



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The DGA, SAG-AFTRA, IATSE, Teamsters and the Hollywood Basic Crafts Announce Modifications to Covid-19 Safety Agreement Reflecting the Changing Impact of the Virus

Parties Will Continue to Monitor Covid-19 Developments; Safety Triggers in Place to Protect Industry Workers

Los Angeles — With the continued commitment to keeping casts, crews and all set workers safe in light of the changing impact of Covid-19, the Directors Guild of America (DGA), International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) and the Hollywood Basic Crafts, (Teamsters Local 399, IBEW Local 40, LiUNA! Local 724, OPCMIA Local 755 and UA Local 78) and Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA), announced they have a revised agreement with the AMPTP modifying the current Covid-19 Safety Agreement. The new agreement creates a more flexible set of protocols for areas of the United States and Canada with low COVID hospital admissions, while maintaining core elements to keep sets safe.

The modifications apply only to areas that have confirmed low Covid hospital admissions, leaving largely in place the requirements for areas experiencing surging admission rates. These new workplace practices apply to both vaccinated and unvaccinated cast and crew.

Testing protocols are as follows: Pre-employment testing is still required of all crews, but with modifications to the types of tests allowed. Testing will still be required on an ongoing weekly basis during production for Zones A and B, but reduced in frequency. Zones C and D do not require testing beyond pre-employment.

Masking will not be required in most settings, with the specific exception of shuttle vans.

Additional modifications include flexibility on meal service and rules related to transportation.

The following current agreement conditions remain in place:

Vaccination: The new agreement continues to allow employers to mandate that employees in Zone A be “up to date” on their vaccinations, including a booster.

Covid Compliance Supervisor: Hiring of a dedicated COVID-19 compliance supervisor responsible for safety compliance and enforcement, who will be accessible to cast and crew at all times during working hours.

Quarantine Pay and Sick Leave: All employees will continue to receive 10 days of COVID-19 paid sick leave, and the leave can be used for any of the eligible COVID-19 events (e.g. testing positive, exhibiting symptoms, isolation or self-quarantines, or when a member of their household tests positive for COVID-19).

The agreement allows employers to impose more stringent requirements regarding masking and testing as the production circumstances require.

The Agreement will remain in effect through July 15, 2022. The parties will continue closely monitoring Covid-19 developments and will consider further modifications at that time.

First enacted in September 2020 after a months-long production shutdown, the Covid-19 Safety Agreement is the outcome of unprecedented coordination and solidarity between the unions and collaboration with Employers to develop science-based protocols that minimize the risk of Covid-19 virus transmission in the industry’s unique work environments. Since that time, the protocols have driven a successful rebound of film and television production while prioritizing safety for casts, crews and all on-set workers.

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ABOUT THE DGA

In the more than 80 years since its founding in 1936, the DGA has fought for the economic and creative rights of its members; protected their ability to financially benefit from the reuse of their work; established strong pension and health plans; and established jurisdiction in new technologies and distribution platforms. Today we represent more than 19,000 directors and members of the directorial team working in film, television, commercials, new media and other audiovisual media.

ABOUT SAG-AFTRA

SAG-AFTRA represents approximately 160,000 actors, announcers, broadcast journalists, dancers, DJs, news writers, news editors, program hosts, puppeteers, recording artists, singers, stunt performers, voiceover artists and other entertainment and media professionals. SAG AFTRA members are the faces and voices that entertain and inform America and the world. A proud affiliate of the AFL-CIO, SAG-AFTRA has national offices in Los Angeles and New York and local offices nationwide representing members working together to secure the strongest protections for entertainment and media artists into the 21st century and beyond. Visit SAG-AFTRA online at sagaftra.org

ABOUT IATSE

The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees or IATSE (full name: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, Its Territories and Canada), is a labor union representing over 150,000 technicians, artisans and craftspersons in the entertainment industry, including live theatre, motion picture and television production, broadcast, and trade shows in the United States and Canada.

ABOUT IBT MOTION PICTURE DIVISION:

The Motion Picture Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters represents nearly 12,000 Teamsters in North America who work on feature, television, commercial, and theatrical productions produced across the United States, Canada and around the globe.

ABOUT HOLLYWOOD BASIC CRAFTS:

The Hollywood Basic Crafts are comprised of approximately 7,500 members that are part of Teamsters Local 399, IBEW Local 40, LiUNA! Local 724, OPCMIA Local 755 and UA Plumbers Local 78. Each Local represents the hard working men and women operating behind the scenes to ensure the success of feature and television production. The Hollywood Basic Crafts Unions represent a wide variety of classifications within the Motion Picture Industry such as: drivers, location professionals, casting directors and associates, animal trainers, wranglers, mechanics, dispatchers, cook helpers, electricians, HVACR technicians, sound installers, generator operators, portable A/C technicians, laborers, plasterers, sculptors, plumbers and more. The Basic Crafts Unions work together to fight on behalf of their members for strong wages, safe working conditions and exceptional benefits.

Contact:

DGA

Morgan Rumpf

morganr@dga.org /310-289-5394

SAG-AFTRA

Pamela Greenwalt

pamela.greenwalt@sagaftra.org/323-549-6872

IATSE

press@iatse.net

Teamsters/Hollywood Basic Crafts

Amy Gorton

amy@ht399.org/818-432-3316