

DRAFT SCREEN INDUSTRY CODE ON DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND BULLYING

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Today, Screen Producers Australia CEO, Matthew Deaner, announced further consultation on the Screen Industry Code on Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Bullying (“the Industry Code”).

“SPA is committed to empowering the screen industry to tackle head-on issues relating to discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment and bullying. I welcome all interested parties to review the Industry Code and send us their comments.” Mr Deaner said.

Working towards a goal of uniform industry standards for employers in the media and entertainment industries, SPA has worked closely with Screen Australia, the Australian Human Rights Commission, Live Performance Australia and the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance in developing the Industry Code.

The Industry Code has been compiled by SPA with reference to the Live Performance Australia Code of Practice and related documents, Screen Australia’s Code of Conduct and the draft code released by SPA and MEAA in late 2017.

“We have sought to learn from our colleagues in government and industry the best-practice approach to these issues. Unfortunately, we know that discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment and bullying occurs in every industry and our industry has some unique characteristics, which the Industry Code takes into account. SPA thanks the collaborative approach undertaken by Live Performance Australia and the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance in developing the Industry Code. Our goal is a single industry standard that will be easily understood by employers and employees across the country.” Mr Deaner said.

Mr Deaner announced a three-week consultation period ending 4 May.

The documents released for consultation are:

- **Screen Industry Code of Practice**
- **Screen Industry Workplace Policy**
- **Screen Industry Complaint Handling and Investigation Procedure**
- **Screen Industry Complaint Form**
- **Screen Industry Code of Conduct**
- **Screen Industry Checklist & Tips**

Mr Deaner also committed SPA to rolling out training for employers and employees to understand the Industry Code and implementation.

“The industry code is only as good as its implementation. This is just the first step in SPA’s efforts to drive culture change in the screen industry. SPA is developing training options for the industry that will be rolled out in the coming months.”

For more information on the Industry Code, contact James Cheatley (Director of Government Relations & Policy – james.cheatley@screenproducers.org.au)

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About Screen Producers Australia

Screen Producers Australia was formed by the screen industry to represent large and small enterprises across a diverse production slate of feature film, television and interactive content. Our members employ hundreds of producers, thousands of related practitioners and drive more than \$1.7 billion worth of annual production activity from the independent sector. On behalf of these businesses we are focused on delivering a healthy commercial environment through ongoing engagement with elements of the labour force, including directors, writers, actors and crew, as well as with broadcasters, distributors and government in all its various forms. This coordinated dialogue ensures that our industry is successful, employment levels are strong and the community's expectations of access to high quality Australian content have been met.