

Attachment B

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Company Name

Memo

To: Anastacia Wyatt
From: Moira LaMountain, Monterey County Film Commission
cc:
Date: March 9, 2021
Re: COVID Hardship

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the ability to reach the goals of the Monterey County Film Commission, as film productions were few and were small in terms of crew size coming on-location. Some locations were unavailable or unwilling to be used during the stay-in-place mandates. Many producers and location scouts are based in Los Angeles, which was hit extremely hard with COVID-19 cases and suffered some shut-downs of productions.

Despite the on-going pandemic challenges, 15 productions managed to film their commercials, still photo projects, TV videos, and documentaries. The largest production was “Dog,” a feature film starring Channing Tatum. The main Monterey County scene was of Tatum in a turnout and driving across Bixby Bridge in Big Sur. Now in post-production, the film is expected to be released this July. Local Carmel Mission Inn hosted the 40-some crew for the shoot, giving a financial boost to the property in unincorporated Monterey County. The production company also made donations to Big Sur’s Mid-Coast and Big Sur Fire agencies. Other car themed productions filmed at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca, including the Ferrari Challenge Series, the Hyundai Monterey Sports Car Championship, and a Lexus infomercial.

An estimated \$326,000 in spend came into the County from the various film activities, thus raising the economic impact from filming this fiscal year to \$429,000. More than \$118 million has come into county-wide communities since

MCFC was created by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

Our budget was cut 41% - but MCFC has been accustomed to operating on a small budget. We have survived by PPP1, PPP2, CA Small Business Advocacy Relief Grant funds, and modest operating reserves.