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Central Casting Opens Office in Louisiana, Serving New Orleans and Baton Rouge

NEW ORLEANS, LA September 23, 2014 – Central Casting, the leading provider of background actor casting and payroll services to the entertainment industry since 1925, has opened a local office serving the New Orleans and Baton Rouge film communities. This is the third office for Los Angeles-based Central Casting, which opened an office in New York in 2006. Parent company Entertainment Partners has had an office in New Orleans since 2008, providing payroll and production incentive services.

"We are pleased to welcome Central Casting to our expanding New Orleans film industry market," said New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu. "The fact that Central Casting chose to open an office here is due to the strength of the film industry in New Orleans and the state."

Central Casting has served as a launching ground for stars such as Brad Pitt, Eva Longoria, John Wayne, and Kelly Clarkson. The Louisiana office will provide unique, personalized services not currently offered in the market. All registered talent is pre-screened in person. I-9 and e-verification is completed prior to arriving on set, ensuring all talent is authorized to work in the United States. Background actors have been trained on anti-piracy, confidentiality, and anti-harassment policies, and have completed a comprehensive orientation covering topics such as professional set behavior and on-set safety. In addition, payroll processing for all extras casting can be handled in-house.

The Louisiana office will be led by Adam Hochfeld, former background actor turned Casting Director with eight years of background casting experience including *The Big Bang Theory*, *The Mentalist*, *Mike & Molly*, and *CSI*. "I'm confident our boutique service will be an asset to our clients. Right now we're the only agency that provides this full range of offerings – from pre-screening and e-verification all the way through to payroll. We really invest in our background talent." The office also brought on two local hires, Mary Huber and Alyssa Jacobson, both graduates of New Orleans universities.

"We're thrilled to be expanding into the vibrant Louisiana market," shared Jennifer Bender, Senior Vice President of Central Casting, who will have oversight of the new locale. "It's a terrific opportunity to expand our services for our existing clients while also building new relationships with the wonderful Louisiana production community who have given us such a warm welcome."

The team recently wrapped work on a major Universal feature, and has previously worked with producer Duncan Henderson on *Oblivion*. Because of this, they have already amassed a large database and look forward to meeting more of the local New Orleans community. The office is located at 1450 Poydras St., Suite 1420, New Orleans, LA 70112, and the phone number is 504.684.2550.

About Entertainment Partners and Central Casting

Entertainment Partners is the global leader in entertainment payroll, residuals, tax incentives, finance, and other integrated production management solutions, with 16 offices in the U.S., Canada, London, and Tokyo. Combining its comprehensive capabilities, extensive resources, and unparalleled industry experience, EP collaborates with clients to help them produce the most cost-effective and efficient film, television, digital, and commercial projects. Casting and payroll for background actors is handled through its legendary Central Casting division, a Hollywood icon since 1925. Its proprietary VISTA accounting systems and Movie Magic Budgeting and Scheduling programs are the industry standards. The EP Financial Solutions group is the industry's largest and most experienced incentives team, drawing on unparalleled expertise in maximizing U.S. and international incentives. Established more than 35 years ago, EP is a 100% employee-owned company where each employee has a vested interest in upholding the company's highest standards of service, integrity, transparency, and accountability. Visit the website at www.ep.com.

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