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**From:** Murray Greig

**To:** pat.reid@edmonton.ca

**Cc:** jbcampbell@shaw.ca

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 18, 2009 9:02 PM

**Subject:** 'Confirming Facts'

Pat Reid  
Executive Director,  
Edmonton Combative Sports Commission  
City of Edmonton

Dear Sir:

Regarding your e-mail of Nov. 13 entitled 'Confirming Facts', I am surprised and disappointed at your interpretation of the events that unfolded at the Nov. 12 weigh-in for the WBC female lightweight title bout between Jelena Mrdjenovich and Ann Sacurato.

Furthermore, I have subsequently been informed by two separate sources that you have repeatedly mentioned my name in connection with alleged "media concerns" about what transpired at the weigh-in. Since we spoke for only 10 minutes on the evening of Nov. 12, and since I had a colleague in attendance the whole time we were together who will corroborate what I said, I am at a loss to understand how you could so falsely represent my reaction.

In our brief telephone conversation moments after Sacurato failed to make the contracted weight limit of 135 pounds, I expressed my satisfaction that Orest Zmyndak and Ed Pearson had resolved the "problem" in a forthright, professional manner by giving Sacurato a time frame for returning to the scale. This was done AFTER consultation with other Commission members, promoters Glen Carriere and Melanie Lubovac, and Mrdjenovich's trainer/manager, Milan Lubovac — all of whom were in full agreement.

I most emphatically would NOT agree with your conclusion that the Zmyndak-Pearson solution was "basically illegal," and I would be very interested in knowing what part of our conversation prompted you to interpret my reaction as anything but what I expressed: complete satisfaction that a potentially card-killing situation had been diffused quickly, professionally and with a minimum of bureaucratic hand-wringing.

My only concern regarding the Nov. 13 card was the inexplicable — and, in my opinion, indefensible — decision to assign Don Smart as the referee in the main event. Indeed, I was shocked that Smart was assigned to ANY of the bouts, given his long period of inactivity and questionable competence. The latter was demonstrated for all to see when he allowed Brad Marks to continue to pummel a completely defenseless opponent in the opening bout on the card. In the main event, Smart missed the first knockdown, apparently didn't know where the timekeeper was sitting on the second knockdown, and repeatedly allowed Mrdjenovich to get away with illegal arm holds. All in all, a very

sorry display for a world title bout — and an embarrassing reflection of the executive director's assessment criteria.

In closing, I must also inform you that because of the unprofessional way you have misrepresented my reaction to the weigh-in leaves me no choice but to decline your offer to sit on the ECSC's volunteer match-making committee in 2010.

Sincerely,

Murray Greig  
Edmonton Sun

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