COMMERCIALS

What You Need to Know

Under the Commercials Contract, when does a driver who is doubling an on-camera performer qualify as a stunt performer?

a. When any of the stunt guidelines are met:
- When any or all wheels leave the driving surface;
- When tire traction is broken, i.e., skids, slides, etc.;
- Impaired vision — when the driver's vision is substantially impaired;
- If the speed of the vehicle is greater than normally safe for the condition of the driving surface or when other conditions such as obstacles or difficulty of terrain exist or off-road driving during other than normal low-speed driving for which the vehicle was designed occurs;
- When any aircraft, fixed-wing or helicopter, is flown
in close proximity to the vehicle creating hazardous driving conditions;
- When an on-camera principal performer is doubled because the level of driving skill requires a professional driver, the driver double shall qualify as a stunt performer;
- Whenever high speed or close proximity of any vehicle creates conditions dangerous to the driver, passengers, film crew, other people, or the vehicle;
- When working in close proximity to pyrotechnics or explosives;
- When driving in other than the driver's seat or blind driving in any form.

b. It is SAG-AFTRA's position that the following are additional examples of when a driver doubling an on-camera performer qualifies as a stunt performer:
- When a special class license is required;
- When production insurance requires a professional driver;
- When a Russian arm or similar performance style vehicle is being used to film the driving.

If you are asked to double an on-camera performer and believe you meet the above requirements, please reach out to the Commercials Department.

For more information involving commercial driving:

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