



## NEW MEDIA TAFT-HARTLEY INFORMATION

**\*Please note as of January 1, 2018 SAG-AFTRA no longer provides or processes Taft-Hartley reports for programs signed to an independent New Media Agreement that allows for deferred payment.\***

### **What is a Taft-Hartley report?**

It is a report which is submitted by a SAG-AFTRA signatory producer to the Union whenever any non-member is employed by such producer on a SAG-AFTRA project.

### **How are Taft-Hartley reports submitted?**

Taft-Hartley reports must be completed and submitted directly to SAG-AFTRA by the signatory producer or casting director within 15 days after the performers initial work date. Taft-Hartley reports submitted by the performer **will not** be accepted.

### **How long does it take to process a Taft-Hartley report?**

After Taft-Hartley reports are submitted to SAG-AFTRA they are reviewed for potential Union Security or Preference of Employment claims. Should a claim be filed, Taft-Hartley reports will not be processed until any and all claims are settled with the signatory producer.

Once approved for processing, due to the high volume of New Media Productions, please allow at least 4-6 weeks for Principal Taft-Hartley Reports to be processed. Please note Taft-Hartley reports will not be processed until all final production paperwork has been submitted. This paperwork includes the Cast Clearance Report, Ex. G timesheets, Performer contracts and Final Cast List.

Background Taft-Hartley Reports are processed by the Background Department. Please contact them directly with eligibility questions. They can be reached at 323-549-6811 or [specialtyperformers@sagaftra.org](mailto:specialtyperformers@sagaftra.org).

Stunt Performer Taft-Hartley Reports are processed by the Stunt & Safety Department. Please contact them directly with eligibility questions. They can be reached at 323-549-6855 or [ssd@sagaftra.org](mailto:ssd@sagaftra.org).

### **How do I know if my Taft-Hartley report was received?**

Please contact the signatory producer or casting director to check when they submitted the Taft-Hartley reports to SAG-AFTRA. Due to the high volume of Taft-Hartley reports we receive on a daily basis, we are unable to verify if your paperwork was received until it is processed.

Non-union performers working on a SAG-AFTRA covered production will become eligible to join the Union after one (1) Principal Performer Taft-Hartley report has been submitted. Background performers must complete three (3) days of work as a background actor under a SAG-AFTRA covered production in order to receive eligibility.

### **Will SAG-AFTRA notify me once I become eligible to join?**

Yes. Within a week of become eligible in our system, SAG-AFTRA's Membership Department will mail a letter to the address provided on the Taft-Hartley report.

### **I know my Taft-Hartley was processed, but I didn't receive a letter in the mail. What do I do?**

Please contact the Membership Department at 323-549-6769.

### **Am I able to check my eligibility online?**

Yes. Please visit the How to Join SAG-AFTRA page via the Membership section of the SAG-AFTRA website ([www.sagaftra.org/content/how-join-sag](http://www.sagaftra.org/content/how-join-sag)) and enter your first name, last name, and Social Security Number to see if you are eligible.

### **It's been longer than 6-8 weeks after my Taft-Hartley report was submitted, but I'm not yet eligible when I check online. What do I do?**

If you have verified with the signatory producer or casting director your Taft-Hartley report was submitted, please contact the SAG-AFTRA Membership Department at (323) 549-6769 to have a representative manually check our system for your information. If they verify no Taft-Hartley was received, they will forward you to the appropriate department in order to have a Business Representative contact the signatory producer. Please note you may be asked to verify your employment during this process (i.e. a copy of your performer contract and/or pay stub).

## **SAG-AFTRA POLICIES REGARDING TAFT-HARTLEY REPORTS**

All productions signed to the 2014 and 2017 New Media Agreements MUST adhere to following policies:

- It is against SAG-AFTRA policy, and potentially illegal, to personally profit in any way from the promise of SAG-AFTRA eligibility, including to use it as a means of attracting performers to work on a production. The sale or barter of eligibility is expressly prohibited.
- It is against SAG-AFTRA policy, and potentially illegal, for employers to require the payment of money or other things of value in exchange for employment. The sale of roles is expressly prohibited, including offering roles in exchange for contributions in connection with crowd-funding campaigns.
- Union eligibility cannot be used as a form of compensation in any circumstance.

SAG-AFTRA, at its sole discretion, may audit any production for compliance with this policy.

SAG-AFTRA eligibility is solely between the performer and SAG-AFTRA. Violations of these policies may result in invalidation of a performer's membership eligibility.

Failure to adhere to this Policy shall be considered a breach of the New Media Agreement. In addition to any liquidated damages provided in the Basic Agreement, a breach of this Policy may result in a termination of SAG-AFTRA signatory status. Additionally, in the event SAG-AFTRA believes a breach involves fraud and/or violation of law, SAG-AFTRA may seek injunctive relief in addition to any other available remedies.