

WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA President

Resolution No. 201904121208 WBA Championships Committee

Super Welterweight Division April 12, 2019

I. <u>REQUEST</u>

On March 22, 2019, TGB Promotions, on behalf of WBA Super Welterweight Champion Brian Carlos Castano ("Castano"), requested a special permit to sanction a rematch bout between Castano and former WBA Super Champion, Erislandi Lara ("Lara").

The WBA provided notice of Castano's request to Sebastien Acaries representing WBA Mandatory Contender Michel Soro for comments. The WBA received comments in opposition to the request from Soro. Said comments were submitted to Castano for reply, which was timely received.

Soro based his opposition on the previous WBA Resolution that identified the timeline for Soro to face Castano as his mandatory.

II. <u>FACTUAL BACKGROUND</u>

On September 25, 2018, the WBA issued Resolution No. 201808301208 granting Champion Brian Carlo Castano ("Castano") the Special Permit Request to face Erislandi Lara "with the condition that the winner of the bout, or Castano if the fights ends in a draw, must fight Michel Soro on or before 90 days. No other special request or intermediary bouts will be allowed for Castano or Soro."

III. <u>ANALYSIS</u>

- A. The WBA may modify the periods for mandatory defenses for good cause, either in response to a request for a Special Permit, or on its own initiative. WBA Rule C.16.
- B. The WBA may modify or suspend the strict application of these rules when the WBA deems them justified in its sole discretion to accommodate special circumstances. WBA Rule C.46. Those reasons include to "engage in an optional title defense," to

"engage in a bout of recognized importance and significance for the boxing world," to "extend or otherwise modify a mandatory defense period," or to "unify an association title with that of another organization." WBA Rule C.46.a, d, e and g.

- C. The WBA may grant Special Permit Requests and require conditions. "The Committee and the President in their sole discretion shall consider the best interests of boxing, the purposes and policies of the Association, and such other factors that may be relevant, and shall make their best effort to balance competing interests." WBA Rule C.47.
- D. Boxers and promoters are obligated to "know and be familiar with all Association rules," including those "for Special Permits." WBA Rule C.14.

III. <u>DECISION</u>

- A. All parties know that the WBA Rules provide an option for champions to file for special permits to fight other contender before his mandatory obligation. Castano, as entitled by WBA Rules, to request such permits and the other boxers know that the WBA may grant such requests for Champions especially when such fight is important for the boxing world.
- B. Based upon the above-mentioned Rules, Castano's Special Permit Request is conditionally granted subject to his compliance with all other WBA rules, regulations, payment of all applicable fees and the following conditions:
- C. The winner of Castano/Lara, or Castano if a draw, must face Soro as a mandatory defense within 120 days of said bout. No further special permits will be considered until said mandatory bout takes place.

Date: April 12, 2019

Carlos Chavez Championship Committee Chairman