

LAWYERS JOURNAL

YLD Bar Leadership Initiative Class to host Fight Night Gala

By Michael O. Bethune

On Wednesday, April 3, the ACBA Young Lawyers Division's 2023-2024 Bar Leadership Initiative Class is hosting its Fight Night Gala. The Gala is a fundraiser event in support of Team 412 Boxing.

Overview of Team 412 Boxing

Team 412 Boxing is a Pittsburgh National Youth Boxing non-profit organization "founded to give under-resourced Pittsburgh city youth an opportunity to learn to box and nationally compete." Team 412 Boxing's Mission is "to provide a boxing program for financially limited city youth, one in which each participant learns 'first-hand' how such values as hard work, discipline, respect, and integrity are key to living a good life."

With its gym located on 3rd Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh, the organization holds an after-school training program, with training sessions every Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. Through the leadership and coaching of James Hoy, and through the determination of the team's members, the team has obtained significant successes, including: various members being nationally ranked for their individual weight classes, winning championship belts in fights across the country; and an opportunity for one of the team's members to compete in Olympic trials for the upcoming 2024 Paris Olympics. To learn more about the organization and the team, visit www.412boxing.com.

Opportunities to Support the Gym

There are numerous ways for members of the ACBA to show their support for Team 412 Boxing. ACBA members can sign up to participate in "Boxing with Barristers," in which Team 412 Boxing opens its doors to ACBA members to participate in boxing classes led by the coaches and members of the team. Team 412 Boxing began hosting these "Boxing with Barristers" training sessions in January and February, and will be holding two more training sessions for ACBA members on the following dates:

- Saturday, March 16, 2024 – at 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 20, 2024 – at 6:00 p.m.

The cost of each class is \$25, with payments made direct to the gym through either its Venmo account (@team412) or its PayPal account (Pittsburgh National Youth Boxing). Classes are limited to ten participants, so if you are interested, register as soon as possible on the ACBA website.

In addition to the training sessions, individuals can support Team 412 Boxing by donating to the item drive, which began in February. Members can purchase requested items from an online list and donate them to the gym. These donations



will go a long way in helping provide the gym with necessary equipment and supplies. The site for the item drive will be available for approximately two months leading up to the Gala.

The Fight Night Gala

The primary event for this year's Bar Leadership Initiative's project is a formal "Fight Night" Gala on April 3; which is set to take place at 5:30 p.m. at Kingfly Spirits in the Strip District. The Gala will be retro boxing themed, and attendees are encouraged to dress up in their retro/vintage attire. During the Gala, attendees can enjoy drinks, appetizers and other food, and an exciting retro-themed atmosphere.

On top of that, the Gala will feature a silent auction of various gift baskets from both large and small businesses here in the Pittsburgh area. Throughout the night, attendees will be able to place bids on the gift baskets, with the winners being chosen at the end of the night. All proceeds from the Gala will go solely to the benefit of Team 412 Boxing.

The "Fight Night" Gala is a perfect opportunity for ACBA members to enjoy a fun night out with members of our legal community, all while supporting an incredible cause.

If you are interested in sponsoring the BLI "Fight Night" Gala, email YLDCommunications@gmail.com. For registration information, visit ACBA.org. ■