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## **The New Mexico Film Office Announces “Graves” Returns to Film Second Season in New Mexico**

SANTA FE — New Mexico Film Office Director Nick Maniatis announced today that the television series “Graves,” a single-camera, half-hour political satire produced by Lionsgate for premium TV network EPIX®, will return to film its 10-episode second season in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Bernalillo and Santa Fe, starting this week through July.

Starring three-time Academy Award® nominee and Golden Globe® winner Nick Nolte (“A Walk in the Woods,” “The Thin Red Line”), Golden Globe® and two-time Emmy® Award-winning actress Sela Ward (“Gone Girl,” “Sisters”), Skylar Astin (“Pitch Perfect”), Heléne Yorke (“Masters of Sex”), Chris Lowell (“The Help”) and Callie Hernandez (“Alien: Covenant”), the production will employ at least 200 New Mexico crew members and approximately 2,500 local background talent.

After a year of highly public protests against his Presidential legacy, Season 2 finds former President Richard Graves turning inward in search of the man he used to be before he was President. This journey is compounded by the arrival of his first grandchild, thanks to daughter Olivia (Heléne Yorke) and a new revelation about his son, Jeremy (Chris Lowell). Graves’s journey coincides with wife Margaret’s (Sela Ward) Senate campaign, as the former First Lady attempts to build her own political legacy at the exact moment that her husband is tearing his down; and his assistant, Isaiah Miller’s (Skylar Astin) search for new direction after taking a bullet for the President in the Season 1 finale.

“Getting to season 2 is never easy - and when you get renewed your chances of continuing for multiple seasons increase exponentially. We like that... more seasons, more jobs, longer term economic impact,” said New Mexico Film Office Director Nick Maniatis.

“I welcome and am always excited about the economic benefits film and television bring to Rio Rancho and New Mexico and I very much look forward to having ‘Graves’ back in our wonderful city,” said Rio Rancho Mayor Gregg Hull.

“We’re very happy that ‘Graves’ has been ‘re-elected’ to a second season, and we welcome them back to the Santa Fe area -- where we appreciate shows about politics,” said Santa Fe County Manager Katherine Miller.

Produced by Lionsgate in association with Kingsgate Films, Josh Michael Stern (“Swing Vote,” “Jobs”) is the creator/showrunner, Academy Award® winner Greg Shapiro (“The Hurt Locker,” “Zero Dark Thirty”) and Rebecca Kirshner (“90210,” “Gilmore Girls”) are executive producers, Abby Gewanter (“Pushing Daisies”) is supervising producer, and Emmy® Award-winning Bill Hill (“Veep,” “Eastbound & Down”) and Jack Moore (“Dear White People,” “Crowded”) are producers.

In this EPIX Original Series, President Richard Graves (Nick Nolte), a former two-term POTUS, embarks on a Don Quixote-like quest to right the wrongs of his administration and reclaim his legacy 25 years after leaving the White House. With topics ranging from immigration to gay rights, to foreign policy to public funding for arts and sciences, Graves holds nothing sacred as he unspools some of his administration's proudest victories. His enlightenment takes place just as his wife Margaret Graves (Sela Ward) decides it's finally time for her to pursue her own political ambitions.

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Visit the New Mexico Film Office online at [nmfilm.com](http://nmfilm.com)

### **About EPIX**

EPIX, an MGM company, is a premium pay television network, delivering the latest movie releases and biggest classic film franchises, plus original programming including series, documentaries, comedy and music specials – all available on TV, on demand, online and across devices. Launched in October 2009, EPIX became profitable in its first year of existence and was the fastest growing premium network over the past five years. A pioneer in the development and proliferation of "TV Everywhere," EPIX was the first premium network to provide multi-platform access to its content online at [EPIX.com](http://EPIX.com) and to launch on Xbox, PlayStation®, Android phones and tablets, and Roku® players. EPIX is also available across hundreds of consumer devices including Apple TV, iPhone and iPad, TiVo, Chromecast, and Android TV, delivering more movies than any other network with thousands of titles available for streaming. The premium network is offered nationwide through cable, satellite, telco and digital distributors. For more information about EPIX, go to [www.EPIX.com](http://www.EPIX.com). Follow EPIX on Twitter @EPIXHD (<http://www.twitter.com/EPIXHD>) and on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/EPIX>), You Tube (<http://youtube.com/EPIX>), Instagram (<http://instagram.com/EPIX>) and Snapchat @EPIXTV.

### **ABOUT LIONSGATE**

Lionsgate (NYSE: LGF.A, LGF.B) is a vertically integrated next generation global content leader with a diversified presence in motion picture production and distribution, television programming and syndication, premium pay television networks, home entertainment, global distribution and sales, interactive ventures and games and location-based entertainment.

With the acquisition of Starz, Lionsgate adds to its portfolio of businesses the flagship STARZ premium pay network serving 24.3 million subscribers and the STARZ ENCORE platform with 31 million subscribers. The combined company will operate five over-the-top (OTT) streaming services and the STARZ app delivering content directly to consumers.

The Company's feature film business spans eight labels and includes the blockbuster *The Hunger Games* franchise, the *Now You See Me* series, the box office smash *La La Land*, which won six Academy

Awards®, the hit franchise sequel *John Wick: Chapter Two*, double Oscar winner *Hacksaw Ridge*, Tyler Perry's *Boo! A Madea Halloween*, *The Shack*, Saban's *Power Rangers*, CBS Films/Lionsgate's *Hell or High Water*, Roadside Attractions' critically-acclaimed *Manchester by the Sea*, Codeblack Films' breakout concert film *Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain* and Pantelion Films' *Instructions Not Included*, the highest-grossing Spanish-language film ever released in the U.S., and the recent breakout hit *How To Be A Latin Lover*.

One of the largest independent television businesses in the world, Lionsgate's slate of premium quality series encompasses nearly 90 shows on more than 40 different networks. These include the ground-breaking *Orange is the New Black*, the fan favorite *Nashville*, the syndication success *The Wendy Williams Show*, the hit drama *The Royals*, the acclaimed *Casual*, the breakout success *Greenleaf*, the network reality shows *Kicking & Screaming* and the eagerly-anticipated *Candy Crush*, and hit STARZ series including *Outlander*, *Black Sails*, *Survivor's Remorse* and *Power*, the second highest-rated premium pay television series of 2016.

Lionsgate's home entertainment business is an industry leader in box office-to-DVD and box office-to-VOD revenue conversion rates. Lionsgate handles a prestigious and prolific library of more than 16,000 motion picture and television titles that is an important source of recurring revenue and serves as a foundation for the growth of the Company's core businesses. The Lionsgate, Summit Entertainment and Starz brands are synonymous with original, daring, quality entertainment in markets around the world. [www.lionsgate.com](http://www.lionsgate.com)