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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 2, 2016

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New Mexico Film Office Announces Dark Comedy Series "Get Shorty" to Start Production in New Mexico

Dark Comedy Series from EPIX and MGM Television Stars Chris O'Dowd and Ray Romano Joined by Series Regulars Sean Bridgers, Lidia Porto, Megan Stevenson, Goya Robles, Lucy Walters, Carolyn Dodd

SANTA FE — New Mexico Film Office Director Nick Maniatis announced today that the EPIX original television series, "Get Shorty," produced by MGM Television, will begin principal photography through May 2017 in and around Albuquerque, NM and Los Angeles, CA.

"Albuquerque welcomes the TV series "Get Shorty" to our city," said Albuquerque's Mayor Richard Berry. "The film industry provides high-paying, creative jobs to our citizens, and many businesses are affected positively by the filming here in Albuquerque."

The production will employ approximately 289 New Mexico crew members and approximately 3,500 New Mexico background talent.

Screen Actors Guild Award® and BAFTA TV Award nominee Chris O'Dowd ("Girls," "St. Vincent," "Bridesmaids") and multiple Emmy® winner Ray Romano ("Vinyl," "Parenthood," "Everybody Loves Raymond") are set to star in the 10-episode one hour straight-to-series dark comedy inspired by Elmore Leonard's 1990 New York Times best-selling classic novel of the same name. Joining Romano and O'Dowd will be series regulars: Screen Actors Guild Award® nominee Sean Bridgers ("Rectify," "Room"); Lidia Porto ("Horrible Bosses 2"); Megan Stevenson ("Review"); Goya Robles ("11:55"); Lucy Walters ("Power"); Carolyn Dodd ("The Adventures of Catty Wompus").

Created and executive produced by Davey Holmes ("Shameless," "In Treatment," "Damages"), "Get Shorty" will be co-executive produced by Adam Arkin, who will also direct three episodes, and Emmy nominee Allen Coulter ("The Sopranos," "Damages"), who will direct and also executive produce the first episode.

"It's an incredible opportunity to partner with MGM on Elmore Leonard's timeless classic, which will be re-envisioned by Davey Holmes and directed by Allen Coulter," said Mark S. Greenberg, President and CEO, EPIX. "Ray and Chris are a dynamic team and with a strong supporting cast, we are anticipating that "Get Shorty" will be another example of the type of high-end, premium TV that EPIX is committed to delivering to its audience."

Steve Stark, President, MGM's Television Production & Development, added: "The marriage of Elmore Leonard's classic work with Davey Holmes's twisted comedic voice flips the classic Hollywood story on its head. Davey has created sharply-witted stories and characters that our audience is going to love."

"Elmore Leonard's work was formative for me, and the world of 'Get Shorty' felt ready for a reinvention, while staying true to the creative spirit of the book," said Davey Holmes. "Leonard had a fantastic ability to illuminate thuggish characters and find not only menace, but also comedy that springs from their humanity. It's a story about murderous tough guys with wistful dreams and fragile egos. Our lead character is an outsider, doesn't come from Hollywood. We are delighted to be shooting in New Mexico."

O'Dowd is set to play "Miles," a hitman from Nevada who tries to become a movie producer in Hollywood as a means to leave his criminal past behind. Romano is set for the role of "Rick," a washed up producer of low quality films who becomes Miles' partner and guide through the maze of Hollywood. Bridgers will play Miles' partner within the organization, "Louis". Porto will portray "Amara," the godmother of a Nevada crime ring. Stevenson is set for the role of "April," an attractive and ambitious studio executive. Robles will portray "Yago," Amara's dangerous nephew. Walters will play "Katie," Miles' wife from whom he is separated. Dodd will play Miles and Katie's 12-year-old daughter "Emma."

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