



MINNESOTA VIKINGS

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APRIL 21, 2010

VIKINGS SIGN CB LITO SHEPPARD

The Minnesota Vikings have signed 9th-year CB **Lito Sheppard**, it was announced today.

Sheppard, who has played in 104 games with 70 career starts, has 19 career INTs for 460 yards and 3 TDs. He spent his first 7 years in the NFL with Philadelphia, helping the Eagles to 4 NFC East Division titles and Super Bowl XXXIX, before starting 9 games for a New York Jets team that advanced to the AFC Championship Game last year.

"Lito is a great guy who fits what we are looking for," Vikings Head Coach **Brad Childress** said. "He's the type of person and player we value at the cornerback position. Coach (Leslie) Frazier and I have seen him up close and personal and we know what he can bring to our team on and off the field. We look forward to him being a Viking."

Sheppard became the first NFL player to return 2 INTs for TDs of more than 100 yards in a career with a 102-yard score in 2006 and a 101-yard score in 2004. A first-round selection out of Florida by Philadelphia with the 26th overall selection in the 2002 NFL Draft, Sheppard was selected to the Pro Bowl in 2005 and 2006 and has been on playoff teams 6 of his 8 NFL seasons, appearing in 12 games with 6 starts.

He was traded to the Jets in the 2009 offseason and released by the team in March of this year.

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