



Unbeaten Lightweight Champion Robert Easter Returns Home to Defend Title Against Puerto Rican Contender Luis Cruz Friday, February 10 In Main Event of Premier Boxing Champions: The Next Round on Bounce from the Huntington Center in Toledo, Ohio

Plus! Bantamweight World Champion Rau'shee Warren Takes On Once-Beaten Challenger Zhanat Zhakiyanov in Co-Main Event

Tickets on Sale Now!

TOLEDO, OH (February 10, 2017) - Unbeaten lightweight world champion **Robert Easter** (18-0, 14 KOs) will return to his hometown of Toledo, Ohio to defend his title against hard-hitting Puerto Rican **Luis Cruz** (22-4-1, 16 KOs) Friday, February 10 in the main event of **Premier Boxing Champions: The Next Round** on **Bounce** live from the Huntington Center.

Televised coverage on Bounce TV begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features bantamweight world champion and three-time U.S. Olympian **Rau'shee Warren** (14-1, 4 KOs) battling once-beaten contender **Zhanat Zhakiyanov** (26-1, 18 KOs).

"Being able to headline a big fight in my hometown after winning a championship is a dream come true," said Easter. "My first dream was to win the world title and now I get to defend it in front of my people. I had great fan support at my last fight in Pennsylvania and I know everybody is even more excited to see me at home. A lot of people felt involved in helping me win that world title, and now we get to have a homecoming celebration. This is going to be big for the city. I can't wait to showcase my skills."

"This is a great opportunity for me and I'm planning on putting on my best performance," said Cruz. "I am going to fight for my home of Puerto Rico and become another world champion from the island. I know that Easter is a good fighter and he will have the fan support, but I am already

training harder than I ever have. This is going to be an exciting fight, but I don't expect it to go the distance."

"I'm ready to get back in the ring," said Warren. "I'm happy the fight is three days before my birthday because defending my title for the first time and winning will be the best birthday present. We've been checking out Zhakiyarov. I think it's going to be a good show because he definitely isn't a slouch. I'm just going to enjoy being a champion, defending my title and showing what I'm capable of."

"I'm very happy to be fighting in the U.S. with a chance to become a world champion," said Zhakiyarov. "I want to thank Warren for taking this fight, but it will be a big mistake. I'm coming to win and win impressively. This is going to be my statement that I am one of the best fighters in this division."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by About Billions Promotions, are priced at \$30, \$50, \$75, \$100 and \$200, and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.ticketmaster.com, or by calling 1-800-745-3000.

Toledo's Easter and Cincinnati's Warren will both look to show the Ohio crowd the skills that have made them world champions and potential big stars in the sport. Both fighters are making their first world title defenses and will do so in the friendly confines of the Buckeye State.

An accomplished amateur who was a 2012 U.S. Olympic alternate, the 25-year-old Easter picked up five-straight victories dating back to the beginning of 2015 before earning his world title opportunity against Richard Commey in September. Easter was successful in holding off the unbeaten Commey as he was able to earn a split-decision victory in a memorable fight. Now, Easter will step into the ring as the fighting pride of his hometown for the first time, with his sights set on an impressive performance.

Representing Las Piedras, Puerto Rico, Cruz's last fight saw him in an entertaining back-and-forth scrap with lightweight contender Ivan Redkach in April that saw both men hit the canvas on their way to a narrow split draw. Cruz owns victories over Martin Honorio, Antonio Davis and Hevinson Herrera in a career that saw the fighter win his first 19 professional bouts.

A three-time Olympian, Warren competed for the U.S. in the 2004, 2008 and 2012 games before turning pro. The 29-year-old picked up victories over veterans Jose Luis Araiza, Javier Gallo, German Meraz and Jhon Alberto Molina leading up to his first world title shot in 2015. After dropping a controversial split-decision in their first fight, Warren defeated Juan Carlos Payano by majority decision in the rematch in June and became the first member of the 2012 U.S. Olympic team to win a world title.

Fighting out of Petropavl, Kazakhstan, Zhakiyarov has won his last 21 fights since his only professional loss in 2008. Most recently he picked up an interim bantamweight title via a

decision victory in 2015 over once-beaten Yonfrez Parejo. No stranger to fighting on the road, Zhakiyanov's U.S. debut on February 10 will mark the 12th country that he has fought in as a professional.

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For more information visit www.premierboxingchampions.com, [follow on Twitter](#) @PremierBoxing, @RobertEaster_Jr, @RauSheeWarren, @BounceTV, and @Swanson_Comm and follow the conversation using #PBConBounce, become a fan on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxingChampions and www.Facebook.com/BounceTV. PBC on Bounce is sponsored by Corona: La Cerveza Mas Fina.

Bounce TV is the fastest-growing African-American (AA) network on television and airs on the broadcast signals of local television stations and corresponding cable carriage. The network features a programming mix of original and off-network series, theatrical motion pictures, specials, live sports and more. Bounce TV has grown to be available in more than 94 million homes across the United States and 93% of all African American television homes, including all of the top AA television markets. Among the founders of Bounce TV are iconic American figures Martin Luther King, III and Ambassador Andrew Young.

For local channel location, visit BounceTV.com.

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Undeclared 2012 U.S. Olympian Terrell Gausha Battles Puerto Rico's Luis Hernandez & 2012 U.S. Olympian Jamel Herring Takes On Armenia's Art Hovhannisyan in Undercard Action Friday, February 10 from the Huntington Center in Toledo, Ohio

Premier Boxing Champions: The Next Round on Bounce Headlined by Lightweight World Champion Robert Easter Defending Against Puerto Rican Contender Luis Cruz

TOLEDO, OH (February 8, 2017) - Unbeaten contender and Cleveland-native **Terrell Gausha** will face Puerto Rico's **Luis Hernandez** while lightweight contender **Jamel Herring** enters the ring against Armenia's **Art Hovhannisyan** in undercard action on Friday, February 10 from the Huntington Center in Toledo, Ohio.

The event is headlined by unbeaten lightweight world champion **Robert Easter** returning to his hometown for his first world title defense as he takes on Puerto Rico's **Luis Cruz** in the main event of **Premier Boxing Champions: The Next Round on Bounce**.

Televised coverage on Bounce begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features bantamweight world champion and three-time U.S. Olympian **Rau'shee Warren** battling once-beaten contender **Zhanat Zhakiyanov**.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by About Billions Promotions in association with TGB Promotions, are priced at \$30, \$50, \$75, \$100 and \$200, and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.ticketmaster.com, or by calling 1-800-745-3000.

Gausha (19-0, 9 KOs) and Hernandez (15-3, 8 KOs) will compete in a 10-round middleweight bout while Herring (15-1, 8 KOs) meets Hovhannisyan (17-3, 9 KOs) in an eight-round lightweight fight.

Additional action features a pair of unbeaten prospects as **Raynell Williams** (11-0, 5 KOs) battles **Justin Savi** (29-9, 19 KOs) in a six-round junior lightweight bout while **Tyler McCreary**

(12-0, 6 KOs) takes on **Jonathan Perez** (36-16, 28 KOs) in an eight-round featherweight attraction.

Rounding out the night of action is heavyweight **Devin Vargas** (18-4, 7 KOs) in a six-round bout against **Tim Washington** (6-4, 6 KOs), unbeaten lightweight **Albert Bell** (6-0, 2 KOs) against **James Lester** (11-11, 4 KOs) in a six-round bout and **Adrian Wilson** (3-1, 2 KOs) against unbeaten **Rashad Scott** (3-0, 1 KOs) in four-rounds of welterweight action.

The 29-year-old Gausha is undefeated since turning pro in 2012 after his exceptional amateur career that saw him win a U.S. National Amateur championship in addition to his Olympic experience. Gausha has picked up six victories in the last two years against increasingly experienced competition including triumphs over Orlando Lora and Steven Martinez in 2016. He looks to continue his march towards a world title when he takes on the Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico-native Hernandez who won five times in 2016.

Another amateur standout who won an Amateur National Championship the same year as his Olympic run, Herring fights out of Cincinnati and is originally from Coram, New York. The 31-year-old won his first 15 pro fights including triumphs over Luis Eduardo Florez, Yakubu Amidu and Hector Velasquez. A former member of the U.S. Marine Corps, Herring will face the experienced contender Hovhannisyanyan who is originally from Armenia but trains now out of Glendale, California.

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ROBERT EASTER JR.

QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Robert Easter Jr.
- **Height** – 5-11
- **Weight** – 135 (Lightweight)
- **Date of Birth** – January 26, 1991
- **Hometown** – Toledo, OH
- **Record** – 18-0 (14 KOs)

BACKGROUND

- Third oldest of eight children
- Comes from a boxing family and began learning the sport at a young age

PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in November 2012 with a second round stoppage of Eddie Corona
- Recorded knockouts in his first eight pro fights
- Defeated veterans Daniel Attah and Carlos Cardenas in January 2015
- Won four times in 2015 including a third-round stoppage of Juan Ramon Solis
- Stopped former world champion Algenis Mendez in the fifth-round to earn a world title shot
- Won a vacant 135-pound world title in September with a majority decision over Richard Commey

AMATEUR CAREER

- 2012 U.S. Olympic Team alternate
- 2011 & 2010 National Golden Gloves Bronze Medalist & Sportsmanship Award Winner

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @RobertEaster_Jr

RAU'SHEE WARREN

QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Rau'shee Warren
- **Nickname** – Nuke
- **Height** – 5-4 ½
- **Weight** – 118 (Bantamweight)
- **Born** – February 13, 1987
- **Hometown** – Cincinnati, Ohio
- **Record** – 14-1 (4 KOs)

BACKGROUND

- Youngest out of 531 members of the 2004 U.S. Olympic team
- Began training at the age of six at the same gym former world champion Aaron Pryor trained at
- Won his first amateur fight at age eight

PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in Nov. 2012 with a victory over Luis Rivera
- Won three of his first five fights by knockout
- Defeated experienced contenders Jhon Alberto Molina in 2013 and German Meraz in 2014
- Knocked out Javier Gallo in the first round in March 2015
- Came up short in first title fight against Juan Carlos Payano via a controversial split decision but was victorious in the rematch to earn a 118-pound world title

AMATEUR CAREER

- 2012, 2008 & 2004 U.S. Olympian
- 2011 World Championships Bronze medalist
- 2010, 2007 & 2005 U.S. Amateur National Champion
- 2009 U.S. Amateur Bronze medalist
- 2004 U.S. Amateur Silver medalist

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @RauSheeWarren
- **Instagram** - RausheeWarren

JAMEL HERRING

QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Jamel Herring
- **Nickname** – Semper Fi
- **Height** – 5-10
- **Weight** – 135 (Lightweight)
- **Date of Birth** – October 30, 1985
- **Hometown** – Cincinnati, Ohio
- **Record** – 15-1 (8 KOs)

BACKGROUND

- Originally born in Long Island, NY but trains out of Cincinnati with Mike Stafford
- Enlisted in U.S. Marine Corps in 2003 and served two tours in Iraq and was the first active duty military member to make the Olympic boxing team in 20 years

PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in December 2012 with a victory over Jose Valderrama
- Stopped four of his first six opponents inside the distance
- Scored a TKO victory over veteran Luis Alberto Pelayo in September 2014
- In June 2015 he defeated veteran of over 80 pro fights, Hector Velazquez and in October 2015 he defeated former African champion Yakubu Amidu
- Defeated Luis Eduardo Flores in February 2016 before suffering a defeat to Denis Shafikov in July

AMATEUR CAREER

- 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Captain
- 2012 U.S. Amateur National Champion
- 2012 & 2011 U.S. Armed Forces Champion

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** – @JamelHerring
- **Instagram** - JamelHerring

TERRELL GAUSHA

QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Terrell Gausha
- **Height** – 5-10
- **Weight** – 154 (Super Welterweight)
- **Date of Birth** – September 9, 1987
- **Hometown** – Cleveland, Ohio
- **Record** – 19-0 (9 KOs)

BACKGROUND

- Began boxing at 12-years-old

PRO CAREER

- Undefeated in his pro career since turning pro in 2012
- Picked up victories in 2015 over Norberto Gonzalez, Luis Grajeda, Eliezer Gonzalez and Said El Haraak
- Debuted in 2016 with a victory over Orlando Lora in April and followed it up by defeating Steven Martinez in August

AMATEUR CAREER

- 2012 U.S. Olympian
- 2012 U.S. National Championship Gold medalist
- 2012 America's Olympic Qualifier Gold medalist
- 2009 U.S. National Championships Gold medalist

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @TerrellGausha