



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: July 3, 2012

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ATTORNEY GENERAL MASTO ISSUES RESPONSE ON INVESTIGATION OF WELTERWEIGHT BOXING MATCH BETWEEN TIMOTHY BRADLEY AND MANNY PACQUIAO

Las Vegas, NV – Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto today responded to a letter that Bob Arum, Chairman and CEO of Top Rank, sent on June 11, 2012, which asked for a review of the welterweight boxing match between Timothy Bradley and Manny Pacquiao.

Unless evidence of criminal activity is forthcoming, this matter will be considered closed.

Read AG Masto's letter here: <http://bit.ly/Mastoletter>

Read Bob Arum's letter here: <http://bit.ly/Arumletter>

The boxing match between Bradley and Pacquiao took place on June 9, 2012 at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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STATE OF NEVADA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
Attorney General

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July 03, 2012

Robert "Bob" Arum
Chief Executive Officer
Top Rank Inc.
3980 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 580
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Dear Mr. Arum;

The Office of the Nevada Attorney General received a letter from you requesting a review of the welterweight boxing match between Manny Pacquiao and Timothy Bradley, which took place on Saturday June 9, 2012 at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Please find attached a copy of your letter.

On June 20, 2012, office representatives spoke with you in reference to your letter. Neither during the course of this interview nor within your letter do you allege any criminal activity by any of the parties involved in the Bradley/Pacquiao fight. Since the fight, this office has received no allegations of criminal activity from anyone regarding this fight. Even so, further review was conducted.

On June 26, 2012, Robert Byrd who refereed the Bradley/Pacquiao fight was interviewed. During the interview, Byrd informed this office of his boxing experience which included being a Golden Glove fighter. He entered the Marine Corps and continued his boxing career. When he was discharged from the military he became a police officer with the California Highway Patrol where he rose to the rank of Commander. During this time he continued boxing in the Police Olympics.

Byrd began refereeing boxing matches in 1980. He began shadowing experienced referees and learning the business at that time. He was asked about his role as referee in the boxing ring. He advised his role is to ensure the safety of the fighters as well as to make sure the rules of boxing are strictly enforced.

Byrd was asked if he witnessed anything unusual or out of the ordinary during the Bradley/Pacquiao fight. Byrd stated the only thing that was unusual was that Pacquiao was late to the pre-bout rules meeting between the referee and the fighters. He

explained according to Pacquiao's trainers, Pacquiao was stretching and using the treadmill during the scheduled time which resulted in him being late for the meeting and this delayed the start time.

Byrd stated the Bradley/Pacquiao fight was a very competitive and close fight. He also stated the day before the fight the fighters and their trainers attended a pre-bout rules meeting. During this meeting the rules were reviewed and Byrd explained what he expected of the fighters. Byrd stated nothing out of the ordinary occurred during this meeting.

Byrd stated there was nothing which would lead him to believe this was not a legitimate fight. Byrd said he was not aware of any collusion or conspiracies and also was not aware of any inappropriateness by anyone involved in the production of this welterweight fight.

On June 25, 2012, employees of the Nevada Gaming Control Board, specifically Chief of Enforcement, Jerry Markling and Chief of the Audit Division, Shirley Springer were interviewed. Markling and Springer were asked if there is a process for determining what sports betting took place at the Nevada's sports books on the Bradley/Pacquiao fight. Markling and Springer confirmed that there was and stated the Gaming Control Board can access that type of information from the individual sports books.

Markling and Springer stated that if a complaint came to the Gaming Control Board they could contact betting venues and review the information needed concerning the betting related to a particular event. Markling and Springer stated that the Gaming Control Board, with respect to the Bradley/Pacquiao fight, had received no complaints nor were there any reported abnormalities to form a basis for the Gaming Control Board to initiate any type of review of the betting on the Bradley/Pacquiao fight.

On June 13, 2012, Keith Kizer, Director of the Nevada Athletic Commission, "Commission" was contacted to discuss the Bradley/Pacquiao fight. Director Kizer informed this office the Commission is vested with the sole direction, management, control and jurisdiction over all contests or exhibitions of unarmed combat to be conducted, held or given within the State of Nevada. The Commission licenses all persons involved with a contest including contestants, their managers, trainers, and corner men as well as the promoters, inspectors, judges, and referees. Counsel for the Commission has confirmed Director Kizer's interpretation.

Director Kizer stated the judges and referee for the Bradley/Pacquiao fight were selected pursuant to the established process during a public hearing, and there were no objections to their selection. Director Kizer stated the judges for the Bradley/Pacquiao fight were properly licensed. Counsel for the Commission has confirmed the selection process complied with the laws and regulations governing the selection process and that the judges were properly licensed. A review of the minutes of this public hearing to conduct the selection process reveals no apparent abnormalities in the selection process.

Director Kizer stated there is a procedure for a judge to complete the score card for a fight a judge is judging. The procedure is set forth in Nevada Administrative Code

467.605. Director Kizer stated the methodology used to judge a bout is set forth in Nevada Administrative Code 467.612.

Director Kizer stated that during a fight the Commission representative monitors the scoring and process and delivers the scorecards from the three judges to the Commission desk after each round. The judges are to score the rounds individually at the end of each round. When the representative from the Commission checks the scores and it is determined there is a majority opinion by the judges, he informs the announcer. The announcer then relays this information to the crowd. The majority opinion by the judges is conclusive and if there is no majority the fight is considered a draw.

Director Kizer stated the Nevada Athletic Commission has received no evidence the established procedures for scoring were not followed in the Bradley/Pacquiao fight.

After conducting an initial investigation there do not appear to be any facts or evidence to indicate that a criminal violation occurred.


Research revealed the boxing officials who officiated this fight possessed the necessary licensure to officiate the event and were experienced officials. Research further revealed the selection process used by the Commission for these judges was completed during a public meeting and was done pursuant to the established process. As of this date, no one has presented any facts or evidence to indicate a crime has been committed by anyone involved in the Bradley/Pacquiao fight.

Displeasure with the subjective decisions of sporting officials is not a sufficient basis for this office to initiate a criminal investigation. Unless evidence beyond mere displeasure is forthcoming, this matter will be considered closed. While there may be strong disagreement with the decision the exercise of professional judgment by individuals officiating at a sporting event is not by itself a criminal violation.

Sincerely,

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
Attorney General

By:


Dale Liebherr
Chief of Investigations

CCM/DL/lf



Top Rank, Inc
3980 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 580
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Tel. 702-732-2717
Fax 702-733-8232

June 11, 2012

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717

Dear Attorney General Masto:

As a result of a recent controversial decision in the Manny Pacquiao and Timothy Bradley Championship Welterweight fight at the MGM Grand Hotel on Saturday, June 9th, there have been numerous allegations on blogs and from boxing authorities that perhaps Top Rank, as well as myself, had something personal to gain by what has been described as an extremely poor decision by boxing officials in Nevada.

As you may know, Mr. Bradley was awarded a split decision over Mr. Pacquiao despite the fact that there was near unanimous scoring by boxing writers at ringside that had Pacquiao winning in a lopsided decision.

I am not asking you to in any way investigate the determination by the judges from Nevada, nor am I asking you to give any consideration to seeking a change in that final outcome. Instead, I would ask that you consider an investigation that would set the record straight on boxing in Nevada for the entire world to see. Nevada is still the premier site for boxing events in the world and an investigation of the process and more specifically the role of the promoters, including my company, that would will allow me and my company to defend its reputation against malicious accusations that are damaging not only to us as a reputable promoter but to the sport itself.

Specifically, I would ask you to consider the following:

- ✓ - Determine how officials are picked by the Nevada State Athletic commission to show that there is an impartial selection of those who work the fights.
- Investigate the charges of any rumored betting improprieties, although I do not believe that to be the case.
- Point to the fact that there are no malfeasants among the Nevada officials and the Nevada State Athletic Commission
- Speak to the legitimacy and efficacy of the athletic governing body in Nevada so that the world sees that this state continues to be among the world leaders in governing boxing
- Thoroughly examine and vet all executives and decision makers in our company, Top Rank.
- And any other pertinent facts that you would deem appropriate



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In all, I would hope that at the end of this investigation, your office will be able to show the world that there were no improprieties what so ever, either with respect to the state of Nevada or Top Rank, the promoter for this fight. In that regard, we are ready, willing and able to assist you in whatever way you deem to be appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Arum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Bob Arum