WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York to address the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of New York residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, to mitigate the risk of infection among individuals involved in media production activity, the New York State Department of Health issued the “Interim Guidance for Media Production During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency”, which included guidelines for occupancy limits, social distancing, and other health and safety measures; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting (“OFTB”) of the Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment (“MOME”) issues permits for the use of public property for filming, rigging, and scouting pursuant to New York City Charter section 1301(1)(r) and 43 RCNY Chapter 9 (“Film Permits”); and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Mayor Bill de Blasio issued Emergency Executive Order No. 98, which continues to be in effect, declaring a state of emergency in New York City because of the COVID-19 outbreak, and authorizing all agency heads to “take all appropriate and necessary steps to preserve public safety and the health of their employees, and to render all required and available assistance to protect the security, well-being and health of the residents of the City”; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with such authority, Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment Commissioner Anne del Castillo issued Commissioner’s Directives Nos. 1-11 so that activities covered by a Film Permit did not pose a danger or a threat to participants, onlookers or the general public, did not interfere unreasonably with the operation of City functions, and could be reasonably accommodated in the proposed location; and

WHEREAS, as of June 15, 2021, while the transmission of COVID-19 and community spread of the coronavirus is still occurring in New York City, the daily reported new cases continue to trend downward or remain at low levels; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2021, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that certain New York State Department of Health industry guidance documents issued during the COVID-19
public health emergency, including the “Interim Guidance for Media Production During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency,” are no longer mandatory; and

WHEREAS, the State’s previous requirement that media production entities complete a New York State Department of Health COVID-19 Reopening Safety Plan is now optional; accordingly, Section 3 of Commissioner’s Directive No. 6 that Film Permit holders conspicuously post such plan at the location covered by the Film Permit, may be rescinded; and

WHEREAS, the NYC Department of Transportation’s Open Streets Program and Open Restaurants Programs continue to operate in streets; however, it is now permissible to rescind the restrictions set forth in subdivision (f) of Section 4 of Commissioner’s Directive No. 6;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby directed:

Section 1. Any provision of Commissioner’s Directive Nos. 1 to 11 that heretofore was still in effect, is now repealed.

§ 2. This Commissioner’s Directive No. 12 shall take effect immediately.

Anne del Castillo, Commissioner
Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment