

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
Date: August 24, 2010

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**Iowa Labor Commissioner Orders Cease and Desist Action Against
Midwest Fighting Championships**
Organization Failed to Comply with Iowa Law

DES MOINES – The Iowa Labor Commissioner issued a cease and desist order last week to Midwest Fighting Championships regarding a fight scheduled for Friday in Bloomfield.

Iowa's Mixed Martial Arts laws changed July 1st requiring promoters to submit fighter blood work, show proof of medical insurance, submit fighter contracts and ensure that all fighters, professional or amateur, are 18 years of age or older. 24 hours before the scheduled fight, Midwest Fighting Championships had failed to provide the documentation as required by law. The Davis County Sheriff's office assisted the Labor Commissioner in delivering the cease and desist order.

"The laws surrounding mixed martial arts fights are there to protect everyone involved," stated Iowa Labor Commissioner David Neil. "The required blood work and physicals ensure that fighters are in condition before the match and the required health insurance prevents Iowans from picking up the bill for medical expenses when fighters frequently end up in the emergency room following a match."

Iowa has issued 37 fight licenses to date for 2010 and most promoters work cooperatively with the department and follow the laws to ensure that all safety and health measures are intact. The few promoters who consistently try to skirt Iowa's laws present an unprofessional image that affects everyone involved in the sport.

Promoters who hold fights in violation of Iowa's Mixed Martial Arts laws are subject to a \$10,000 administrative fine and a criminal conviction of a serious misdemeanor.

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