



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **SAG-AFTRA, JPC and PGA Statement on Return to Work in Commercial and Independent Production**

**LOS ANGELES (January 28, 2021)** – SAG-AFTRA, The Joint Policy Committee, LLC (JPC) – the multiemployer bargaining group that represents commercial advertisers and advertising agencies and the Producers Guild of America (PGA) have agreed to lift the recommendation to pause production in Southern California effective Feb. 1, 2021, consistent with the expiration of the pause recommendation by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and the strengthening of a number of provisions of Appendix J to the Los Angeles County Health Order, including the elimination of testing exemptions for short duration productions.

While commercial and independent production may return to Southern California at this time, the parties maintain that film and television productions must abide by the industry-issued COVID-safety protocols and will continue to monitor and consider orders or recommendations issued by the Public Health Department. Additionally, SAG-AFTRA and the JPC will move forward with reviewing commercial productions to help ensure that safety on set is maintained for members and industry personnel.

The Producers Guild of America's (PGA) Production Safety Task Force published a comprehensive safety guide for producers as they go back to work titled "COVID Safety Protocols for Producing Independent Productions." These guidelines offer a comprehensive and detailed recommendation of the steps independent producers should take to help secure the safety of cast and crew during the COVID-19 pandemic. These guidelines serve as a resource for independent producers to help navigate the existing guidelines and rules set by the industry's studios, unions and guilds and can be found on the Guild's website [here](#).

#### **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](http://SAGAFTRA.org).

### **About the JPC**

The Joint Policy Committee, LLC is the multiemployer bargaining unit that represents advertisers and advertising agencies in collective bargaining with SAG-AFTRA for the Commercials Contracts and the American Federation of Musicians for the Commercial Announcements Agreement. For more information about the JPC, visit [jointpolicycommittee.org](http://jointpolicycommittee.org)

### **About the PGA**

The Producers Guild of America is a nonprofit trade organization that represents and promotes the interests of all members of the producing team in film, television and new media. The Producers Guild works to protect the careers of producers and improve the producing community at-large by facilitating health benefits for its more than 8,000 members, encouraging the enforcement of workplace labor laws and sustainable practices, and creating fair and impartial standards for the awarding of producing credits. The Guild also hosts educational opportunities for new and experienced producers alike. For more information and the latest updates, please visit the Producers Guild of America website and follow on social media.

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