

PRESS RELEASE

December 20, 2017

**ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR
CLARENCE COLEMAN
NEW JERSEY BOXING HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**



Pictured are (from left to right) Freeholder A-Large Rufus I. Johnson, Clarence Coleman, Freeholder Rolando Bobadilla of District 1, Freeholder Wayne L. Richardson of District 2, and Freeholder Leonard M. Luciano of District 4. PHOTO BY GLEN FRIESON

(Newark, NJ) – On Thursday, December 14, 2017, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders honored Clarence Coleman, New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame Inductee.

Freeholder Wayne L. Richardson of District 2 and Freeholder At-Large Rufus I. Johnson sponsored the presentation honoring Clarence for his exemplary boxing career. The Freeholders celebrated his talents and presented him with a Commendation for his achievements. Clarence thanked the Board for their support and expressed his sincere gratitude for this recognition.

As a child, Clarence was rebellious and made the wrong decisions. A close family friend, Michael Bogar, took him under his wing and changed his life for the better. At the age of 12, he began boxing at the Southward Boys Club in Newark. His managers, Andre Kut and Michael Guadagno, Jr., aided him along the way.

Clarence went on to win the New Jersey Golden Gloves lightweight boxing match in 1981 and the Sugar Ray Leonard Golden Gloves lightweight boxing match in 1982. On June 10,

1995, he competed in his last title fight against Jose Antonio Rivera in Worcester, Massachusetts. In total, he has won 19 professional boxing matches.

Throughout his career, he has sparred with Jimmy Lynn, James Singleton, and Robert Houston, to name a few. He has competed against the following boxers: Mickey Ward (May 23, 1989); Larry Barnes (March 6, 1993); Michael Benjamin (September 20, 1992); Rafael Pineda for the IBF World Super Lightweight Title (May 22, 1992); and Frankie Warren for the USBA Super Lightweight Title (July 16, 1988).

Today, Clarence works for the Essex County Hospital Center as a hospital attendant and is the proud father of twelve children, six girls and six boys, and grandfather to twelve grandchildren.

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