

## *For Immediate Release*



### **Media Contact:**

**Jeff Darman**

610.925.1976

610.299.4436 (cell)

[jdarman@capitalchallenge.com](mailto:jdarman@capitalchallenge.com)

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## **ACLI Capital Challenge Slated for Super Wednesday, May 15 Hundreds of Prominent Runners and Walkers Expected**

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The 42<sup>nd</sup> ACLI Capital Challenge 3-mile run/walk will take place at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, on the traditional Anacostia Park course in Washington D.C.

As usual, a large PAC of Senators and Representatives will take part in the traditional invitational team battle between the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches and the media.

Since its inception in 1981, before social media or websites, the race has played host to three U.S. Vice Presidents, several Presidential candidates, scores of congressional committee Chairs, Majority and Minority leaders of the Senate, three Supreme Court Justices, Cabinet Members, and many prominent members of the Washington press corps.

Competition is limited to teams led by Senators, Representatives, Cabinet or Sub-Cabinet appointees, Agency Heads, Federal Judges, or TV, radio, print and web journalists. (Team captains must complete the three-mile course for their team to be eligible to win awards.)

All entry fees and donations from the race sponsors will be given to Junior Achievement USA. Junior Achievement programs in all 50 states give young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic

success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and financial choices. This is crucial because research shows that improved financial education and literacy can help close the racial wealth gap.

"We're eagerly looking forward to joining our nation's leaders once again at the ACLI Capital Challenge in May," said American Council of Life Insurers President and CEO Susan Neely. "Everyone who participates will be helping Junior Achievement, which provides financial education for more than 4.4 million students across the country."

The American Council of Life Insurers is the leading trade association driving public policy and advocacy on behalf of the life insurance industry. 90 million American families rely on the life insurance industry for financial protection and retirement security. ACLI's member companies are dedicated to protecting consumers' financial wellbeing through life insurance, annuities, retirement plans, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance, insurance, reinsurance, and dental, vision and other supplemental benefits. 275 member companies represent 93 percent of industry assets in the United States.

Race participants will have the opportunity to meet and run with Camille Herron, a champion ultramarathoner and a leader in the sport. She is a four-time IAU International Ultrarunner of the Year and six-time USATF Ultrarunner of the Year. She is the only athlete who has won all the IAU Ultra Road World Championships (50km, 100km, and 24Hrs).

Camille is also the first ultrarunner to win both the prestigious Comrades Marathon and Spartathlon. In 2023, she became the first woman to break 24 hours at the grueling 153-mile Spartathlon (22:35:31).

She has set numerous ultra-World and American Records between 50 miles and 48 hours. In 2023, she became the first woman to surpass a men's American Record, when she improved the women's 48 Hour World Record by 14.8 miles to 270.505 miles, which also ranks her 3<sup>rd</sup> best in the world behind only two men.

Crossing over to trail running, she won the JFK 50 Mile, Banders 100km, Black Canyon 100km, Tunnel Hill 100 miles (Course Record and Trail Best 12:42:40), and the Javelina Jundred (100 miles - Course Record in 14:03:23). She has numerous overall wins on road/track/trail, beating all the men.

In 2012, she set the Guinness World Record for the fastest marathon in a superhero costume (2:48:51 dressed as Spiderwoman). In 2023, she was accepted into the U.S. Department of State Sports Diplomacy Program.

"The ACLI Capital Challenge combines fitness and bipartisanship on a taunt-free course, as many physically fit Washington luminaries set an excellent example on race day year after year," said Director Jeff Darman. "And on race day things are reversed as Members of Congress and the administration make the media sweat."

The event is designed to highlight the fitness of many of the Capital's busiest leaders and tries to answer the question: which branch of the government is the fittest? Supporting sponsors are Akin, Allianz, Athene, Boston Mutual, Brighthouse Financial, Canada Life Re, Corebridge Financial, Genworth Financial, Global Atlantic Financial Group, Globe Life, Guardian, Hannover Re, Invariant, Jackson, John Hancock, Lincoln Financial, M Financial Group, Mass Mutual, MetLife, Nationwide, New York Life, Northwestern Mutual, One America, Pacific Life, Penn Mutual, Primerica, Principal, Protective Life, Prudential, RGA, Royal Neighbors of America, Sammons Financial, Security Benefit, Security Mutual, Swiss Re, Symetra, Thrivent, Transamerica, Unum, USAA, Voya, and media sponsor CQ/Roll Call.

The ACLI Capital Challenge not only recognizes the swiftest participants with awards for the Fastest Senator, Representative (Mike Synar Award), Independent Agency Head, Sub-Cabinet Appointee, Federal Judge, and journalist in male and female categories, but also rewards Teams with the Best Name and the Worst Name (James B. Kenin Award). There are also team awards for the Senate, House, Executive Branch, Judicial and Media (both Electronic and print/web categories).

Eligible teams may enter online at [capitalchallenge.com](https://www.capitalchallenge.com). Entries close April 21.