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For Immediate Release  
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## Statement on MMA Fighter Death

A law was enacted on July 1, 2009, by the S.C. Legislature giving the S.C. Athletic Commission responsibility for regulating Mixed Martial Arts in this state.

The law requires that promoters and their fighters meet specific criteria in order to fight in South Carolina. Those requirements include fighters having an annual physical, eye exam and blood test to screen for hepatitis B and C and HIV. In addition, a medical doctor performs a pre-fight physical and a post-fight evaluation on each fighter.

South Carolina law also requires that a medical doctor and an ambulance with medical staff be on site during an event.

On Saturday, August 11, 2012, MMA Fighter Tyrone Mims died at the Medical University of South Carolina after a fight. Mims had a physical and the required blood tests on July 23, 2012, and an eye exam on August 9, 2012. The medical doctor on site also performed a pre-fight physical on Mims and a post-fight evaluation. An ambulance with a paramedic and an EMT were present at the fight.

The death is currently under investigation by the Charleston County Coroner's Office. The Athletic Commission is conducting an internal review of that fight. Because it is under investigation, the S.C. Athletic Commission cannot release any further information at this time.

To learn more about the MMA laws and requirements in South Carolina and to view applications and forms required by promoters and fighters, visit the S.C. Athletic Commission's website at: [www.llronline.com/POL/Athletic/](http://www.llronline.com/POL/Athletic/).