



# Episode 5.1

## Unions & Scams

### Show Business

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to pursue acting as a career, it's not all auditions and agents. There's a reason it's called show business! From money to unions to contracts, this side of acting can be overwhelming if you're not prepared, so let's dive in deep and make sure you're in the know when it comes to the business component of your actor journey.

*"We want you to all be super prepared if you're planning to make acting a career, and not just a hobby that you're doing on the side for fun."  
- Chelsea*

### Unions

S \_\_\_\_\_ IN YOUR OWN WORDS, WHAT DOES SAG DO FOR YOU? \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_

G \_\_\_\_\_

### To join SAG you must first do what?

***E* \_\_\_\_\_ *E* \_\_\_\_\_!**

### You can do this in one of three ways:

A \_\_\_\_\_

F \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

1. Book a S \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_ on a Union project. This is called being Taft Hartley'd

R \_\_\_\_\_

2. Receive \_\_\_ V \_\_\_\_\_ from B \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_

3. Be affiliated with a S \_\_\_\_\_ U \_\_\_\_\_,  
like \_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_

E \_\_\_\_\_ WHAT KIND OF ACTING IS AEA FOR? \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_



**[DEFINITION] Taft-Hartley:** Occurs when a non-union actor performs in a role covered by the SAG-AFTRA collective bargaining agreement. Taft-Hartley paperwork is submitted by the production, not the actor.

NOTES

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WHAT SPECIAL SKILLS OR TRAITS DO YOU HAVE THAT COULD BE USEFUL IN GAINING SAG ELIGIBILITY? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*"If you have realistic expectations, you'll know what you might earn, you'll know what you should save, and you'll also protect yourself from being taken advantage of."  
- Abbie*



**[DEFINITION] Spec-ing:** Showing up to a set without being booked as background, in the hopes that a SAG background actor no-shows, allowing you to claim their yellow voucher.

**[DEFINITION] AD:** The Assistant Director on a production, who checks the background actors in.



**[TIP] Tell the World!** If you're a non-union actor who becomes SAG eligible, be sure to update your online profiles as well as the top of your resume, so anyone who sees it will know you can join the union!

**SAG Eligible = SAG-E for short!**

*Deciding whether or not to join SAG can be tough. List some negatives and positives of both options:*

NOTES

POSITIVES

NEGATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Joining SAG

### Staying Non-Union

POSITIVES

NEGATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*The Essentials Series*



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### Commissions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- SAG Franchised agents typically take a commission of \_\_\_\_%.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Managers typically take a commission \_\_\_\_% or \_\_\_\_%. This is normal!

*"We want you to know about the unions that you may be joining and understand them. We want you to know the details of the contracts you're signing and how much money you may be giving away when signing a contract."  
- Chelsea*

- Being represented "Across the Board" means: \_\_\_\_\_



**[TIP] Practice Good Faith!** Consider giving your rep their commission even on jobs they don't get for you. This can help engender a feeling of loyalty and teamwork.

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