

Welcome from Secretary Melanie S. Griffin

Greetings,

It is with great pleasure that the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) relaunches its industry newsletter, The Bottom Line.

Each quarter, our valued industry partners and leaders will receive DBPR updates hot off the press! Our divisions are proud to collaborate on this resource and bring together the best information impacting the more than 30 industries DBPR oversees.

In this edition, we're covering all the fall essentials. From tips on game day spreads to important license renewal deadlines, there's something for everyone, whether professionally or personally.

We also provide an update on important recovery resources for those impacted by Hurricane Idalia. Know that DBPR stands with you during this difficult recovery period, and we are here to assist however we can.

Please share this publication with your colleagues, association members, or anyone else you think may be interested, and send us any awesome news happening in your industry so we can include it in the next edition.

Best,
Secretary Melanie S. Griffin

HURRICANE IDALIA

Recovery Resources

Hurricane Idalia Recovery

On Wednesday, August 30, 2023, Hurricane Idalia made landfall in the Big Bend as a strong Category 3 storm.

At the direction of Governor DeSantis, the state has made great strides in supporting communities in the immediate aftermath and with ongoing recovery efforts.

DBPR will continue to support impacted licensees as long as necessary. DBPR encourages all affected businesses to fill out the FloridaCommerce [Business Damage Assessment Survey](#) and learn more about the short-term, zero-interest [Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan](#) program for small businesses that experienced economic injury or physical damage due to Hurricane Idalia.

FloridaCommerce has also made Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) available to Florida businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a direct result of Hurricane Idalia and are not eligible for regular state or Federal Reemployment Assistance benefits. Eligible Floridians are encouraged to submit a claim at [FloridaJobs.org](#).

Additionally, DBPR Secretary Melanie S. Griffin issued Emergency Orders [2023-06](#) and [2023-07](#), which suspend certain provisions of Florida law to allow certified or registered general, building, or residential contractors to subcontract roofing work for the repair or installation of any roof type in listed counties, as well as extends multiple deadlines for license renewals, waives fees and other suspensions. More information can be found on DBPR's Emergency page [here](#). These Emergency Orders expire on October 25, 2023, unless otherwise extended.

Florida Realtors has also activated the Florida Realtors Disaster Relief Fund (DRF), which assists Realtors, their employees and staff of local associations who have experienced damage to their primary residences or offices caused by natural disasters, including the recent landfall of Hurricane Idalia. More information can be found [here](#).

FOOD & WATER DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

by the DBPR Division of Hotels and Restaurants

Protect Food & Water During Emergencies

DBPR Division of Hotels & Restaurants

Florida has already seen an active hurricane season, and DBPR reminds residents and businesses that the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season continues through the end of November, so preparedness is still critical.

Floods and power outages from hurricanes, tornadoes and other weather emergencies can quickly cut off your water supply and easily contaminate food. Prepare for unpredictable weather emergencies by having some of these suggested supplies on hand:

- Bottled water;
- Manual can opener;
- Thermometers in freezers, coolers and refrigerators;
- Containers of ice to keep food cold or to melt if water supply is contaminated or unavailable;
- Coolers, frozen gel packs and dry ice to keep refrigerated food at or below 40°F and frozen food at or below 0°F, if power is out for more than 4 hours;
- Nonperishable food high on shelves, in case of flood; and
- Bleach for disinfecting.

During an emergency, keep food at recommended temperatures. A refrigerator will keep food cold for about 4 hours if unopened and a full freezer will hold the temperature for approximately 48 hours if unopened. Perishable food items such as meat, poultry, seafood, milk and eggs that are not kept at recommended temperatures can make you sick—even if thoroughly cooked. Do not eat or drink anything that has touched flood water, including food packed in non-metal containers. If the water supply is unsafe, use bottled water or boil water following [recommended guidelines](#).

After the emergency, check the temperature inside your refrigerator and freezer. Discard any perishable food—meat, poultry, fish, eggs, milk—that has been in a refrigerator or freezer at or above 40°F for two hours or more.

When in doubt, throw it out!

Making Female Fighter History

Florida Athletic Commission

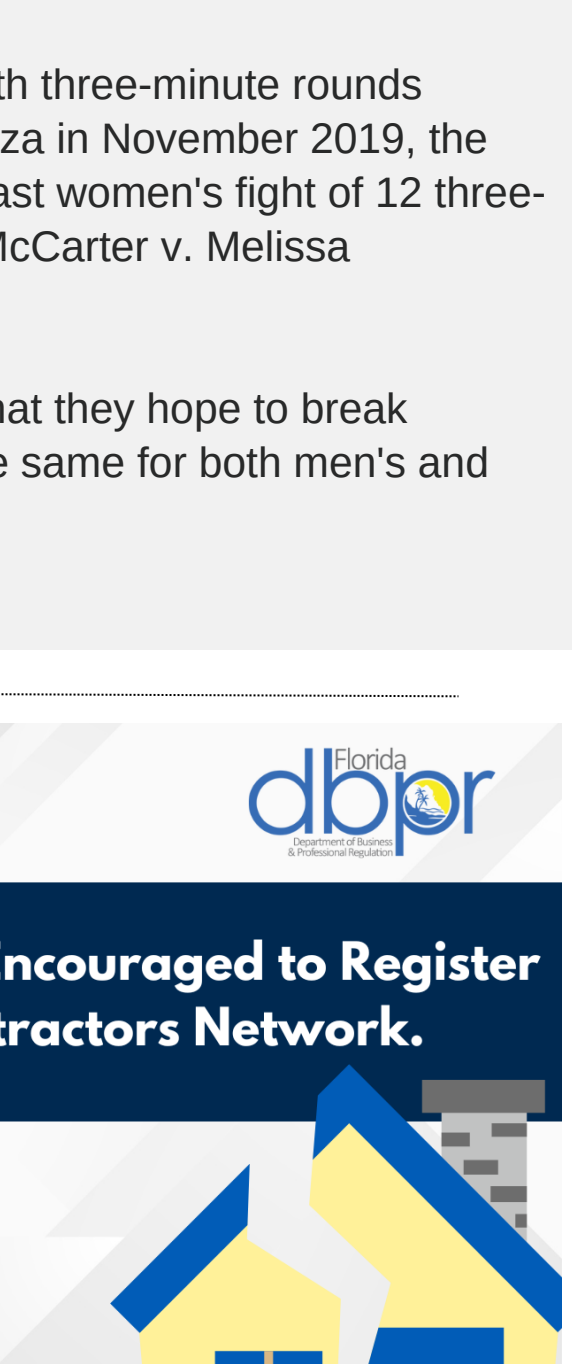
For the first time ever, a women's unified championship fight will be fought under the same rules as the men's.

On Friday, October 27, 2023, at the Caribe Royale Resort in Orlando, Amanda Serrano and Danila Ramos will face off in 12 three-minute rounds instead of the standard official 10 two-minute rounds for women's boxing title fights, as mandated by the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports.

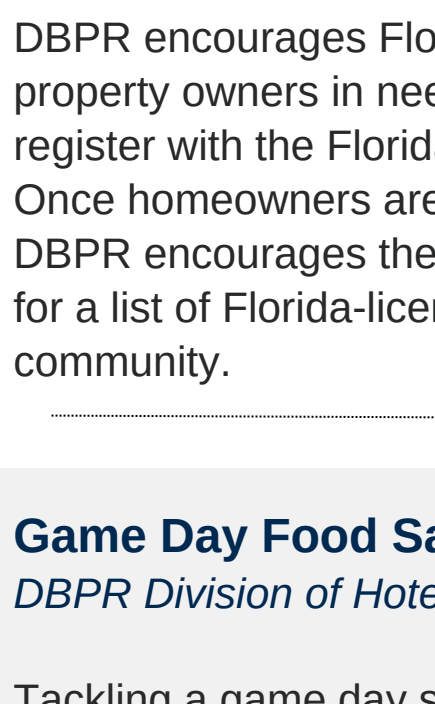
Serrano will defend her WBA, IBF and WBO belts against Ramos, the WBO mandatory challenger, in a fight approved by all sanctioning bodies and the Florida Athletic Commission, and put on by Most Valuable Promotions.

While there have been women's title fights with three-minute rounds before, with Seniesa Estrada v. Marlen Esparza in November 2019, the fight was still held at 10 rounds, not 12. The last women's fight of 12 three-minute rounds was in Las Vegas with Layla McCarter v. Melissa Hernandez in 2007.

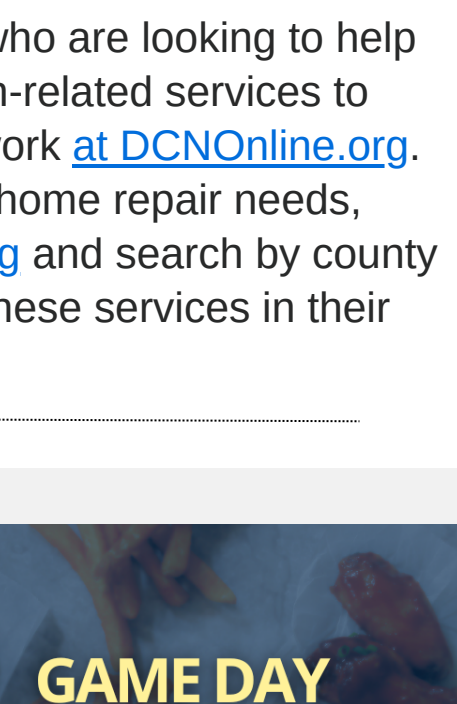
Serrano and Ramos have both commented that they hope to break barriers and show that the rules should be the same for both men's and women's boxing.



Licensed Florida Contractors Are Encouraged to Register with the Florida Disaster Contractors Network.



DNOnline.org



DBPR encourages Florida's licensed contractors who are looking to help property owners in need of post-storm construction-related services to register with the Florida Disaster Contractors Network [at DNOnline.org](#). Once homeowners are safely able to assess their home repair needs, DBPR encourages them to log onto [DNOnline.org](#) and search by county for a list of Florida-licensed contractors providing these services in their community.

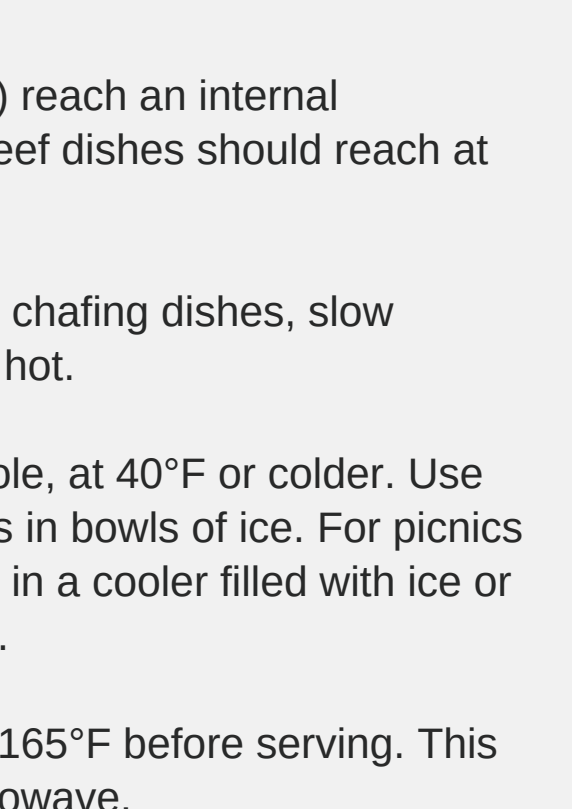
Game Day Food Safety Tips

DBPR Division of Hotels & Restaurants

Tackling a game day spread? Play by these rules and make sure your game day favorites are memorable for all the right reasons:

- Wash your hands with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds before, during and after preparing food and before eating.
- Separate raw meats from ready-to-eat foods like vegetables when preparing, serving or storing foods. Use separate cutting boards, plates and knives for produce and for raw meat, chicken and other poultry, seafood and eggs.
- Ensure chicken wings (and other poultry) reach an internal temperature of at least 165°F. Ground beef dishes should reach at least 160°F.
- Keep hot foods at 140°F or warmer. Use chafing dishes, slow cookers and warming trays to keep food hot.
- Keep cold foods, like salsa and guacamole, at 40°F or colder. Use small service trays or nest serving dishes in bowls of ice. For picnics and other outdoor meals, keep cold food in a cooler filled with ice or frozen gel packs until just before serving.
- Leftovers should be reheated to at least 165°F before serving. This includes leftovers warmed up in the microwave.

For more information about the DBPR Division of Hotels and Restaurants, visit [MyFloridaLicense.com](#).



IMPORTANT DATES

October
25

DBPR Executive Orders 2023-06 and 2023-07 in response to Hurricane Idalia expire unless otherwise extended

October
27-30

National Interstate Council of State Boards Annual Conference in Albuquerque, NM

December
1

License Expiration/Renewal Deadline for Public Food Service & Lodging Licenses in Districts 2 & 7

December
31

Elevator Professional & Registered Elevator Company licenses expire annually

February
1

License Expiration/Renewal Deadline for Public Food Service & Lodging Licenses in District 3



Have a story idea? Email us your fresh industry news! From professional accolades to important deadlines, we're happy to work with you on spreading the word.

Email the DBPR Communications Team

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation licenses and regulates nearly 1.7 million businesses and professionals in the State of Florida across more than 30 fields of industry. DBPR's mission is to license efficiently and regulate fairly.

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