

Chris Guild
Resident
LD 2002

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of the Combat Sports Authority of Maine as its treasurer. CSAM provides the guidance to allow professional boxing as well as amateur and professional MMA to exist in Maine. We ensure the safe and responsible promotion of combat sports in Maine. Combat sports have not only a positive impact on the Maine economy with public events, but allowing for dozens of MMA, Karate, and Jiu-Jitsu schools to exist providing a positive and sometime life changing experience for those who train at these schools. Combat sports provide a productive outlet for those who may not otherwise have one. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic there was a moratorium on all combat sports and not only did this have a very negative impact on the promotions but many school (training center) owners faced significant financial hardships and some have had to even close down permanently. Without any events the authority was not active but since events are now allowed, we are very busy again. Events finally were allowed to begin last summer and we have had 4 events including a sold out boxing event at the Portland Expo with the next MMA event scheduled for May. Without CSAM the events will not be allowed to happen.

CSAM is self-sustaining and actually provides the state with over \$18,000 for the use of their AAG representative. Combat sports have a long and rich history in Maine including the legendary Muhammad Ali vs Sonny Liston fight which happened right in Lewiston Maine and we do not want to see this end.

Reporting should be up to date now and we will ensure that it will be going forward. Allowing the Combat Sports Authority of Maine to continue is a win-win for the people of the state of Maine

Sincerely,
Chris

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