

## UNIFIED WBC & WBO 154-POUND WORLD CHAMPION SEBASTIAN FUNDORA SET TO TAKE ON TOP CONTENDER CHORDALE BOOKER HEADLINING PBC CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING ON PRIME VIDEO SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Rising Mexican Star Jesus Ramos Jr. Battles All-Action Contender Kevin Salgado in All-Mexican Co-Main Event Live from Michelob ULTRA Arena at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas

Rising Middleweight Contender Elijah Garcia Duels U.S. Olympian Terrell Gausha Kicking Off Action at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT

## Tickets on Sale Thursday, February 13 at 10 a.m. PT

## Pre-Sale Tickets Available TOMORROW, Wednesday, February 12 Beginning at 10 a.m. PT With Code: PBC

LAS VEGAS (February 11, 2025) – Unified WBC and WBO Super Welterweight World Champion Sebastian "The Towering Inferno" Fundora will step into the ring to make the first defense of his world titles as he takes on top contender Chordale Booker headlining PBC Championship Boxing on Prime Video action Saturday, March 22 from Michelob ULTRA Arena

at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

In the co-main event, rising Mexican star **Jesus Ramos Jr.** will battle all-action contender **Kevin Salgado** in a 10-round all-Mexican super welterweight showdown, plus exciting rising middleweight contender **Elijah Garcia** duels veteran contender and U.S. Olympian **Terrell Gausha** in the 10-round opening bout.

The event will begin at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT, with the action streaming exclusively on Prime Video for all Prime members in the United States and select countries. Join today or start a free 30-day trial to catch the championship card. Known for delivering memorable toe-to-toe action every time he steps into the ring, Fundora will compete as a world champion for the first time as he takes on the talented WBO No. 5-ranked contender Booker in this high-stakes clash with multiple titles on the line.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by TGB Promotions, Sampson Boxing and Mayweather Promotions, will go on sale Thursday, February 13 at 10 a.m. PT on <u>AXS.com</u>.

# Pre-sale tickets are AVAILABLE TOMORROW, Wednesday, February 12 from 10 a.m. PT until 10 p.m. PT on <u>AXS.com</u> with code: PBC

"Sebastian Fundora sits atop the stacked super welterweight division and will no doubt be looking to put on a show when he defends his world titles against the dangerous highly-rated contender Chordale Booker topping this great event on Prime Video on March 22," said Tom Brown, President of TGB Promotions. "This is a tremendous style matchup between the forward-charging attack of Fundora and the slick counterpunching of Booker and will make for great back-and-forth. Combined with a surefire action fight between Jesus Ramos Jr. and Kevin Salgado and a toss-up fight between Elijah Garcia and Terrell Gausha, everything is in place for another memorable fight night in Las Vegas."

"Sebastian 'The Towering Inferno' Fundora will be better than ever in his first fight as a defending unified world champion," said Sampson Lewkowicz of Sampson Boxing. "The whole Fundora family works so hard to be where they are and they deserve their success. Chordale Booker is a good fighter with real skills, but he won't be able to take Sebastian's power."

#### \*\*SEBASTIAN FUNDORA VS. CHORDALE BOOKER\*\*

Standing nearly six-foot-six, **Sebastian "The Towering Inferno" Fundora** leapt into the championship ranks after earning a decision over Tim Tszyu last year, and will now defend his WBC and WBO 154-pound world titles against the WBO No. 5-ranked and WBC No. 14-ranked super welterweight contender in **Chordale Booker** as they top the March 22 event in a 12-round attraction.

Fundora (21-1-1, 13 KOs) rocketed to the top of the super welterweight division with a fan-friendly style and bruising toughness in the ring that helped him emerge victorious from a grueling and bloody battle against Tszyu last March. A native of Coachella, California, Fundora notably showed his mettle in April 2022, battling the hard-hitting Erickson Lubin in an instant 2022 Fight of the Year contender. Despite both men hitting the canvas, Fundora stood tall in the end, prompting Lubin's corner to stop the fight at the end of the ninth round. The 27-year-old has defeated a slew of contenders throughout his career, with his only defeat coming to Brian Mendoza in 2023. Fundora represents one of boxing's most accomplished families, as he is trained by his father Freddy alongside his younger sister, undisputed flyweight world champion Gabriela. The two fighting Fundora's are the first brother and sister to simultaneously hold world championships.

"I'm preparing really hard to defend my unified WBC and WBO world titles on March 22 in Las Vegas," said Fundora. "Everyone can expect to see me prepared and ready to leave it all in the ring like I always do. 'The Towering Inferno' is back, and I'm coming to take out everyone in my way."

Fighting out of his native Stamford, Connecticut, Booker (23-1, 11 KOs) enters this fight on a six-fight winning streak that includes four stoppage victories that have helped him rise up the rankings and earn his first world title opportunity. Since a 2022 loss to Austin Williams, Booker has dominated his competition, including a 2024 campaign that saw him defeat veteran contender Greg Vendetti in February before stopping Brian Damian Chaves in round three of their June clash. The 33-year-old also owns triumphs over a litany of tough contenders including Wale Omotoso and VeShawn Owens. Prior to turning pro in 2016, Booker put together a sensational amateur career that included gold medals at the U.S. National and Golden Gloves championships, in addition to a bronze medal at the U.S. Olympic trials that earned him an alternate spot for the 2016 U.S. Olympic team.

"I've done everything I could to get here, and it's a testament to what my foundation represents – going the distance," said Booker. "I've gone the distance to make it to this fight. I've taken fights on short notice, fought for less and always kept pushing forward. Now, 15 years into my boxing journey, I'm stepping into the biggest fight of my life. This moment means everything and it's proof that hard work and perseverance pays off."

#### \*\*JESUS RAMOS JR. VS. KEVIN SALGADO\*\*

In the 10-round co-main event, one of the sport's brightest rising Mexican stars will return to action as **Jesus Ramos Jr.** looks to continue his climb up the stacked 154-pound division when he battles the all-action contender **Kevin Salgado** in an explosive all-Mexican battle.

After coming up on the wrong end of a contested decision against top contender Erickson Lubin in September 2023, Ramos (22-1, 18 KOs) has returned in style with back-to-back stoppages. Most recently he blasted out the former unified champion Jeison Rosario in the eight-round of their February 1 matchup. A native of Casa Grande, Ariz., Ramos had worked his way up the rankings by defeating a slew of contenders including Brian Mendoza, Javier Molina, Vladimir Hernandez and an emphatic stoppage of the then-unbeaten Joey Spencer. Trained by his father Jesus Sr., and the nephew of veteran contender Abel, the 23-year-old Ramos entered the Lubin fighting having stopped seven of his last 10 opponents.

"I'm thrilled to be stepping back into the ring on March 22," said Ramos. "One of my main goals this year was to increase my activity and this opportunity aligns perfectly with that ambition. Kevin Salgado is a formidable fighter known for his resilience and determination, and that should make for an electrifying night of boxing. Coming off an extended training camp, my conditioning is at its peak. Now our primary focus is to develop a strategic game plan tailored to Salgado's unique style so that we can secure the victory."

A native of Mexico City, Salgado (17-2-1, 10 KOs) is the younger brother of former super featherweight champion Juan Carlos Salgado and now fights out of San Antonio, Texas. Salgado enters this with two consecutive stoppage victories following an April 2023 decision loss to Elijah Garcia. The 27-year-old turned pro in late 2016 and delivered knockouts in six of his first nine outings. After scoring three-straight knockouts between September 2019 and February 2021, Salgado returned to the ring in October 2021 to defeat Ricardo Banuelos Cernas by unanimous decision before fighting Bryant Perrella to a split-draw in his U.S. debut in April. Salgado bounced back from a September 2022 defeat to Joey Spencer by knocking out Gilberto Flores in the first round of their December 2022 clash.

"This is an important opportunity and I'm coming to make the most of it," said Salgado. "I have a strong opponent, but I'm going to be the best version of myself when the fight comes. On March 22 I will do whatever it takes to get my hand raised."

#### \*\*ELIJAH GARCIA VS. TERRELL GAUSHA\*\*

The opening attraction will see the return of a rising star in the 21-year-old **Elijah Garcia**, who seeks to bounce back from his first career defeat and return to his championship trajectory in a 10-round middleweight fight against the always tough veteran **Terrell Gausha**, who has stood up to a litany of top fighters throughout his career.

Fighting out of Phoenix, Arizona, García (16-1, 13 KOs) steps back into the ring after dropping a close split-decision last June against middleweight contender Kyrone Davis. Garcia had previously burst onto the scene as a teenager by earning three impressive victories in 2023. He kicked off that memorable campaign in March with a knockout of the previously unbeaten Amilcar Vida and followed that up with a pair of performances on the undercards of two of the biggest events of the year. He first defeated Kevin Salgado on the Gervonta Davis vs. Ryan Garcia pay-per-view in April before knocking out Armando Resendiz on the Canelo Alvarez vs. Jermell Charlo pay-per-view in September. The precocious García has moved fast since turning pro in 2020 and knocked out seven of his last nine opponents heading into the Davis fight.

"I'm not just ready for this fight, I'm ready to dominate," said Garcia. "I'm excited to get back in the ring and unleash everything I've been working on in camp. The addition of Bob Santos and his knowledge and wisdom that he's shared with our team is a game changer. His expertise and guidance are going to take us to new heights and propel us to the next level. We're not just looking to win, we're looking to make a statement."

A member of the 2012 U.S. Olympic team, Gausha (24-4-1, 12 KOs) was born in Cleveland, Ohio but now fights out of Encino, California and is trained by the renowned Manny Robles. He most recently dropped a competitive decision to reigning WBC Middleweight World Champion Terrell Gausha in their June 2024 world title fight. Prior to facing Adames, Gausha had won back-to-back bouts as he knocked out Brandyn Lynch in March 2023 before winning a decision over KeAndrae Leatherwood in September of that year. Gausha has faced top competition throughout his career, having fought former champion Austin Trout to a draw in 2019 in addition to decision losses against WBA Middleweight World Champion Erislandy Lara, former world champion Tim Tszyu and top contender Erickson Lubin.

"I'm excited to get back in the mix," said Gausha. "I'm always working and staying ready for any opportunity. On March 22 people will know why I've been at this level for so long. I'm going to make a statement for sure."

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