

International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

STUDIO MECHANICS LOCAL 489

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IATSE489.ORG

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To Whom It May Concern,

This is a very difficult time for the entertainment industry and for the bearer of this letter who is a member of IATSE Local 489. They have been put out of work for lack of work as a result of the Coronavirus.

IATSE Local 489 Referral Hall participants went from 100% employment to 0% within forty-eight hours of the NBA announcement to cancel their season. Every employer in our over forty-six entertainment venues suspended operations.

More than likely, due to the nature of our business, this Studio Mechanics employment record may reflect some lack of work due to seasonal scheduling. Our Employers had full bookings starting in March and scheduled through the end of the year. The Coronavirus forced cancellations of all entertainment events on or about March 12th.

The Coronavirus has created an unprecedented situation not just for Studio Mechanics but workers in much of the economy. I have no doubt your job and office responsibilities are being put under tremendous stress dealing with the volume of request for some type of forbearance.

Studio Mechanics request for forbearance are unique as we have typically full employment that ebbs and flows on a regular seasonal basis. This type of unprecedented cancellation of all entertainment jobs throughout the industry is not the norm.

I appreciate your time and attention to this request for forbearance. The length of suspension of large entertainment events is currently not available.

On behalf of this worker I request forbearance on this bill until the government allows such scheduling of events to take place. I am available to answer any questions to help expedite the process.

Sincerely,
Michael "Bubba" Matesic - IATSE Local 489 President
Virginia Phillips - IATSE Local 489 Business Manager