



## Statement from the Association of Talent Agents Regarding WGA Negotiating Meeting

**March 14, 2019**

Following today's meeting, Karen Stuart, Executive Director of the ATA released the following statement:

"Unfortunately, it appears at this time that the WGA really doesn't want to make a deal. While we appreciate their overtures in tone, they didn't present any meaningful counter proposals today – instead presenting their original "code of conduct" with a different title.

Based on our conversations with hundreds of film and television writers, we're hearing that they want to have choice and options. This is reflected in the counterproposals and the Statement of Choice the ATA presented this week, all of which are grounded in expanding transparency and enforcement. The Guild is pushing a unilateral mandate that questions writers' own decision-making ability and will destabilize the entire industry, affecting writers, directors and actors alike. The Guild's proposals will only weaken our collective ability to continue advancing artists careers and confront the power imbalance created by the dramatic changes in the media landscape.

ATA member agencies remain committed to finding a pathway and will meet again next week with the WGA to try to come to an agreement."

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After hundreds of meetings with writers, managers and lawyers, the ATA [presented](#) the WGA and writers with a comprehensive set of [counterproposals](#) and a [Statement of Choice](#) that reflect the seismic shifts in the media landscape and will foster the best outcome for artists for the foreseeable future.

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