return he had, he was one player away from taking that to the house. I thought his interception was excellent. The PI call that he had on him I didn't think was a PI, maybe I'm biased but I thought it was great coverage. He's doing a great job. His man coverage is really good.

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