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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Mayor Fulop & Recreation Department Announce Mixed Martial Arts Event to Benefit “Heroes to Heroes” Veterans Organization; Event to Be Held at Historic Jersey City Armory***

**JERSEY CITY** – Mayor Steven M. Fulop, members of the Municipal Council and the Department of Recreation announce a Mixed Martial Arts event, “Fighting for Our Heroes,” to benefit the national veterans group, “Heroes to Heroes” at **7:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, October 11, 2014** at the **Jersey City Armory, 678 Montgomery Street.**

“I am honored to support the Mixed Martial Arts program in tribute to our veterans at such an historic venue within our community,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “I am also proud to recognize the veterans who have so bravely served our country, as we continue to work to ensure they receive the proper care and the access to services they deserve.”

The Jersey City Armory has been the site of some of the most historic boxing bouts including the 1921 Dempsey–Carpentier world heavyweight championship. The current armory has hosted many bouts, including those with James J. Braddock, Sonny Liston, and Chuck Wepner, aka *Bayonne Bleeder*. In 1979, then Mayor of Jersey City, Thomas F. X. Smith challenged Muhammad Ali to an exhibition bout, and went three rounds before a crowd of 8,000. In 2010, the Armory hosted the mixed martial arts Urban Conflict Championship and in 2011 hosted the trials for the World Professional Jiu-Jitsu Cup.

One of Jersey City’s own Mixed Martial Arts participants, 22 year old Christian Hernandez, is a Department of Recreation Life Guard at Pershing Field Pool. He has trained since he was nine years old in Tae Kwon Do and qualified for the Nationals in 2008. Christian has been an active participant in Jersey City recreation programs for the past 13 year and since 2010, Christian has embraced the open style of Bruce Lee’s Jeet Kune Do in his quest to become a professional fighter.

The “Fighting for Our Heroes” event to benefit the national veterans group, “Heroes to Heroes”, will open its doors at 6:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$30 General Admission and \$40 Cage Side Admission.

**Tickets may be purchased in advance at: [www.fightclubchampion.com](http://www.fightclubchampion.com) or at the door.**

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////**