

LAS VEGAS (July 11, 2017) - A worldwide audience will witness a one-of-a-kind sporting event when legendary boxer and pound-for-pound king Floyd "Money" Mayweather returns to the ring to battle all-time MMA great and UFC champion "The Notorious" Conor McGregor in a 12-round boxing match. The fight announcement on June 14 captured the world's attention as fans across the globe anticipate the outcome of this once-in-a-lifetime showdown taking place Saturday, Aug. 26 at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas. The event will be produced and distributed live by SHOWTIME PPV and promoted by Mayweather Promotions.

A 12-time world champion in five weight classes, the 40-year-old Mayweather retired undefeated in September 2015 as one of the greatest to ever step in the ring, buoyed by box office success that saw him shatter nearly all of the revenue records in the sport's history. Now, he returns to challenge the bold, powerful and popular McGregor, whose elite striking skills put him in the record books as the first athlete to hold two UFC titles simultaneously, all while soaring to the mantle of the sport's No. 1 PPV attraction at only 28 years old.

Mayweather and McGregor will meet in a super welterweight contest (154-pound limit), serving as the first time champions from boxing and MMA will meet in a sanctioned boxing match.

"There was only one name that could bring me out of retirement and that's Conor McGregor," said Mayweather. "I'm excited to give the fans what they've all been asking for. I always want to do something different and groundbreaking and this fight with Conor is that perfect opportunity. He's a young, skilled and powerful guy who I'm not going to take for granted. I expect to come out victorious, but anything can happen in the ring. This is a must-see event live or on pay-per-view on August 26. The whole world will be watching Mayweather vs. McGregor."

"This is a historic fight and will be the greatest spectacle in combat sports history," said McGregor. "I am about to change the entire approach to fighting as it stands today. On August 26 I will shock the world. Again."

The SHOWTIME PPV on-air team will call the action on the telecast beginning live at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT. The telecast also will be available in Spanish using secondary audio programming (SAP).

Leonard Ellerbe, CEO of Mayweather Promotions, said, "Floyd has been a trailblazer his whole career and this event proves that he is still the marquee name in the fight game. This is the kind of event that Floyd Mayweather and Mayweather Promotions are known for and we're proud to bring this exciting night of action right to the fans. We know that Conor McGregor is a dangerous fighter who believes 100 percent that he is going to win this fight. I'm expecting to see as sharp a Floyd as always and I anticipate him doing what he always does, going in there and winning. You will not want to miss this once-in-a-generation showdown on August 26 in Las Vegas and live on SHOWTIME PPV."

Stephen Espinoza, Executive Vice President and General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports, said, "We are proud to reunite with Floyd Mayweather, Mayweather Promotions and the MGM Grand to deliver this unprecedented global event. Never before, in the vast experience of SHOWTIME PPV which includes worldwide events featuring record-setting events with Mike Tyson, Julio Cesar Chavez and Floyd Mayweather, have we experienced a reaction like we have to Mayweather vs. McGregor. Both Floyd and Conor are trend-setting personalities who have transcended their respective sports. They carry unmatched reputations for spectacle and athleticism, and together they create a truly can't-miss event."

Dana White, President of UFC said, "My goal has always been to put on the greatest fights the world has ever seen, whether they take place inside an Octagon or a boxing ring. Floyd Mayweather is one of the best fighters of all-time but he has never faced someone like Conor McGregor. Throughout his UFC career, Conor has proven that he should never be underestimated and I believe this will be no different. On August 26th, we will see the biggest fight in history. The world will be watching to see if Conor can follow through on another promise and make history once more. No matter the outcome, this will be a historic night in sports and we are honored to give the fans what they have been asking for."

Richard Sturm, president of entertainment and sports for MGM Resorts International, said, "It is an honor to have the opportunity to host the Floyd Mayweather vs. Conor McGregor fight at T-Mobile Arena, our industry's leading venue for major sports and entertainment. Las Vegas is known for its summer heat but nothing will be hotter than this championship event on August 26."

One of the most decorated fighters in the history of the sport, Mayweather, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and fighting out of Las Vegas, used his trademark speed, defensive prowess and ring generalship on his way to 24 triumphs over world champions during his illustrious career. Among those 24 victories are the biggest names in the sport, past and present, including Manny Pacquiao, Oscar De La Hoya, Miguel Cotto, Canelo Alvarez, Shane Mosley, Juan Manuel Marquez, Zab Judah and Arturo Gatti.

In addition to his in-ring accomplishments, *Forbes, Fortune* and *Sports Illustrated* have all named Mayweather the world's highest paid athlete multiple times. His events amass record-breaking numbers; he has headlined four of the six highest-grossing pay-per-view events of all-time and holds the all-time record in gross pay-per-view receipts. His 2015 showdown with Pacquaio shattered the all-time pay-per-view television record with 4.6 million buys while the event grossed a staggering total of more than \$600 million.

Mayweather, the only fighter to have headlined three events that each generated more than 2 million pay-perview buys, has garnered numerous "Fighter of the Year" awards over his storied career, including five ESPY Awards and two Boxing Writers Association of America awards.

Representing his hometown of Dublin, Ireland, McGregor's larger than life personality and devastating power have helped him become his sport's No. 1 attraction. He became the first MMA fighter to crack *Forbes* highest-paid athlete list in 2016 and was even higher on the list in 2017.

He became the undisputed UFC featherweight world champion by delivering pinpoint left handed shots that quickly ended the nights of top fighters Jose Aldo and Chad Mendes. McGregor then moved up in weight for a pair of blockbuster matchups with Nate Diaz that saw him set a new mark for UFC pay-per-view buys when he defeated Diaz in the rematch last August.

After dispatching Diaz, McGregor set his sights on history as he headlined at Madison Square Garden against lightweight champion Eddie Alvarez. McGregor put on a striking clinic against Alvarez knocking him down five times before getting the second round knockout and adding the lightweight title to his featherweight world title, becoming the first UFC fighter to ever hold two belts concurrently.

# # #

## About Mayweather Promotions

Appropriately based in the entertainment capital of the world, Las Vegas, NV, Mayweather Promotions was established in 2007 by former 12-time world champion and undefeated boxing icon, Floyd "Money" Mayweather. Mayweather Promotions seamlessly promotes all forms of live entertainment and has blazed its own trail to unprecedented financial success; netting in excess of \$350 million while generating over \$1 billion in Pay-Per-View revenues.

A well-respected organization in sports & entertainment, the company has successfully garnered attention through producing some of the largest boxing events that the sport has witnessed over the past decade. What started with one fighter has grown to 30 plus active professional boxers that include current and former world champions, Olympians, and top up and coming prospects.

Coming off the success of four consecutive sellout shows with much more to come, 2017 has proven to be a cutting-edge year for Mayweather Promotions. Mayweather Promotions seeks to maintain their global platform as they embark upon new endeavors for fans all over the world. For more information, visit Mayweatherpromotions.com and follow Mayweather Promotions on Facebook at: facebook.com/MayweatherPromotions, Twitter & Snapchat: @MayweatherPromo and Instagram: @MayweatherPromotions.

## About Showtime Networks Inc.

Showtime Networks Inc. (SNI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of CBS Corporation, owns and operates the premium television networks SHOWTIME<sup>®</sup>, THE MOVIE CHANNEL<sup>™</sup> and FLIX<sup>®</sup>, and also offers SHOWTIME ON DEMAND<sup>®</sup>, THE MOVIE CHANNEL<sup>™</sup> ON DEMAND and FLIX ON DEMAND<sup>®</sup>, and the network's authentication service SHOWTIME ANYTIME<sup>®</sup>. Showtime Digital Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of SNI, operates the stand-alone streaming service SHOWTIME<sup>®</sup>. SHOWTIME is currently available to subscribers via cable, DBS and telco providers, and as a stand-alone streaming service through Apple<sup>®</sup>, Roku<sup>®</sup>, Amazon, Google and Samsung. Consumers can also subscribe to SHOWTIME via Hulu, YouTube TV, Sling TV, Sony PlayStation<sup>®</sup> Vue and Amazon Channels. SNI also manages Smithsonian Networks<sup>™</sup>, a joint venture between SNI and the Smithsonian Institution, which offers Smithsonian Channel<sup>™</sup>, and offers Smithsonian Earth<sup>™</sup> through SN Digital LLC. SNI markets and distributes sports and entertainment events for exhibition to subscribers on a pay-per-view basis through SHOWTIME PPV<sup>®</sup>. For more information, go to <u>www.SHO.com</u>

## About T-Mobile Arena

T-Mobile Arena, the 20,000-seat venue located on the Las Vegas Strip between New York-New York and Monte Carlo, opened April 6, 2016. The arena hosts more than 100 events annually including major headline entertainment, awards shows, UFC, boxing, basketball and other sporting events, family shows and special events. This fall T-Mobile Arena will welcome the Vegas Golden Knights, a National Hockey League expansion team and the city's first professional sports team. The city's newest landmark, recently named "Best New Major Concert Venue" by Pollstar Magazine, features 50 luxury suites, more than two dozen private loge boxes, complete broadcast facilities, and other specially designed exclusive hospitality offerings and fan amenities destined to create a guest experience second to none. Toshiba Plaza, an adjacent two-acre outdoor entertainment space, features performance stages, a variety of video screens and other interactive content and display areas. Industry-leading architect Populous designed T-Mobile Arena to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's standards for LEED® Gold Certification. T-Mobile Arena is a privately funded joint venture between AEG and MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM). For more information, visit the T-Mobile Arena website at <u>www.t-mobilearena.com</u>.

For more information visit <u>www.SHO.com/Sports</u> and <u>www.mgmgrand.com</u>, follow on Twitter @FloydMayweather, @TheNotoriousMMA, @MayweatherPromo, @UFC, @ShowtimeBoxing, @SHOSports, and @Swanson\_Comm or become a fan on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/MayweatherPromotions</u>, <u>www.Facebook.com/SHOSports</u> andwww.Facebook.com/UFC

## **CONTACTS**:

Kelly Swanson/Lisa Milner, Swanson Communications/Floyd Mayweather: (202) 783-5500 Nicole Craig, Mayweather Promotions: (702) 807-1788 Lenee Breckenridge, UFC: (702) 588-5529 Chris DeBlasio, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-1633 Matt Donovan, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-1663 Flo Jocou, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-7319 Steve Pratt, BZA/SHOWTIME: 310-408-4555 Scott Ghertner, MGM Resorts International: (702) 692-6700