October 21, 2009

Dear Screen Actors Guild Member,

As you are aware, from May 1, 2002, Screen Actors Guild Rule 1 has been extended to operate globally (Global Rule 1) and members are required under Rule 1 of the SAG Constitution and By-Laws to only provide services to companies that have signed an agreement with Screen Actors Guild to cover their acting services.

There are some limited variations to the application of this rule which are available on our website at www.sag.org.

As a result of questions from some of our members who are New Zealand and Australian nationals, particularly now that the Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance union ("M.E.A.A.") has opened a branch in New Zealand, I thought it would be useful to clarify the application of the rule to the work of SAG members in New Zealand.

A New Zealand or Australian national or resident may work in New Zealand on a New Zealand production either:

1. Under the terms of a Screen Actors Guild Agreement (the company would need to sign an agreement with Screen Actors Guild prior to the start of your employment) or
2. On a Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance collective bargaining agreement (the company would need to sign an agreement with M.E.A.A. prior to the start of your employment.)

You or your agent would need to bargain for your services to be covered by one of these agreements when working in New Zealand and make sure that the company has signed the appropriate agreement before you commence services. Please share this information with your agent.

Frequently companies are unsure who to contact at Screen Actors Guild in these types of situations, please feel free to give them my name and my email address (emoseley@sag.org) or telephone number (323) 549-6821.

If you or your agent have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me and I will be sure to respond.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Moseley

Elizabeth Moseley
Director, Theatrical Contracts

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