# AGREEMENT BETWEEN

# The MCCLATCHY COMPANY, LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE

("Company" or "Publisher")

# **AND**

# PACIFIC MEDIA WORKERS GUILD, LOCAL 39521, THE NEWSPAPER GUILD-CWA ("Guild")

# **PREAMBLE**

This Agreement entered into this July 14, 2022, between The McClatchy Company LLC, a corporation, Publisher of THE FRESNO BEE, hereafter referred to as the "Publisher" or the "Company," and the PACIFIC MEDIA WORKERS GUILD, LOCAL 39521, THE NEWSPAPER GUILD-CWA hereinafter referred to as the Guild, for itself and on behalf of all covered employees of the Publisher in the Editorial Department of The Fresno Bee.

# SECTION 1 – JURISDICTION AND RECOGNITION

1.1 The Guild's jurisdiction is recognized as applying to the kind of work presently performed, or by established practice performed, by the employees in the unit covered by this Agreement, and any work which may supplant or substitute for such work presently performed. Any work or equipment which supplants the foregoing shall be assigned to employees covered by this Agreement.

#### RECOGNITION

- 1.2 The Publisher recognizes the Guild as the exclusive bargaining representative with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment of all full-time, part-time and on-call editorial employees employed by the Publisher, excluding the Executive Editor, Managing Editor, Online Editor, Assistant Managing Editors (2), Editor of the Editorial Page, Associate Editors (2), Senior Content Editor, Assistant Metro Editors (5), Content Editor, News Editor, Assistant News Editors (2), Feature Editor, Assistant Feature Editors (3), Social Media Editor, Audience Editor, Assistant Sports Editor, Design Editor, Picture Editors (2), Photo Editor, Systems Editor, Assistant to the Vice President, Administrative Assistant and Confidential Secretary.
  - (a) Upon forty-five (45) days notice to the Guild, any of the exclusions listed above which are or become vacant may be revised or retitled to cover a different position. The filling of any such new excluded position must be dictated by business needs and any such new excluded position must fall within the definition of a supervisorial or managerial position under the National Labor Relations Act.

## SUBCONTRACTING - ASSIGNMENT OF WORK

- 1.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 1.1 above or any of the other provisions of this Agreement, the Company may do the following:
  - (a) There shall be no limitation on the Company's right to use non-bargaining unit

employees and employees of other entities owned by McClatchy to perform editorial production work which includes the functions of design, layout, copy editing and pagination. Any full-time employee who is laid off as a result of the Company's exercise of its rights set forth in the foregoing section shall be entitled to the following:

- (1) If the laid off employee's work is sent to another McClatchy entity and that entity has an open position in Editorial Production, at the time of the work transfer, the employee shall have the right to interview for the open position.
- (b) In addition to its rights under paragraph (a) above, the Company shall have the following rights:
  - (1) The Company may use specialists from outside the bargaining unit for periodic columns or commentaries or assign work on non-news copy to subcontractors.
  - (2) Editorial employees of the Company who are not covered by this

Agreement may perform work which is covered by Section 1.1 of the Agreement, provided that the performance of such work is consistent with past practice.

- (3) The Company may utilize stringers and freelancers to perform work which is covered under Section 1.1 of the Agreement, provided that the performance of such work is consistent with past practice.
- (c) In addition to assigning bargaining unit employees to produce work product for the Fresno Bee, the Company may assign any non bargaining unit work to bargaining unit employees.
- (d) Nothing in this Section 1.3 shall change the jurisdiction and description of the bargaining unit for collective bargaining purposes.
- 1.4 Employees covered by this Agreement shall have the right to belong or to not belong to the Guild and the right to pay or to not pay dues and/or fees to the Guild if they are not members.
- Any employee who is, or voluntarily becomes, a Guild member during the term of this Agreement shall remain a member thereafter during the term of this Agreement, except as provided in the following sentence: All employees covered by this Agreement shall have the option to withdraw from the Guild without penalty or recourse and cease paying any dues and/or fees during the first full month after signing the Agreement and during the month of December of each year thereafter. (a) For the purpose of this Agreement, resignation from Guild membership shall be defined to mean written notification advising the Guild that the employee is resigning from Guild membership. Failure to do so shall mean continuation of membership. The employee may submit a copy of their said resignation to the Publisher.

# SECTION 2 – PART-TIME, TEMPORARY AND ON-CALL EMPLOYEES

- 2.1 (a) Part-time, temporary employees and on-call employees will not be hired where the result is the layoff of a full-time employee who was employed on July 8, 2011.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Section 2.1(a), the Company may during the term of this Agreement, replace up to three (3) full-time employees who were employed as of July 8, 2011 with part-time employees, with four weeks advance written notice to The Guild and affected employees. Any part-time position created as a result of the foregoing replacement shall be for at least 20 hours

per week. Any full-time employee so replaced shall have the option either to fill the new part-time position or be laid off with the severance benefits set forth in Section 7 of this Agreement. (c) Prior to involuntarily replacing any full-time employees pursuant to 2.1(b), the Company shall first request volunteers. Whether or not to accept any volunteer is at the Company's discretion. Any volunteer whom the Company accepts shall count toward the three replacements allowed by 2.1(b).

(d) If an employee initiates a request to be converted from full-time to part-time, and the Company grants the request, such a conversion shall not count toward the three replacements allowed by 2.1(b).

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.2 The Publisher shall have the right to hire employees in the following classes of employment within the bargaining unit:
  - (a) Full-time employee A full-time employee is one who is regularly hired to work the regular work week provided for in Section 6 of this Agreement.
  - (b) Part-time employee A part-time employee is one who is hired and scheduled to work less than the normal work week provided for in Section 6.
  - (c) Temporary employee A temporary employee is an employee either full- or part time for a special project or for a specified time, or hired to substitute for one or more absent employees, such employment not to exceed four (4) months (which time limit may be extended by mutual agreement between the Publisher, The Guild and employee). An employee who is hired to substitute for a particular employee absent on leave hereunder, may continue for the duration of the leave.
  - (d) On-call employee An on-call employee is a part-time employee who is hired on a fill-in basis as work dictates, and except in substitution situations is not regularly scheduled to work. The Publisher is not required to hire an on-call employee for any minimum amount of hours. The on-call employee may accept or reject work opportunities as they please.
- 2.3 All of the above classes of employees within the bargaining unit are covered by all provisions of this Agreement except as otherwise expressly provided in this or other sections of the Agreement.
- **2.4** For all part-time employees, whether regular, temporary or on-call, the number of hours worked each week is at the sole discretion of the Publisher.

#### PART-TIME, TEMPORARY AND ON-CALL BENEFITS

2.5 Part-time, temporary and on-call employees shall be exempt from sections 6.1(a) (Four Day Week); 6.1(b) (Flex Time); 6.3 (Days Off); 6.4 (Personal Time Off); 6.8 (Work Schedule Posting, except that no part-time employee will be required to work a seventh day at straight time); 6.10 (Sunday Work); 6.11 (Holidays, except that part-time employees shall be paid time-and-one-half for hours actually worked on a holiday); 8 (Vacations); 13.3 (Rehire from Layoffs); 13.4 (Reductions in Force); 13.5 (Layoff Notice); 14.2 (Sabbatical Leave); 14.3 (Leave for Guild Office); and 20.4 (Transfers); -.

# **STUDENT JOBS**

**2.6** (a) The Guild and the Publisher agree that the Publisher may employ up to six (6) employees in "student jobs" -. Such employees will be covered by all terms of the

Agreement. These positions shall be limited to individuals who are students in good standing and whose performance is satisfactory to the Publisher.

- (b) Within one (1) month of the student writer's anticipated graduation date, the employee shall request a meeting with the Publisher to discuss opportunities to move into a position within the newsroom. The request for said meeting shall not be denied.
- (c) At its discretion, the Company may continue the employment of an employee in a student job for up to three (3) months after the employee is no longer a student. The Guild shall be provided with notification of any such continuation. At the end of this three-month student job continuation, based on the student's job performance, the Publisher at its discretion may promote the employee to an internship or to a regular class one position. This job offer can be full time, part-time or on-call, at the discretion of the Publisher.
- (d) An employee who moves from a student writer position to a regular class one position shall receive experience rating credit for total regular hours worked as a student writer or intern.
- 2.7 The Guild and the Publisher agree that the Publisher may employ part-time employees, known as prep writers, in the Sports Department. Prep writers may be employed on or before the start of the school year and will terminate on or after the date of the close of the school year.
- **2.8** The rate of pay for an internship and the student jobs set forth in Section 2.6 shall be determined by the CBA.
  - Employees in the student jobs set forth above may be dismissed with or without cause. Any such dismissal shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 9 of this Agreement nor shall the requirements of Section 13.5 and 13.8 of this Agreement apply to such dismissal.
- 2.9 For employees that are promoted from a student writer position to an Internship role, it is agreed that the duration of Internship will be a maximum of twelve (12) weeks. The specifics of the internship shall be determined by the Publisher and shall be dependent upon the training needs of the individual employee. At the start of the internship period, the Company shall provide in writing to the employee all expectations, goals, standards, and areas of improvement. The employee and their manager shall meet on a regular basis to assess progress. It is understood this provision does not apply to employees hired directly into our traditional internship program.
- **2.10** It is agreed that the time an employee spends in the student writer 3-month extension, described in 2.6, and/or time spent once promoted to the internship role described in 2.9, shall count towards the employee's 6-month probationary period as described in 13.2.

# **SECTION 3 – GENERAL**

- 3.1 The Publisher shall classify employees as to job titles and experience rating at the time of employment, transfer or promotion.
- 3.2 As soon as possible, and in any event within two weeks after the employee begins work at the Company, the Publisher shall furnish the Guild in writing the following

information for each employee:

- (1) Name, address, personal phone number, birth date, gender, race and Employee ID number.
- (2) Date of hire or transfer
- (3) Contract classification, status (p/t, temporary or on-call)
- (4) Job title and experience rating
- (5) Job performance evaluation date
- (6) Salary
- (7) Place of work if not in main plant.
- 3.3 The Publisher shall notify the Guild in each case of the termination of an employee covered by this Agreement as soon as possible and in any event within one week of termination.
- 3.4 The Publisher shall notify the Guild in writing of any change in classification or Job status other than changes resulting from operation of this Agreement.
- 3.5 The Publisher shall supply the Guild on request, but not more than twice a year, with a list containing the information listed in Section 3.2 for employees covered by this contract.
- 3.6 If the Guild requests any additional lists for other than bargaining purposes, the Guild will assume the administrative costs necessary to compile such information.

#### EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS

3.7 Before new employees are hired for regular full-time positions covered by this Agreement, the Publisher agrees to give consideration to present employees who possess the necessary qualifications for the position to be filled and in accordance with the Publisher's employment practices in the Editorial Department. Particular consideration also will be given to the opportunities for employees in lower classifications to substitute in higher classifications during vacation absences where possible. No employee in any way shall be penalized for refusing to accept a promotion. Employees promoted to regular full-time positions shall be given a trial period of three (3) months. The Publisher shall have the option to extend the trial period for an additional three (3) months. During such trial period, the employee shall receive at least the minimum rate of pay for the higher classification. During such trial period, the Publisher will appraise the employee's performance and determine if the employee passes or fails the trial. If, at any time during the trial period, the Publisher determines the employee is failing the trial, or if the employee determines they are failing the trial, the Publisher will return the employee to their previous position and adjust their pay to what they were paid in that previous position. If the employee is judged to be competent in the new position, the trial period shall be included for all purposes in determining the length of service in the classification to which they are advanced.

#### **JOB POSTING**

**3.8** The Publisher shall electronically post open positions for at least seven (7) calendar days, and give consideration to current employees for promotions and/or lateral transfers prior to making a selection.

#### DIVERSITY HIRING OUTREACH

- 3.9 (a) The Employer adheres to and supports a hiring policy which affords equal opportunity to qualified individuals regardless of their race, creed, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity, religion, marital status, parental status, family care status, citizenship, sexual orientation, medical condition, physical disability, mental condition, veteran status, or ancestry, or any other characteristic protected by local, state or federal law. The Employer will consider qualified applicants referred by the Guild.
  - (b) In seeking job applicants, the Employer will continue to make significant efforts to recruit broadly and to foster a diverse applicant pool. The Employer will furnish job vacancy postings that have been approved to be filled to representatives of the following organizations (and additional organizations the parties may agree to) and the application system will ask applicants to note where they saw the job posting, via the email addresses specified below, but is not obligated to advertise or pay a job board listing fee:
  - · National Association of Hispanic Journalists (info@nahjcareers.org);
  - · National Association of Black Journalists (info@nabj.org);
  - · Native American Journalists Association (contact@naja.com);
  - · Asian American Journalists Association (national@aaja.org);
  - · National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (info@nlgja.org);
  - · Association for Women Journalists; Journalism and Women

Symposium (support@jaws.org) International Women's Media Foundation (info@iwmf.org)

- · Trans Journalists Association (transjournalistsassociation@gmail.com)
- · National Center on Disability and Journalism (cronkiteinfo@asu.edu)
- · Designated historically Black colleges and universities

The Guild will share other outlets and organizations for the Employer to consider in promulgating its job postings.

(c) The Employer will provide reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with disabilities in compliance with all local, state and federal laws.

#### **JOB CLASSIFICATIONS - NEW**

3.10 Should the Publisher create a new job classification, it shall establish a salary for the classification and furnish the Guild with a job description. No later than forty-five (45) days thereafter, the Guild may request that the parties meet for the purpose of negotiating a new salary for said classification. Pending the completion of these negotiations, the Company may implement its proposed salary for the new job classification.

# **SECTION 4 – SALARY DIFFERENTIALS**

4.1 Any employee who is assigned to perform the work of an Editor's role, for fifty percent

(50%) or more of a shift on a regular day off, temporary absence or vacation of the person regularly holding such positions shall receive a differential of \$15.00 in addition to their regular salary. The payment of a differential to any employee under this section shall not affect any compensation received by such employee while so substituting. This section shall not apply to learners, interns, summer replacements nor to persons who have not had at least thirty (30) days of experience in such position.

# DIFFERENTIAL FOR NIGHT WORK

- 4.2 Any employee working a shift beginning or ending between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. shall receive a differential of \$10.00.
- 4.3 Any bargaining-unit employee proficient in a foreign language and who the Publisher regularly requires to provide that foreign language for translation and interpretation services as part of the job responsibilities shall receive a weekly differential of \$25.00 each pay period in addition to their regular salary. The employer may require employees to have their language skills tested before receiving the differential.

Certifications may be obtained from any of the following: American Translators Association, or Other translation certification the Company designates

# **SECTION 5 – SALARIES**

#### PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

- **5.1** Employees covered by this Agreement who have completed the equivalent of one year of continuous full-time employment with the Publisher shall receive annual job performance reviews on the Company's focal point review date.
  - (a) All part-time employees shall receive at least one performance review per calendar year during the term of this Agreement.
  - (b) On-call employees who work a minimum of 750 hours per year also shall receive one performance review per calendar year during the term of this Agreement.
  - (c) Performance will be reviewed, and employees shall receive at least the following minimum percentage of the agreed upon merit pool based upon their current weekly base rate and job performance reviews:

	Weekly base	Weekly base	Weekly base
Class 1- 3	<\$1,050	\$1,050 - \$1,250	>\$1,250
Class 4	<\$1,312	\$1,312 - \$1,700	>\$1,701

Rating	% of merit pool	% of merit pool	% of merit pool
Distinguished	150%	125%	100%
Exceeds	125%	100%	75%

Meets	100%	67%	50%
Partially Meets	75%	50%	25%
Did not meet	0%	0%	0%

- (d) The merit increase pool effective February 28, 2022 shall be 3.0%. It is agreed that there is no requirement that there be money put in the merit increase pool in any year beyond 2022, besides what is described in 5.2(e).
- (e) It is agreed that the merit pool percentage effective March 1, 2023 and March 1, 2024 shall be 2%. It is also agreed that should the Company merit pool in 2023 or 2024 be more than 2%, that the Guild's merit pool percentage shall be increased to that same percentage.
- (f) If there are monies put in the merit increase pool in a given year, the average percentage increase of those employees eligible to be considered for a merit pay increase in that year shall be at least 75% of the merit increase pool percentage for that year.
- (g) The following provisions of Section 5 shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 9 (Settlement of Disputes of the Agreement); 5.1(d), 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.8, 5.11 and 5.12.
- 5.2 Merit increases shall be granted based upon job performance and shall go into effect on or before the effective date of the annual merit pool.
- 5.3 Any employee who receives a Job Performance Review may, within three weeks, appeal their performance review and/or salary increase determination.
  - (a) The employee shall first take their appeal in writing to their immediate supervisor.
  - (b) Should the immediate supervisor fail to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the employee within one week thereafter, the employee may appeal to the Executive Editor or their designee. The decision of the Executive Editor shall be final.
  - (c) Upon the request of the employee, the Guild may participate with the employee in the appeal process.
- 5.4 Any employee who does not receive a salary increase as a result of their annual Job Performance Review shall, upon request, be re-evaluated within three (3) months of their annual review or resolution of the appeal, whichever occurs later. This interim review shall be subject to the appeal process of Section 5.3 and its delivery date including salary increase, if any.
- **5.5** (a) Salary increases granted pursuant to this Section 5 shall be in addition to the employee's base weekly or hourly rate.

- (b) The term "base weekly salary" is understood to mean straight-time salary paid and does not include any overtime, differentials, allowances or other pay provided elsewhere.
- (c) Notwithstanding 5.5(a) above, the Publisher may elect to pay merit increases, if any, in a lump sum to an employee who transfers from an exempt position, outlined in Section 1.2, into the bargaining unit. Said "red circled" employees will be eligible for

their merit increase, if any, to be added to their base pay, when their base weekly salary falls below 120 percent of the median base salary within the applicable classification.

- 5.6 There shall be no reduction in the base weekly salary of any employee covered by this Agreement except as provided in this Section 5 and in Section 3.
  - (a) It is understood that the application of this provision shall provide that upon the request of the Publisher and with the consent of the employee, an employee may be transferred to any lower-paying job as specified in this Agreement. Under such circumstances the employee shall retain their salary at the time of transfer. If an employee requests to be transferred to a lower-paying job or their previously held job, and the Publisher agrees, the employee's salary at the time of transfer may be retained at the Publisher's option.
  - (b) In the event the Publisher demotes an employee to a lower-paying job for disciplinary reasons, the employee's salary shall be reduced to no less than the applicable salary (based on experience) for the lower-rated job. Such demotions must be made for just and sufficient cause.

### **CLASSIFICATIONS**

5.7 Employees covered by this Agreement shall be assigned to the following classifications and shall be paid no less than the minimum base salary established herein for their classification effective as of the beginning of the first pay period, following the ratification of the contract:

# Weekly minimum salaries

Class	Description	Beginning	Experienced
1	Reporters, Copy Editors, Desk Persons, Photographers, Artists, IM Content Producers, IM Programmers	\$21.63/ hour \$811.12 /week	\$26.00 /hour \$975 /week (after six years)
2	Photo Techs, Info Aides, Receptionists, Agate Clerks, IM Content Coordinator, News Aides -	\$19.00/hour	NA

3	Interns and Student Writers	\$16.00/ hour	NA
4	Columnist and Senior Writers (exempt)	\$33.07/ hour \$1,322.80/week	N/A

- 5.8 Newspaper, news or feature syndicate, press association, recognized news magazine or other relevant magazine experience and experience in other related fields shall be given first consideration in establishing starting pay levels for employees covered by this Agreement who write or edit news. In respect to establishing the starting pay level for photographers and artists, first consideration will be given to all regular employment on a newspaper, recognized news magazine or corresponding experience in comparable business or in another business in which they perform work similar in character to that required by the Publisher.
  - (a) Experience level for employees in Classification No. 1 shall be determined by the Publisher at the time of hire. Generally, full credit will be given for daily newspaper publications; half credit for weekly paid circulation newspaper publications; and a quarter credit for an internship or for a school year of service on a college or university newspaper.
  - (b) Experience levels for applicable employees that are covered by this Agreement who are on payroll as of the effective date of the Agreement shall be determined by the Executive Editor based on total regular hours worked in Classification No. 1 and information provided on the employee's employment application.
  - (c) Subsequent credit for experience shall be based upon total regular hours worked in Classification No. 1 and will only be granted for periods in which the employee has received a performance rating of acceptable or higher.
  - (d) Employees described in 5.8(b) may appeal their experience-level rating in writing to the Executive Editor. The decision of the Executive Editor shall be final.
- 5.9 Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent employees from bargaining individually for salary increases. Any salary increases granted pursuant to this provision shall be added to employee's then current base salary, and the sum shall be that employee's new base salary.
- 5.10 Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent the Publisher from conducting job performance reviews and/or granting merit increases on a more frequent basis than is outlined in this Agreement. Any salary increases granted pursuant to this provision shall be added to the employee's then current base weekly salary, and the sum shall be that employee's new base weekly salary. The Company's decision to award, or not to award any additional merit increases or bonuses to individual employees beyond those dictated by Section 5.1(d) and 5.1(e) above, in whatever amounts, shall not be subject to grievance, arbitration or bargaining with the Guild.

- 5.11 It is understood that the wages of employees covered by this Agreement may be subject to freezes, delays or reduction of planned increases if non-bargaining unit employees and Management of the Company also experience any of these wage control actions due to economic reasons. It is understood that these wage actions will be at no greater magnitude than those experienced by non-bargaining unit employees and Management of the Company. The Company agrees to give the Guild at least thirty (30) days notice of the wage action to allow Guild and Company representatives to meet to discuss alternative solutions. The Publisher will make the final decision and has the sole authority to determine whether or not economic reasons exist.
- 5.12 The Guild shall have the right to verify any freeze, delay or reduction of planned increases through a mutually agreed upon independent auditor who will be allowed access to payroll records. It is understood that the independent auditor will only have access to Company payroll records.
- **5.13** Within one month of the payment of a merit increase, the Company will furnish the Guild with the name, classification, previous salary, merit increase and new salary of the eligible bargaining unit employee.
- 5.14 It is understood and agreed that columnist shall be exempt from sections: 4.1 Salary differentials for filling in for an Editor, ; 4.2 Night Differential; 6.1 Work week; 6.2 Work Day; 6.3 Days off; 6.4 Personal time off; 6.5 Overtime, comp time; 6.6 Callback; 6.7 Overtime record; 6.8 Work schedule posting and 6.9 Turnaround time.
- 5.15 A columnist shall have the right to remain in classification 1 or to return to that classification at any time. If the Publisher transfers a columnist to classification 1 for any other reasons, the employee shall retain his or her columnist salary at the time of said transfer. If a columnist who was previously in classification 1 requests to return to that classification, his or her salary shall be recalculated to apply all merit increases earned as a columnist to the employee's previous base pay in classification 1 or to the applicable contract minimum, whichever is higher, using the percentage applicable to classification 1 at the time the increases were earned.

# **SECTION 6 – HOURS**

#### WORK WEEK, FOUR-DAY WEEK, FLEX TIME

- 6.1 The five-day, 37½ hour schedule shall be the normal work week for full-time employees.
  - (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, by mutual agreement between the Publisher and the employee, any employee may be scheduled to work a four day week consisting of the applicable total weekly hours specified in Section 6.1. The Publisher should notify the Guild within seven calendar days of any such agreement. Section 6.2 shall not apply to employees who work a four-day week.
  - (b) By mutual agreement between the Publisher and the employee, regular full-time employees may work a 37½-hour fluctuating workweek. The Publisher will notify the Guild of any such employee who works a fluctuating work week. Nothing in the above
  - prohibits employees from returning to a normal work week upon four weeks (28 calendar days) notification to the Publisher.

6.2 Seven and one-half (7½) hours within eight and one-half (8½) consecutive hours shall constitute a day's straight time work. An unpaid meal break of at least 30 minutes will be granted and must be taken no later than five (5) hours after the start of every shift longer than six hours. If the shift is to be completed in six hours, the employee may voluntarily waive the meal break provided that the employee receives prior management approval.

# **DAYS OFF**

6.3 Days off shall be consecutive insofar as practicable which considers the efficiency of the department.

#### PERSONAL TIME OFF

6.4 If an employee is allowed time off during a regular work day to handle personal matters, the Publisher may require that this time be made up within the same week, but not on the employee's day off. If an employee requests and receives a day off, other than their regular day off, they shall make up such time by working a day assigned by the Publisher. The Publisher may not assign a day which would work a hardship on the employee. Agreement to any change for personal reasons is at the option of the Publisher, who shall not be penalized in terms of overtime, differentials, premiums or in any other form, for such agreement.

#### **OVERTIME, COMP TIME**

- 6.5 The Publisher shall have the right to compensate for all overtime at the rate of time and one half. Overtime shall be defined as any hours actually worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or in excess of forty (40) hours in a work week. Until the Company implements the preceding sentence, overtime shall be defined as work beyond the unit of hours in the work day or work week.
  - (a) In lieu of overtime, the Publisher may provide compensatory time off provided that the affected employee opts for compensatory time off. Compensatory time off shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half. Compensatory time off shall be taken within the same workweek as the overtime was worked.

#### **CALLBACK**

An employee required to return to work after the regular work day shall be paid for the time worked, but not less than two (2) hours plus time traveled to and from work, all at the overtime rate. Full-time employees called in to work on their days off shall not be called for less than a full shift at the overtime rate, provided employees called in to work on their days off because of illness on the staff shall not be called for less than two-thirds (2/3) of a shift, at the overtime rate.

#### **OVERTIME RECORD**

6.7 The Publisher shall cause a record of all overtime to be kept. Employees shall report all time worked on a daily basis and shall report all overtime worked within each payroll period. Such record shall be made available to the Guild in case of a dispute.

#### WORK SCHEDULE POSTING

- 6.8 Work schedules shall be posted one week in advance of the week for which they apply, and any work performed at hours not scheduled shall be considered overtime except as provided in this Section 6.8. In the case of illness, unanticipated jury duty, failure to report, or dismissal of an employee, another employee may have their starting time adjusted to cover the absence without payment of overtime. In addition, the work schedule for any employee may change at anytime without payment of overtime if the change is necessary to adjust for developments beyond the control of the Employer.
  - (a) An employee in any department may have the starting time for one shift a week changed prior to the conclusion of their current shift for the purpose of ensuring coverage of a major breaking news story or an unforeseen news event.
  - (b) Starting times also may be changed for an employee on an out-of-town assignment provided the employee is notified of such a schedule change prior to the conclusion of their current shift.
  - (c) Should use of the second paragraph of Section 6.8 exceed more than an average of once a week over a period of three months, the parties will discuss the matter at Guild request.

# **TURNAROUND TIME**

6.9 That part of a shift worked within any period less than twelve (12) hours after the completion of the preceding regular shift shall be paid for at the overtime rate of time and one-half or with compensatory time off in accordance with Section 6.5 of the Agreement. An employee may request to waive the provisions of this Section twice a week.

#### **SUNDAY WORK**

**6.10** Full-time employees scheduled to work on Sunday as one of their regular shifts in the five (5) day work week, shall receive two (2) consecutive days off or shall have the option of split days off, consistent with operational conditions.

#### **HOLIDAYS**

- **6.11** (a) Each calendar year, the Publisher shall give regular full-time employees time off with pay for the following holidays:
  - 1) New Year's Day
  - 2) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
  - 3) Presidents Day
  - 4) Memorial Day
  - 5) Juneteenth
  - 6) Independence Day
  - 7) Labor Day
  - 8) Thanksgiving
  - 9) Christmas Day
  - 10) The employee's choice of a day during the calendar month of the Employee's birthday.
  - 11) A 'Diversity Day,' to be named by the employee and approved by the Employer.

- (b) Any employee who elects or is required to work on any of these days, or the day it's observed shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half for all hours worked, unless employee and the supervisor mutually agree to substitute the holiday for another scheduled workday (to be paid at regular time). With the exception of staff who normally work on weekends, when a holiday falls on a Saturday, it will be observed on the preceding Friday. When the holiday falls on a Sunday, it will be observed on the following Monday. Employees who work five days during a holiday week, but not the holiday, shall receive one day of compensatory time on a mutually agreed to substitute date, (to be paid at regular time)
- (c) No employee shall be forced to work both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, or News Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The Publisher will make every effort to spread Christmas and New Year's holiday and eve work assignments when volunteers cannot be found. The Publisher will make every effort to ensure an employee will not be required to work more than one shift of the four discussed in this paragraph.
- 6.12 The Publisher upon ninety (90) days notice to the Guild may change to a weekly or bi weekly pay cycle. The Publisher will not make more than one pay-cycle change during the life of this Agreement.
- 6.13 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this agreement, the calculation of overtime (including double-time) shall be in accordance with all applicable laws.
- 6.14 (a) There shall be a senior writer classification. Effective upon the signing of the Agreement the Publisher may designate up to (2) senior writers. Effective January 1, 2015, the Publisher may designate a third senior writer. Senior Writers will be exempt from the following Sections of this Agreement: 4.1 Salary differentials for filling in for an Editor; 4.2 Night Differential, 6.1 Work week; 6.2 Work Day; 6.3 Days Off; 6.4 Personal time off; 6.5 Overtime, Comp time; 6.6 Callback; 6.7 Overtime record; 6.8 Work schedule posting and 6.9 Turnaround time. Senior writers shall be covered by the other sections of this Agreement. At the time of designation, the Publisher shall inform the designated employee of the salary which the employee will receive if the employee accepts the designation which salary shall be at least the minimum for a Senior Writer set forth in Section 5.7.
  - (b) The Guild shall be notified within ten working days of all such designations and the withdrawal of any such designations.
  - (c) Employees shall have the right to refuse such designations as senior writer.
  - (d) Upon thirty (30) days notice, the Publisher may withdraw an employee's designation as a senior writer. Further, upon thirty (30) days notice, an employee may opt to be removed from the senior writer classification.
  - (e) In the event the designation of an employee to senior writer is subsequently withdrawn by the Publisher, or the employee opts to be removed from the senior writer position, the employee shall be returned to the employee's former classification and there shall be no reduction in pay (such salary shall be red-circled and absorbed by subsequent pay increases). Any employee red-circled pursuant to this paragraph will be eligible for a merit increase, if any, when their weekly base salary falls below one hundred twenty five percent (125%) of the salary range midpoint within the applicable classification.
- 6.15 To fill weekend and holiday shifts, the Employer shall continue its rotating schedule for employees not consistently scheduled to work Saturday, Sunday or holidays. The Employer shall rotate such work evenly among employees deemed capable of covering a weekend or holiday shift. Every effort shall be made to ensure such tentative weekend/

holiday shift schedules will be set at least one (1) month in advance. It is understood that this tentative weekend/ holiday schedule is subject to change based upon major news events, illness and approved time off requests.

# **SECTION 7 – SEVERANCE PAY**

- 7.1 (a) Severance pay shall be paid to regular full-time employees on a bi-weekly basis in amounts totaling a full severance amount equal to two (2) weeks' pay for every year of full-time equivalent service (prorated for fractional years of service, up to a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks. An employee shall receive no fewer than four (4) weeks of severance pay, regardless of years of service., Such pay to be computed at the employee's current rate of base pay, excluding overtime, shift or job differential or any other premium or additional compensation.
  - (b) Severance pay shall be paid to part-time employees on a bi-weekly basis in amounts totaling a full severance amount equal to one (1) week's pay for every year of full-time equivalent service (prorated for fractional years of service) up to a maximum of four (4) weeks. An employee shall receive no fewer than two (2) weeks of severance pay, regardless of years of service. Such pay shall be computed at the employee's current rate of base pay, excluding overtime, shift or job differentials or any other premium or additional compensation.
  - (c) It is understood that these payments shall discontinue should the employee be rehired by McClatchy during the severance payment period.

#### SEVERANCE FOR DISCHARGES

**7.2** Severance pay need not be paid an employee discharged for just and sufficient cause or self-provoked discharge for the purpose of collecting severance pay, or to an employee who is retired from the Company, deceased or leaves of their own volition. The payment of severance in any of the above cases shall be optional with the Publisher.

#### **SEVERANCE PAY-TAXES**

7.3 From severance pay the Publisher may deduct any levy or tax to which the employee is subject under state or federal legislation.

#### SEVERANCE FOR RE-EMPLOYEES

**7.4** A person re-employed who has received severance pay becomes a new employee of the Publisher as regards severance pay.

#### **SECTION 8 - VACATIONS**

**8.1** (a) Regular full-time employees shall be entitled to an annual vacation with pay of three (3) weeks after a minimum of one (1) year of service.

Regular full-time employees who are eligible for vacation pursuant to Section 8.1(a) above shall accrue vacation at the rate of 2.17 hours per full straight-time week worked to an annual maximum of 112.50 hours.

(b) Regular full-time employees shall be entitled to four (4) weeks vacation after five (5) years of service.

Regular full-time employees who are eligible for vacation pursuant to Section 8.1(b) above shall accrue vacation at the rate of 2.89 hours per full straight-time week worked to an annual maximum of 150 hours.

#### VACATION ACCRUAL AND SCHEDULING

- Vacation credit shall begin with the date of employment. The Publisher shall arrange vacations in the editorial department in accordance with the needs of the office. Seniority shall apply during the initial sign-up only, which shall be during the month of November. No employee can link more than two holidays to a vacation without the approval of the department head. With the consent of the employee and the Publisher, the vacation may be split. Seniority notwithstanding, each employee shall have the right to take vacation during the summer school vacation period on a rotating basis, with preference going to those who have waited longest, and consistent with the operating needs of the department as determined by the Publisher. Seniority notwithstanding, each employee shall have the right to take one week's vacation during the public-school Christmas or Easter vacation periods on a rotating basis, with preference going to those who have waited longest, and consistent with the operating needs of the department as determined by the Publisher. However, no employee will be bumped by a person with lesser seniority against their preference from Easter or Christmas more than two consecutive years.
  - (a) Employees are strongly encouraged to take all their accrued vacation each year. The Company reserves the right to manage and mandate vacation usage and require its employees to use all accrued vacation. Included in this right is the Company's right to schedule vacation for employees whom it is requiring to take vacation. If the Company mandates vacation usage for bargaining unit employees, it shall do so on the same basis as it mandates vacation usage for non-bargaining unit employees. The Company shall notify the Guild in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of any mandating of vacation usage for bargaining unit employees. Even if the Company does not require an employee to take all their accrued vacation in a particular year, the maximum amount of vacation which an employee may accrue is one week over the employee's annual entitlement. An employee shall not earn vacation during the time the employee has the maximum vacation amount accrued.
  - (b) Employees may also take up to one week per year beyond their accrued vacation time. It is understood that this would result in a negative vacation balance, creating a payment advance for the employees. It is agreed that if an employee has a negative vacation balance at the time of their termination, the amount advanced by the Company to the employee, is subject to recovery from their final paycheck with written authorization from the employee.
  - (c) There shall be no advance payment for vacation time.
  - (d) Vacation is accrued on straight-time pay. No vacation is accrued during extended disability or long-term disability.

# **VACATION PAY DURING HOLIDAY WEEK**

8.3 An employee whose vacation period includes one of the designated holidays shall receive an additional day off, the date of which shall be set by mutual agreement between the employee and the Publisher. Should such agreement not be reached, the day shall be

added to the employee's vacation.

#### VACATION PAY-TERMINATION

**8.4** Upon termination of employment, an employee (or the employee's heirs or estate in case of death) shall receive accrued vacation pay.

# **SECTION 9 – SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

- 9.1 It is agreed between the parties that fruitless controversies must be avoided and every effort be made to maintain a harmonious relationship. To this end both parties will, in every instance, give prompt attention to disputes and will in good faith endeavor to settle all differences by amicable discussions. However, only grievances as defined in Section 9.2 are subject to arbitration as provided in this Section.
- 9.2 For all purposes of this Agreement, a grievance is any dispute or controversy between the Publisher and the Guild, or between the Publisher and any of the employees covered by this Agreement, arising and filed during the term of this Agreement, involving the meaning, interpretation, application, or alleged violation of the provisions of this Agreement, or the discharge or other discipline of employees. All grievances brought by the Guild or an employee shall be handled as follows.
- **9.3** Any employee who believes they have a problem or complaint should bring it to the attention of their immediate supervisor as soon as possible after the alleged dispute or controversy arises. Both parties agree that problems should be settled between the employee and immediate supervisor and/or through the normal chain of command whenever possible.

Any agreement reached during discussions in Section 9.3 shall be final and binding on the employee, the Guild and the Publisher provided such agreement does not ignore, add to, subtract from, alter, amend, change or nullify the terms of this agreement in any way, or which is in conflict with any of the provisions or the terms or the essence of this Agreement.

#### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

#### STEP 1

9.4 Should the procedure above fail to solve the problem and the Guild wishes to pursue the issue as a grievance, or if the grievance originates with the Guild, the unit chairperson (or other designated Guild official) shall notify the Executive Editor (or other designated Company official) of the grievance and request a meeting within thirty-five (35) calendar days after the action, inaction, occurrence or condition constituting the grievance, or thirty-five (35) calendar days after any of the above reasonably should have been known to the Guild with reasonable diligence. In the case of a discharge, the grievance would be handled as described in Section 9.8 upon proper notice as required in that Section.

Should the grievance originate with the Company, the Executive Editor (or other designated Company official) shall notify the Guild Unit Chairperson (or other designated Guild official) of the grievance and request a meeting within thirty-five (35) calendar days after the action, inaction, occurrence or condition constituting the grievance, or within thirty-five (35) calendar days after any of the above reasonably should have been known to the Company with reasonable diligence. The meeting will be

held within thirty-five (35) calendar days of it being requested. The respondent, whether the Company or the Guild, must respond to the grievance within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the time the meeting is held.

#### STEP 2

9.5 If the grievance is not resolved, abandoned or withdrawn in Step 1, the Guild or the Company as the case may be shall have thirty-five (35) calendar days from the conclusion of Step 1 to make a written request to hold a meeting within thirty-five (35) calendar days. Such request will be in writing to the Executive Editor or the Guild Administrative Officer as the case may be and shall include the specific nature of the grievance and the particular provision(s) of the Agreement involved. After receipt of such request, two (2) representatives of the Publisher and two (2) representatives of the Guild will meet to attempt to settle the grievance. By mutual agreement either party may bring additional witnesses to provide information relevant to the grievance. The Publisher's representatives or the Guild's representatives shall respond in writing within thirty-five (35) calendar days of the date of the meeting.

Each party may request one extension per grievance up to thirty-five (21) calendar days to accommodate meeting schedules or further investigations provided such request is made within the time limits listed in this subsection.

- 9.6 If the grievance is not settled in accordance with the foregoing, the Guild or the Company as the case may be may refer the grievance to arbitration by written registered or certified mail notice to the other party to be received no later than thirty-five (35) calendar days after receipt of the response provided for in Section 9.5.
- 9.7 After timely written registered mail notice by the requesting party, the Publisher and the Guild will immediately attempt to agree upon an impartial arbitrator. The arbitrator shall be selected by mutual agreement, or by the striking procedure from the panel listed below. The party to make the first strike shall be determined by lot.

#### Andrea Dooley, Ron Hon, John Kagel and Barry Winograd

The said arbitrator shall have no authority to ignore, add to, subtract from, alter, amend, change or nullify the terms of this Agreement in any way or to render an award which is in conflict with any of the provisions or the essence of this Agreement. The arbitrator's only jurisdiction is strictly limited to application and interpretation of this Agreement or the arbitrability of any such issue in accordance with existing law and to the facts of the particular grievance arising and filed during the term of this Agreement properly before them, and their decision and award shall be based solely upon their interpretation of the meaning or application of the terms of this Agreement to the facts of the grievance as presented.

- 9.8 The fees and expenses of arbitrator, court reporter, reporter's transcript for the arbitrator's use and other expenses attendant to the arbitration hearing shall be paid by the losing party. However, each party shall bear its own costs of advocacy, witnesses and a reporter's transcript for its own use. Each party shall have the right to appearance by counsel of its choice and to present evidence subject to the right of cross-examination. Each party shall have the right to present written arguments by briefs after the close of the evidence. The decision of the arbitrator shall be in writing and signed by the arbitrator.
- 9.9 In the event there is a dispute between the parties involving the discharge of employees covered by this Agreement, the parties agree that the Guild Administrative Officer or designee and the Publisher's Executive Editor or designee will meet within seven (7)

calendar days following notice to the Guild of such discharge.

If the dispute is not settled within that seven (7) day period, the Guild may move to arbitration within twelve (12) calendar days following notice to the Guild of the discharge. The Guild and the Publisher will select an arbitrator within five (5) working days of the notice to move to arbitration by using the procedure and the panel provided in Section 9.7.

The arbitrator selected must agree to render a decision within ninety (90) days after receipt of all post hearing briefs by the arbitrator from all parties. In the event none of the arbitrators is willing to serve, the parties will contact the California State Mediation and Conciliation Service and request submission of a panel of five (5) qualified arbitrators who are willing to abide by the time limits provided. The parties shall select such arbitrator by the elimination procedure with the party making the first elimination to be determined by lot.

9.10 The maximum economic back-pay or fringe-benefit award, determination or obligation adverse to the Publisher or the Guild under this Agreement in any case shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days except that in discharge cases only the maximum liability period shall not exceed one hundred eighty (180) calendar days.

In either instance, the parties agree that any economic, back-pay or fringe-benefit award shall be reduced by whatever remuneration, including but not limited to, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, disability compensation or other employment compensation that is received by the grievant between discharge and reinstatement.

The one hundred eighty (180) calendar days (for discharge cases) will be extended for the duration of any continuance or extension that is obtained by the Publisher over written objection of the Guild provided that the Publisher's liability or obligation shall also be extended for the additional days obtained. Should the Guild obtain an extension over the written objection of the Publisher, then the Publisher's liabilities and obligations will not be extended.

- 9.11 Time is of the essence in all of the grievance and arbitration procedures in this Agreement. If the grieving party fails to comply with the time limits set forth for it in Section 9.4, then the grievance shall be considered waived. If either party fails to comply with the time limits set forth herein, the grievance proceeds to the next step of the grievance procedure, provided that no party will intentionally ignore the time limits.
- **9.12** The only burden of proof for any party is the "preponderance of evidence."
- **9.13** Renewal or extension of this Agreement, and the terms of any successor agreement are not subjects of any grievance or arbitration under this Agreement and are beyond the jurisdiction of any arbitrator.
- **9.14** Any decision, award, determination or other action by any arbitrator shall be subject to judicial review by courts of competent jurisdiction in accordance with applicable provisions of the law, including but not limited to those relating to vacating arbitration decisions and the interpretation and construction of agreements.

# **SECTION 10 – EXPENSE AND EQUIPMENT**

#### **EMPLOYEE EXPENSES**

10.1 The Publisher shall pay all legitimate pre-approved expenses incurred by employees in the service of the Publisher. In cases when employees cannot reach their

Supervisor/Editor, requests for reimbursements for legitimate, unforeseen expenses while on assignment that could not be pre-approved shall not be unreasonably denied. The employee should notify their supervisor of the unforeseen expense as soon as possible.

- (a) To receive reimbursement for an approved expense the employee must submit a timely expense report seeking reimbursement.
- (b) It is agreed that an expense report is considered timely if it is submitted no longer than 60 days after incurring the expense or receipt of the corresponding billing statement.

# PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT

10.2 Photographic equipment required by the Publisher to be used by photographers shall be supplied and serviced by the Publisher.

#### VEHICLE INSURANCE

- 10.3 (a) If an employee is required to use their automobile on a regular basis on the business of the Publisher, such automobile shall be covered by liability and property damage insurance.
  - (b) The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") rate shall be the basis for the mileage reimbursement for employees who are required to drive their automobile on Company business. Prospective adjustments in the mileage reimbursement rate will match any adjustments to the mileage reimbursement rate made by the IRS. It is understood that to receive this reimbursement, employees shall submit a timely expense report as described in 10.1(a).
- 10.4 Employees shall continue to submit their actual parking expenses incurred while on assignment for reimbursement by the Publisher on a timely basis, through the expense reimbursement system.

#### PHOTOGRAPHERS USE OF VEHICLES

10.6 The Publisher retains the right to require employees to use their personal vehicles on any given day. Ownership of a vehicle remains a condition of employment for employees who are required by the Publisher to use their personal vehicle on the Publisher's business.

# **SECTION 11 – OUTSIDE ACTIVITY**

# EMPLOYEE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

11.1 Employees shall be free to engage in activities on their own time not performed by enterprises in competition with the Publisher or affiliated enterprises. Newsroom employees must have advance, written permission from the Publisher or its representative to perform any outside journalistic work, whether paid or unpaid. Their written request must include the following: name, date, brief description of the work and for whom it is to be performed, the frequency and duration, paid or unpaid, and whether company time or equipment is expected to be used. The company may provide a form for these requests. The response time for each request is to be two business days (48) hours or less or approval shall be automatic. Permission will be denied when the work in the question could constitute a conflict of interest, as defined in the Outside Employment section of the Code of Conduct and The Newsroom Ethical Guideline Policy.

All newsroom employees will review and sign this the McClatchy's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics ("Code of Conduct"). policy. Employees are prohibited from engaging in activities that would compromise the editorial integrity of the Company. Without permission from the Publisher, or its representatives, no employee shall use the name of the Publisher or their connections with the Publisher, or any feature title or other materials of the Publisher to exploit in any way their outside activities.

The Code of Conduct attachment hereto as Side Letter 4 shall be considered part of this agreement.

# **SECTION 12 – NATIONAL EMERGENCY**

- 12.1 The McClatchy Company will comply with the Uniform Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) as amended and applicable state laws pertaining to military leave. As such, the McClatchy Company will provide full-time and part-time employees actively participating in one of the United States Armed Forces time off to serve in any branch of the U.S. Military for training, inactive or active-duty service. This policy provides general guidance pertaining to the leave of absence, compensation, health insurance, reinstatement and pension benefits for employees requesting a military leave of absence.
  - (a) Eligibility for Military Leave of Absence In accordance with USERRA and applicable state laws, a McClatchy employee who performs service in the uniformed services (as defined by USERRA) is entitled to a military leave of absence from their current job/position, subject to the limitations and restrictions set forth federal and state laws. Upon receiving an assignment for military service, an employee must promptly provide notice to his or her supervisor prior to going on military duty, unless precluded by military necessity.
  - (b) Compensation for Military Leave

Eligible McClatchy employees who perform service in the uniformed services (as defined by USERRA) will be placed on military leave status for all days that they are engaged in such military service. Military service includes training leaves of absence, inactive duty leave of absence of less than 30 days, and active duty for 30 days or more.

If the military service is 10 working days or less, the full-time or part-time employee will be placed on paid military leave of absence and continue to receive his or her regular pay. For commissioned employees, the Annual Benefits Base Rate (ABBR), which is an average of their commissions paid in the prior 12 calendar months, plus any basic earnings, will be used to determine their pay.

If the military leave is greater than 10 working days but less than six months, the employee will be placed on paid military leave of absence and McClatchy will pay the difference between their military pay and the employee's base salary or ABBR for commissioned employees.

If the military leave extends beyond six months, the employee will be placed on unpaid military leave. Affected employees are not required to use earned annual leave in lieu of paid or unpaid military leave; however, they may elect to use earned accrued annual leave at

their discretion.

## (c) Health Insurance Benefits

An employee on a military leave of absence can continue their active employee health benefits for themself and their dependents for up to six months from the start of the most recent period of military leave, provided the employee continues to pay the applicable active employee premium contributions.

The full-time or part-time employee may be eligible for military service-provided health care benefits after 31 days of military service. If the employee enrolls in the military-provided with care program they may continue to be enrolled in McClatchy's active employee health care benefits for up to six months from the start of the military leave, provided the employee continues to pay the applicable active employee premium contributions.

If the military leave is longer than six months, the employee and any eligible dependents at the time of leave can continue coverage in the McClatchy health care plans for up to an additional 18 months (24 months total) under COBRA, provided the employee pays the COBRA rate of 102 percent of the premium. An employee is not eligible for COBRA coverage if McClatchy health care coverage is terminated due to non-payment of premiums.

If the employee elects to enroll in both the McClatchy health care plan and the service provided health care plan, the McClatchy health care plans will be the primary payer and the government's health care plan will be the secondary payer.

Upon return from a military leave of absence, an employee will be reinstated immediately on McClatchy's health care plans without any exclusions.

# (d) Credit for Time Spent on Military Leave

Time spent on eligible military leave will count as time serviced on the job for any calculation determination or other decision that is dependent upon length of employment.

#### (e) Reemployment Rights

USERRA places a five-year limit (with some exceptions) on the cumulative length of time a person may serve in the military and remain eligible for reemployment rights, If the military leave is for 90 days or less, eligible employees may be reinstated to their own position. If the military leave is for over 90 days, eligible employees may be reinstated to their own position or a similar position of like seniority, status or pay.

Upon return from military leave, employees must comply with the current provisions of the law in regard to notification of and time frame in which they must return to work.

Generally, employees who serve less than 31 days must report to work at the beginning of the first full regularly scheduled work period that starts at least eight hours after the employee has returned home. Employees who serve 31 to 180 days must reapply within 14 days of completing service. Employees who serve more than 180 days must reapply within 90 days of completing service. These time limits may be extended for up to two years if an individual is hospitalized for or convalescing from an illness or injury incurred or aggravated while in the uniformed service.

An employee returning from a military leave of absence may not be reemployed upon returning from military service if the Company's circumstances have changed so as to make the reemployment impossible or unreasonable.

If an employee's most recent period of military service was more than 30 days, the employee may not be discharged without cause (as defined by law) within one year of the period of service lasting longer than 180 days, or within 180 days if the period of service lasted more than 30 but less than 181 days. However, a returning employee's employment may end prior to these timelines as the result of a legitimate nondiscriminatory reason that would have affected any other employee in the same position regardless of protected status, e.g., a reduction in force.

- **12.5** An employee leaving for such service as herein described shall receive immediately their accrued vacation pay if requested by the employee.
- 12.6 An employee promoted to take the place of one entering such service may, upon the resumption of employment by such employee, be returned to their previous position and salary, but at not less than the then current minimum for that position. Any employee so promoted, and while such promotion is temporary, shall continue to receive credit for their employment in the experience rating in which they are classified. In the event of a subsequent permanent change in employment, and consequent change of classification, the employee shall receive full credit in their experience rating in such new classification for the period in which they already have been engaged in such new employment.
- An employee hired as a replacement for one entering such service shall be covered by all provisions of this Agreement, except by this military service clause. Such replacement employee, however, on entering such service shall receive severance pay and prorated vacation pay.

# **SECTION 13 – SECURITY**

#### **JUST CAUSE**

13.1 There shall be no dismissals, except for just and sufficient cause or to reduce the force. The term "reduce the force," as used herein shall be construed as synonymous with layoff for economy.

# PROBATION PERIOD

13.2 A newly hired employee shall be subject to a probationary period of six (6) months from the date of employment. By mutual agreement between the Publisher and the Guild, an employee's probationary period may be extended. During this period, the employee may be dismissed with or without cause. Any such dismissal shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 9 of this Agreement. The requirements of Section 13.5 of the Agreement shall not apply to the dismissal of an employee during their probationary period.

#### REHIRE FROM LAYOFFS

- 13.3 (a) Prior to an employee's termination date due to lay off, the employee involuntarily dismissed to reduce the force shall notify the Publisher by email whether they want to have their name placed on a rehire list. Rehire lists shall be maintained by Editorial by classification and employment status. An employee who notifies the Publisher as described above, shall stay on the rehire list for a period of one (1) year.
  - (b) No other persons may be hired for the jobs vacated until the laid off employee (on the

rehire list) in that department, classification within that department and employment status are offered the job, unless the laid off employee fails to meet the qualification requirements or the laid off employees fail to accept such re-employment within five (5) calendar days after notice by email to their last known email address on the Publisher's records.

- (c) If an employee accepts a non-comparable position, in exchange for a signed joint waiver and release, the employee will be eligible to receive transition pay. This weekly transition pay shall equal 50% of the difference between their weekly base pay in their new position and their former position. The number of weeks of transition pay shall be two weeks of transition pay for every year of continuous service or major fraction thereof up to twenty-six (26) weeks. Transition pay will be paid on a bi-weekly basis on our regular pay cycle.
- (d) A comparable position is defined as a position for which the number of working hours and base pay are within (80) eighty percent of the eligible employee's current working hours and base pay and (b) the location is within fifty (50) miles from the location of the former position.
- (e) It is understood that an 'affiliate employer' is a Company that is 100% owned by McClatchy.

#### REDUCTIONS IN FORCE

- 13.4 (a) Layoffs may be made as the needs of the Publisher require. The Publisher shall decide when and how many employees shall be laid off and its decisions on those matters shall not be subject to the provision of Section 9 of this Agreement. When deciding on layoffs, the Publisher shall give consideration to the work to be done, and the competency, efficiency, skills, ability, previous job performance, seniority, attendance record, training and other qualifications of employees covered by this Agreement. If all aforementioned qualifications are equal, the least senior employee shall be laid off.
  - b) Within one (1) week of notification of layoff, the Guild may promptly offer possible alternatives for the layoff for the Company's consideration. After considering the Guild's proposed alternatives including but not limited to buyouts and furloughs, the Publisher's final decision to implement layoffs shall not be subject to the grievance and arbitration procedures provisions of Section 9.
  - (c) At its sole discretion the Company may request voluntary layoffs before laying off involuntarily. If the Company does request voluntary layoffs, it shall not be required to accept the offer of any employee who volunteers to be laid off.
    (d) Employee who voluntary layoff requests pursuant to 13.4 (c) are accepted,
  - (d) Employee who voluntary layoff requests pursuant to 13.4 (c) are accepted, shall qualify for severance under Section 7, provided they agree to sign a joint waiver and release of claims.
  - (e) Employees on layoff and their eligible dependents covered under the Company's group health plan will be eligible to receive up to three months of company contributions toward COBRA coverage. The employee's portion of the premium and the cost of any remaining months of COBRA coverage will be at the employee's expense. The employee must complete COBRA enrollment documents within the required time limits to qualify for this benefit.

# **LAYOFF NOTICE**

13.5 (a) Upon dismissal an employee upon request shall receive a written notice from the

Publisher or its agent stating the cause of dismissal, provided such demand is made within five (5) days after the employee is informed of the discharge, and the Publisher shall furnish a copy of such notice to the chairman of The Fresno Bee unit of the Pacific Media Workers Guild. In the event of a layoff, to the greatest extent practicable, the Publisher shall give forty-five (45) calendar days advance written notice to the Guild.

(b) In the event of layoff the Company shall give four (4) weeks written notice to the employee. In lieu of such notice, the Employer will pay each dismissed employee one (1) day's pay for workdays the notice falls short of four weeks.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

13.6 The Publisher has the right to install and operate any new equipment or bring about technological change in any department covered by this Agreement upon at least 30 days written notice to the Guild. (If possible, the Publisher shall provide up to 90 days written notice to the Guild.) The Publisher endorses the policy of aiding in the retraining of displaced employees to the extent practicable as determined by management to minimize the reduced employment opportunities consistent with the efficient operation of the department. The Publisher will endeavor to find alternative work for employees who become unable to operate computers as a result of medically certified limitations.

Employees assigned to use new equipment or technology which substantially changes how the work is processed will be provided adequate training for the new equipment or technology and will not be evaluated on their proficiency in operating the new equipment or technology for the first 90 days after installation of the equipment or technology.

#### **NOTICE OF DISCHARGES**

**13.7** The Publisher shall give the Guild notice of all discharges as soon as possible under the circumstances.

# SECTION 14 – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

# LEAVE FOR GOOD CAUSE

14.1 Upon request, the Publisher shall grant employees leave of absence, without pay, for good and sufficient cause. Such leaves shall - be for a period not to exceed six months. The taking of a leave pursuant to this subsection by an employee shall not constitute a break in continuity of service for the purpose of computing any benefits to which the employee upon returning from the leave is entitled under the Agreement. Vacation pay shall be proportionate to the time actually worked.

#### SABBATICAL LEAVE

- 14.2 The granting of a sabbatical leave shall be at the sole discretion of the Publisher. After each five (5) years' service completed by an employee, that employee may request an unpaid sabbatical leave of absence of up to one (1) year. Said leave shall not constitute a break in service with the Publisher but the employee shall not accumulate any credits or benefits under this Agreement. Request for leave shall be submitted at least ninety (90) days in advance. However, under special circumstances, requests may be accepted with shorter notice.
  - (a) Employees while on sabbatical leave shall not accept employment for compensation with any of the competing news media, advertising media, or with a public relations office of a business or government agency having a regular and direct

relationship with the Company or with a supplier or contractor of the Company. Nothing in the foregoing shall be interpreted as prohibiting activity as provided in state law.

(b) Employees on sabbatical leaves of six (6) months to one (1) year shall notify the Publisher of their intent to return no later than sixty (60) days before the end of the leave. If notification is not received by the Publisher, the Publisher shall send a certified letter of inquiry to the employee's last known address and shall inform the Guild. If notification is not received within fifteen (15) days after the posting of said letter, it shall be the Publisher's option to determine that failure to provide notice constitutes resignation. For employees on leaves of less than six (6) months, notification of intent to return shall be provided to the Publisher no later than forty-five (45) days before the end of the leave. (c) Employees on sabbatical leaves who wish to return prior to their anticipated return date may be required to wait to return to work until the expiration of their leave.

#### LEAVE FOR GUILD OFFICE

14.3 In the event an employee is elected or appointed to any Guild office or office of a local of the Guild or the Communications Workers of America or any AFL-CIO office, such employee upon request shall be given a leave of absence, without pay, for the terms of such office. The provisions of this Section shall apply to delegates selected to the Guild, CWA or AFL-CIO conventions, international or district. The number of members of the staff who may receive leaves of absence for union activity at one time shall be no more than two (2), unless a greater number is mutually agreed upon. Any employee granted a leave under this Section shall be considered to have forfeited their leave if the employee publicly advocates a boycott of the Publisher's products or otherwise restricts or interferes with the operations of the Publisher. In addition, an employee may be subject to discipline under Section 13 for such misconduct.

#### **BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

14.4 An employee shall be granted bereavement leave up to three working days with pay in the event of a death of a member of their family. For this purpose, an employee's family is defined to include a parent, spouse, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, foster parent, foster child, step-parent, step-child, step-sibling, half-sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew and cousin or individuals identified as domestic partners.

Time off with pay to attend the funeral of a close friend in the Fresno metropolitan area will be permitted only upon the approval of the department manager and the Executive Editor. The approval of a request to attend the funeral of a close friend in the Fresno metropolitan area shall not constitute and may not be used as a precedent in the consideration of any other such request.

14.5 Bargaining unit employees shall be governed by the same Family and Medical Leave Act Policy that applies to non-bargaining unit employees. Conflicts between this Agreement and federal or state leave regulations, e.g. 1993 Family Medical Leave Act, will be resolved in compliance with statutory requirements.

#### MATERNITY AND PARENTAL LEAVE

14.6 The Employer will provide six (6) to eight (8) weeks of fully paid maternity leave for eligible employees who give birth. In addition, the Employer will provide up to ten (10) weeks of fully paid parental leave – in addition to paid maternity leave – to employees following the birth of

an employees' child or the placement of a child with an employee in connection with adoption, parental surrogacy or foster-to-adopt care.

Fully paid maternity leave for employees who give birth, begins once the child is born and continues 6-8 weeks after the child's birth depending upon natural or c-section delivery.

Prior to the birth of the child, if the employee giving birth to the child is released from work by their physician, before the child's projected due date, they will be covered during that prepartum period under the Company's short-term disability program.

# **Eligibility**

Eligible employees must meet the following criteria:

- ➤ Have been employed with the company for at least six (6) months; and
- ➤ · Be regularly scheduled to work at least 30 hours per week; temporary employees and interns are not eligible for this benefit.

In addition, to qualify for paid parental leave employees must meet one of the following criteria:

- · Have given birth to a child; or
- $\cdot$  Be the married spouse or domestic partner of a person who has given birth to a child; or
- · Have had a child placed with them through parental surrogacy; or
- · Have adopted a child or been placed with a foster-to-adopt child (in either case, the child must be 17 years or younger). The adoption of a new spouse's child and temporary foster care such as respite, emergency, kinship or therapeutic foster care, is excluded from this policy.

# Amount, Time Frame and Duration of Paid Maternity and Parental Leave

Paid maternity leave benefits for employees giving birth, can commence as of the child's actual delivery date. The paid maternity leave program will pay six (6) weeks of base pay as a result of a natural delivery and eight (8) weeks of base pay as a result of a c-section delivery. Paid maternity and parental leave benefits will be paid on a biweekly basis on regularly scheduled pay dates. All maternity and parental leave payments will be integrated with, and offset by, any applicable local, state and/or federal paid leave or disability pay. All payments will automatically assume participation in the applicable local, state and/or federal paid leave or disability pay programs.

Eligible employees will receive up to a maximum of ten (10) weeks of paid parental leave per birth, adoption, parental surrogacy or foster-to-adopt placement of a child/children. The fact that a multiple birth, adoption, parental surrogacy or placement occurs (e.g. the birth of twins or adoption of siblings) does not increase the ten (10) week total amount of paid parental leave granted for that event. In no case will an employee receive more than ten (10) weeks of paid parental leave in a rolling 12-month period, regardless of whether more than one birth, adoption, parental surrogacy or foster-to adopt placement event occurs within that 12-month time frame.

If an eligible employee gives birth to another child within the 12-month time frame, the employee giving birth will be covered under the Employer's paid maternity leave program only. If the employee has not been released by their physician at the end of the

paid maternity leave program, the employee may be eligible for the Employer's short-term disability program.

Each week of paid maternity and parental leave is compensated at 100 percent of the employee's regular straight time weekly pay, based upon their standard hours per week. Paid maternity and parental leave will be paid on a biweekly basis on regularly scheduled pay dates.

Approved paid parental leave may be taken at any time during the 12-month period immediately following the birth, adoption, parental surrogacy or placement of a child with the employee. Paid parental leave may not be used or extended beyond the 12-month time frame. Paid parental leave for the employee giving birth may begin after their paid maternity leave has ended.

Employees can take parental leave in a minimum of one-week increments and must use all paid leave during the 12-month time frame indicated above. Any unused paid parental leave will be forfeited at the end of the 12-month time frame.

Upon termination of the individual's employment, he or she will not be paid for any unused paid parental leave for which he or she was eligible.

## Coordination with Other Policies

Paid maternity and parental leave taken under these policies (where applicable) may run concurrently with leave under the FMLA, any applicable state or local leave law; as well as the company's short-term disability program. Any leave taken under these policies that falls under the definition of circumstances that qualify for the leave due to the birth or placement of a child due to adoption, parental surrogacy or foster care, the leaves will be counted towards the 12 weeks of available FMLA per 12-month period, as well as applicable leaves in state and local law. All other requirements and provisions under the FMLA will apply. In no case will the total amount of leave - whether paid or unpaid - granted to the employee under the FMLA, exceed the 12 FMLA weeks during the 12-month FMLA period.

After the paid parental leave is exhausted, the balance of any leave may be compensated through employee's accrued sick, Personal Bank, vacation and personal time. The employee has the option whether or not to use their remaining sick, Personal Bank, vacation or personal time. Upon exhaustion of employee elected use of accrued sick, Personal Bank, vacation and personal time, any approved remaining leave will be unpaid leave.

The company will maintain all benefits for employees during the paid maternity and/ or paid parental leave.

If a company holiday occurs while the employee is on paid maternity and/or paid parental leave, the employee will not be eligible for holiday pay, and such day(s), will not extend the total paid maternity or paid parental leave entitlement.

#### Request for Paid Parental Leave

The employee will provide their supervisor and the People Team Leave Administrator with notice of the request for leave at least 30 days prior to the proposed date of the leave (or if the leave is not foreseeable, as soon as possible). The employee must complete the necessary forms and provide all documentation required to substantiate the request.

# **SECTION 15 – NO STRIKE**

- During the term of this Agreement the Guild and its agents will not cause, permit, condone, encourage, or sanction and no employee or employees of the Publisher will participate or engage in any strike including sympathy strike or slowdown, sick-in, cessation of work, withholding of services, work stoppages, picketing, leafleting, hand billing, boycotting, or other restriction of or interference with operations of the Publisher or sale or distribution of its products directed against the Publisher at any location. Any employee or employees covered by this Agreement engaging in any such activity may be subject to either discipline up to and including discharge or permanent replacement at the Publisher's option. Any such misconduct will constitute just cause for discharge under this Agreement.
- 15.2 Without in any way diminishing or negating the other portions of this Section 15, the Publisher recognizes that in the event of a strike by another bargaining unit against the Publisher, individual Guild-covered employees may decide not to cross the other union's picket line. However, if they do so they will be subject to all of the provisions of this Section 15, including but not limited to the first paragraph of 15.1 and 15.3. The Publisher agrees that during the term of this Agreement it will not engage in any lockout of its employees covered by this Agreement.
- 15.3 Any alleged violation of this Section or any discharge under 15.1 above shall be subject to arbitration as provided in Section 9, provided the authority of the arbitrator under this Article is limited to deciding whether the alleged violation of the no-strike provision occurred, whether a particular employee or employees participated in the violation of the no-strike clause, whether the Guild and which, if any, of its agents participated in the violation of the no-strike clause, and to order any violation to cease and enjoin any further violation, as well as award proper compensation to the aggrieved party.

# **SECTION 16 – NONDISCRIMINATION**

- 16.1 The Publisher is committed to equal employment opportunities and to the absence of discrimination against qualified persons based on race, ancestry, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, parental status, age, physical and mental disability or medical condition, ethnic origin, military or veteran status, pregnancy status, genetic disposition or carrier status, or any other characteristic protected by local, state or federal law. This commitment applies to all persons employed by the Publisher and prohibits unlawful discrimination by all employees of the Publisher, including supervisors and co-workers.
  - To comply with applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities of qualified individuals with a disability, the Publisher will make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or an employee unless undue hardship would result. A grievance filed after administrative or court action is initiated will not be entertained.
- 16.2 The Guild shall not discriminate against qualified persons in admission to membership based on race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, parental status, age, physical and mental disability or medical condition.
- **16.3** There shall be no discrimination against any employee based on the employee's

# **SECTION 17 – JURY DUTY**

#### **JURY DUTY PAY**

17.1 Regular full-time and part-time employees required to serve on a coroner's inquest or trial jury and required to appear for service on a day or days they are scheduled to work will be paid their regular hourly rate for those hours during which their presence is required by the court up to the number of hours they are scheduled to work that day or seven and one-half (7.50) hours, whichever is less.

#### **JURY DUTY - NIGHT WORK**

17.2 The Publisher will, whenever possible, reschedule night workers to day work when such employees are on jury duty. If any employee serves five or more hours, including reasonable travel time and one hour for lunch, on jury duty, they will not be required to report to work except when a major news break requires their presence. If an employee is required to serve on jury duty fewer than five hours, they may be required to return to work. In any case, if an employee's presence is required on the job, the employee shall receive overtime for all hours worked beyond their combined total of 7.50 hours of work and jury duty.

# **SECTION 18 – HAZARDOUS ASSIGNMENT**

#### REIMBURSEMENT FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE

An employee carrying out authorized work involving hazardous conditions shall be reimbursed by the employer for loss of or damage to their personal property, including their - automobile, authorized for use on such assignments when such loss or damage is directly related to the hazardous condition. In a hazardous coverage situation, the Company will provide the option to rent a vehicle for the employee's use. The determination of a hazardous coverage situation will be made by the Publisher.

#### ACCIDENT INSURANCE

- An employee traveling on Company business will be covered by \$150,000 death and dismemberment accident insurance. Accident insurance shall be in addition to disability, life and other insurance benefits already provided by the Publisher and/or state and federal law. No employee will be required to fly, assuming notice of such refusal is given within a reasonable period of time after being given the assignment.
- 18.3 The Employer shall meet with employees at least once per year (in the second quarter of the year) prior to the start of wildfire season to discuss the coverage plan, assignments, expectations and available safety resources. Such information shall also be communicated to employees upon hiring.
- 18.4 There shall be no discipline for an employee who refuses a hazardous work assignment. However, it is understood that if an employee repeatedly declines assignments based upon these provisions, the Publisher reserves the right to change the employees' beat or assignment.

# **SECTION 19 – SICK LEAVE**

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- 19.1 (a) Regular full-time employees are eligible for sick leave in accordance with this section and may use the hours available in their accrual balance.
  - (b) Part-time employees will be eligible for sick leave benefits in accordance with California State Law.

#### INCIDENTAL SICK LEAVE

- 19.2 Eligible employees shall be paid for up to ten (10) scheduled work days per payroll fiscal year which they do not report to work as a consequence of illness or injury or sick dependent, with prior supervisor approval.
  - (a) To receive compensation for occasional sick days, employees must notify their supervisor before the start of the shift for which they will not report that they will not be able to report to work and must enter the information into the company's payroll timekeeping system.
  - (b) In the first year of employment, or upon transfer to full-time status, employees will receive a pro-rated sick leave balance.
  - (c) At the beginning of the fiscal year, immediately following hire days and at the beginning of each payroll fiscal year thereafter eligible full-time employee shall have ten (10) occasional sick days.
- 19.3 An employee who is sick, injured or hospitalized and disabled for a non-work related injury for more than seven (7) consecutive calendar days must file a claim for State Disability Insurance.
- 19.4 Sick leave is provided on a non-cumulative basis only. The amount of sick leave not used by an employee in one payroll year cannot be carried over to the next year. Employees who terminate their employment with the Company are not entitled to receive payments for any unused sick leave.

#### **SECTION 20 - MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **BYLINES**

20.1 The Publisher shall be the sole judge of whether an employee's byline or credit line shall be used. The Publisher will consider an advance written request from an employee to withhold a byline or credit line, such request to be for professional reasons only. The Guild does not condone withholding of bylines as a protest.

#### **BULLETIN BOARDS**

20.2 The Publisher agrees to provide the Guild with bulletin boards in the Editorial Department. Any information posted on these boards must be approved in advance and signed by the Guild Unit chairperson or their designated representative. The Guild agrees to provide the Publisher with a copy of all material posted on these boards within twenty-four (24) hours of the material being posted.

#### **COMBINATION PERSONS**

- 20.3 (a) Reporters may be assigned desk personnel and/or photographer duties (this includes the use of any equipment able to capture images); photographers may be assigned desk personnel and/or reporter duties; and desk personnel may be assigned reporter and/or photographer duties (this includes the use of any equipment able to capture images.)
  - (b) For all reporters employed on July 8, 2011, their competence shall not be judged on the basis of their performance of photographer or desk personnel duties. For all desk personnel employed on July 8, 2011, their competence shall not be judged on the basis of their performance of reporter or photographer duties. For all photographers employed on July 8, 2011, their competence shall not be judged on the basis of their performance of reporter or desk personnel duties.
  - (c) For any employee hired after July 8, 2011, the Publisher shall have the right to assign to that employee reporter, desk personnel and/or photographer duties, and to evaluate that employee on the basis of their performance of those duties.
  - (d) There shall be established a joint Guild/Management committee consisting of two Guild and two Management representatives. The committee shall meet for the purpose of discussing matters related to this Section 20.3. Any such discussion shall be consultative and the Company shall retain the right to make the final decision on any matters discussed.

#### **COMPANY TRANSFERS**

20.4 No regular employee shall be transferred to an associated enterprise without the employee's consent. If the employee seeks a transfer from the Publisher to another associated enterprise, they shall receive no expense reimbursement. If the Publisher asks a full-time employee to transfer to another associated enterprise and the employee consents, the employee shall receive transportation and traveling expense for themself, family and household effects. Before an employee accepts such a reimbursable transfer, the Publisher will make clear to the employee what relocation expenses will be covered.

#### **WORK RULES**

20.5 The Publisher may prescribe rules, not in conflict with the provisions of this Agreement, affecting the conduct and work of its employees as the Publisher may deem it to be necessary or desirable in the regulation and operation of its business. Such rules shall be posted conspicuously in departments represented by the Guild.

The Publisher shall notify the Guild of any work rule which it plans to implement pursuant to this Section at least seven (7) calendar days in advance of the implementation.

#### COMPETENCY OF EMPLOYEES

**20.6** Except as modified elsewhere in this Agreement, the Publisher is the sole judge of the competency and the number of employees required.

#### EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL FILES

20.7 With reasonable notice and at reasonable intervals, an employee may review the material in their electronic personnel file relating to work performance by contacting the People Team for an appointment.

#### UNREASONABLE DUTIES

20.8 There shall be no imposition of unreasonable duties or unreasonable volume of work on employees covered by this Agreement. It is mutually agreed that the Publisher is entitled to reasonable productivity for the full unit of hours as prescribed in the Agreement constituting a day's or night's shift or week's work.

#### MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

20.9 The Publisher expressly retains the complete and exclusive rights, powers and authority to manage its operation and direct its employees except as the terms of this Agreement expressly and specifically limit said rights, powers and authority.

# **SECTION 21 – HEALTH AND WELFARE**

- 21.1 The Company may change and/or eliminate any health and welfare plan and/or benefit and/or the terms and conditions of those plans and/or benefits, applicable to bargaining unit employees without bargaining with the Guild, as long as any such changes or eliminations are equally applicable to non-union employees. It is understood that future health insurance coverage may be provided through health care exchanges, pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Tax Credit Reconciliation Act of 2010, including any future legislation that amends these laws/regulations.
- **21.2** The cost of providing such insurance shall be borne by the Publisher and the individual employee.
  - (a) The Publisher shall contribute each month toward the premium cost of the insurance package on behalf of bargaining unit employees the same amount the Publisher
  - contributes each month towards the premium cost of the insurance package on behalf of non-bargaining unit employees. The Publisher may change the amount of its premium contribution on behalf of the bargaining unit employees without bargaining with the Guild, so long as such changes are equally applicable to non-bargaining unit employees. The Publisher's contribution shall at all times be expressed in dollar amounts and not percentages.
  - (b) The employee shall pay each month the difference between the cost of the insurance package under which the employee is covered and the amount which the Publisher contributes as set forth above.
- **21.3** The Publisher agrees to furnish the Guild annual premium rates for the Fresno Bee's plans, including estimated composite premiums upon request.
- 21.4 The Publisher agrees to offer the Guild an opportunity to meet and discuss any healthcare changes, rates, etc. prior to implementation during each calendar year. However it is understood that the Publisher has no duty to bargain over these matters and that all decisions concerning these matters are within the sole discretion of the Company and as long as these changes are equally applicable to non-bargaining unit employees.
- 21.5 The spouse/domestic partner of an employee may receive primary coverage under the

Company's health insurance plan under exactly the same circumstances as applicable to non bargaining-unit employees.

**21.6** Domestic Partner Policy – Side Letter 3

# **SECTION 22 – RETIREMENT**

The following program- is - provided for the participation of employees covered by this Agreement in accordance with the eligibility rules of the program:

- 22.1 The McClatchy Company 401(K) Plan
  - 22.2 Eligible bargaining unit employees are entitled to participate in the programs listed in 22.1 above on the same terms and conditions as these programs are available to other eligible employees of the Publisher. The Publisher has the sole and exclusive discretionary right to at any time change, modify or eliminate any or all of the programs; and/or offer new or replacement programs; and/or transfer participants to new programs. If a program is eliminated, employees will retain all vested and/or accrued benefits. The Publisher shall notify the Guild in writing of any proposed change, modification and/or elimination at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of such change, modification and/or elimination.

#### SECTION 23 – COMPLETE AGREEMENT

- 23.1 This Agreement concludes all collective bargaining between the parties hereto during the term hereof and constitutes the sole, entire and existing agreement between the parties hereto, and supersedes all prior agreements between the Publisher and the Guild and expresses all obligations and restrictions imposed on each of the respective parties during its term.
- 23.2 The Publisher and the Guild, for the life of this Agreement, agree that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any matter not specifically covered by the express terms of this Agreement. With respect to the negotiations leading to the execution of this Agreement, the fact that a proposal was made and withdrawn during the course of those negotiations shall not be used to prove that the party making the proposal had in any manner given up any rights granted to it elsewhere in the Agreement.

# SECTION 24 – SAVINGS CLAUSE

24.1 Should any valid federal or state law or final determination of any administrative agency or court of competent jurisdiction require a change of any provision of this Agreement, the provision or provisions so affected shall be automatically conformed to the law or determination and otherwise this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

# SECTION 25 – DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

25.1 The Drug and Alcohol policy attached hereto as Attachment A shall be considered part of

this Agreement. The Company may make changes in the policy without bargaining with the Union as long as any such change is equally applicable to non-represented employees. In the event that any future change(s) in this policy is in conflict with any other terms of this Agreement (including the just cause standard set forth in Section 13.1), such other terms of this Agreement shall supersede the changes in this policy.

# **SECTION 26 - WORK FROM HOME**

- 26.1 The work from home environment as of the ratification of this agreement shall remain in place until the Company provides a long-term physical office space for Employees. It is understood that the long-term plan to return to a physical office space, shall be negotiated with the Guild.
- 26.2 Employees with advance approval from their supervisor, shall continue to have the right to work hybrid, remote or other flexible work schedules presuming all work can be performed adequately. Employees shall meet with their direct manager to discuss their work plan. The final determination of whether or not the work can be performed adequately shall be made by the Editor. It should also be noted that staff meetings or breaking news events, may also take precedence at the Editor's discretion.
- 26.3 During any period in which the Editor requires or authorizes an employee to work the majority of their schedule from home on a long-term basis, the Editor shall provide a monthly stipend of \$50 subject to applicable taxes and withholdings. This payment is not intended to be a complete representation of all of an employee's expenses and shall not preclude employees from filing for pre-approved expense reimbursements for work-related items.
- 26.4 Any employee may object to working from the office on health and safety grounds, without fear of retribution. The company will work with the employee to see if they can reasonably accommodate their concerns or grant them permission to work from home, assuming their work can be performed adequately as described in 26.2.
- **26.5** The Company shall provide equipment for employees to safely work from home. This equipment includes but is not limited to computers and software, cell phones with an activated hot spot, note pads, photo equipment and supplies.
- **26.6** This provision is intended to replace and supersede the parties' Work from Home Memorandum of Understanding and any other prior agreements outside of this Agreement regarding stipend and other benefits related to remote work.

# **SECTION 27 – GRANT FUNDED POSTIONS**

**27.1** The Company may hire or transfer employees to fill grant- or community-funded positions. Employees transferred into these positions shall not receive a pay cut as a result.

It is understood that existing, regular-status employees transferred into grant- or community-funded positions will remain covered by all terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement ("CBA"). At the expiration of funding, a regular-status employee who was transferred into a grant- or community-funded position shall return

to a regular status position at a rate of pay at least equal to what they earned prior to the transfer, or what they earned under the grant funding, whichever is higher.

The Company may also hire full- or part-time temporary employees to fill grant- or community-funded positions in accordance with Section 2 of the CBA. Job purpose, compensation and length of assignment are determined by individual funding agreements. Such employees will be covered by all terms of the CBA, including, but not limited to, just cause protections, healthcare benefits, 401K, expense reimbursements, and parental leave (under the terms of the policy), with the exception of the following: 7.1 (Severance pay - short-term temporary employees, hired for less than six (6) months are ineligible for severance), and 14.3 (Guild Leave). It is understood that this exclusion of Guild Leave does not include unpaid time taken for contract negotiations.

- **27.2** Upon creation of a grant-funded staff position, the Guild shall be notified of the duration of the funding for said position(s) and shall receive a copy of the funding agreement that includes, but is not limited to, the source of the funding, terms and conditions of the funding and the beat or coverage area for this position. Upon hiring, the new employee shall also receive a copy of the funding agreement.
- 27.3 To the greatest extent practicable, sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled expiration of funding, the Company shall meet with the employee to discuss renewal of the funding. If the funding will not be renewed, the Company shall discuss with the employee any opportunities to move into another newsroom position with the Company for which the employee is qualified. If the employee is qualified for a vacant position that has been approved to fill, and has met performance standards, they shall be given the first opportunity to interview for the position before external candidates.
- 27.4 (a) In the event the Company chooses not to continue/renew the funding agreement, or the funding ends prior to the temporary employee's expected termination date, the Company retains the discretion to keep them employed under temporary status, until their expected termination date.
  - (b) If the circumstances in 27.4 (a) result in the termination of the temporary employee, prior to their expected termination date, the temporary employee will be eligible for severance benefits in accordance with Section 7 of the CBA. The Company shall give as much notice as possible and the Company will not challenge unemployment benefits.
  - (c) It is understood that short-term temporary employees employees hired for less than a six (6) month period are not eligible for severance benefits.
  - (d) If the temporary employee is not retained following the termination date described in the employee's offer letter, or if the employee decides to leave prior to their expected termination date, the employee will not be eligible for severance benefits.
- 27.5 It is understood that grant-funded positions can participate in covering other news events, as long as the employee is able to meet the requirements of the funding agreement. Any work outside of the funded beat or area shall be assigned using the same process as other newsroom employees. An employee may request to reject an assignment on the grounds that it interferes with their ability to meet the requirements of the funding agreement, and such requests shall not be unreasonably denied, however,

it is understood that the final decision will be made by the Company.

- 27.6 (a) The Company and the Guild agree on the value of adding grant- or community funded positions to enhance local coverage. In the event such position is not renewed, after the expiration of funding, the Company at its discretion may attempt to source alternative funding to continue coverage of the impacted beat or area.
  - (b) In the event the employee leaves the Company prior to the term of the funding, and to the extent the funding agreement allows, the Company may hire another reporter to ensure coverage of the beat or area is continued for the duration of the funding agreement.
- 27.7 In order to supplement coverage, the Company may rely on a partnership with an outside organization to produce content similar to the work performed by bargaining-unit employees provided the use of such content is consistent with past practice.

#### **SECTION 28 – DURATION AND RENEWAL**

- 28.1 This Agreement shall expire on midnight on December 31, 2024 and shall inure to the benefit and be binding upon successors and assigns of the Publisher. At anytime within (90) days immediately prior to the termination of this Agreement, the Publisher or the Guild may initiate negotiations for a new Agreement, by providing written notice to the other party.
- 28.2 Notwithstanding paragraph 28.1, there shall be one optional reopener. Either party may reopen negotiations in 2023 on one section of its choosing. If a party wishes to exercise this option, it must notify the other party of the item on which it is reopening no later than October 2, 2023. After a reopening request, negotiations shall commence within a reasonable period of time, but in no event shall negotiations commence sooner than November 1, 2023.

DATED:	BY: Joseph W. Kieta  Joseph W. Kieta (Jul 14, 2022 17:00 PDT)
THE MCCLATCHY COMPA	NY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (COMPANY)
DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Hunter Paniagua (Jul 14, 2022 16:39 PDT)  BY: Inshi Telle (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)

#### **SIDE LETTERS**

The parties agree that the following side letters are part of this Agreement:

#### 1. VOLUNTARY - DUES CHECKOFF

It is agreed by both parties, that if The Guild wants to implement the voluntary dues check off option, that it will give the company a minimum of thirty (30) days' notice. This voluntary deduction shall be processed as described below:

- (a) Upon an employee's voluntary written assignment, the Employer shall deduct from such employee's earnings on each pay period and pay to the Guild no later than the 10th day of each month following the month dues are deducted, an amount equal to Guild's initiation fees, dues and assessments. Such amounts shall be deducted from the employee's earnings in accordance with the Guild's schedule of rates furnished to the Employer by the Guild. Such a schedule may be amended by the Guild at any time and shall go into effect the following calendar month, following notification. An employee's voluntary written assignment shall remain effective in accordance with the terms of such assignment. The Employer shall accept digital signatures on authorizations.
- (b) The dues deduction assignment shall be made upon the following form:

Assignment and Authorization to Deduct Guild Membership Dues To: The Pacific Media Workers Guild-CWA.

I hereby assign to The Pacific Media Workers Guild-CWA and authorize the Employer to deduct each pay period from my earnings as an employee, an amount equal to Guild initiation fees, dues and assessments as certified by the Treasurer or designee of the Guild starting in the first pay period in the month following the date of this assignment. I further authorize and request that the Employer to remit the amount deducted to the Guild not later than the 10th day of the month following the month in which dues are deducted. This assignment and authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me but shall be irrevocable for a period of one year from the date appearing below or until the termination of the contract between the Employer and the Guild, whichever occurs sooner. I further agree and direct that this assignment and authorization shall be continued automatically and shall be irrevocable for successive periods of one year each or for the period of each succeeding applicable contract between the Employer and the Guild, whichever period shall be shorter, unless written notice of its revocation is given by me to the Employer and to the Guild by registered mail not more than thirty (30) days and not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration of each period of one year, or of each applicable contract between the Employer and the Guild, whichever occurs sooner. Such notice of revocation shall become effective for the calendar month following the calendar month in which the Employer receives it.

The assignment and authorization is voluntarily made in order to pay my equal share of the Guild's costs of operation and is not conditioned on my present or future membership in the Guild.

Employee's signature	Date	_
DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Joseph W. Kieta  Joseph W. Kieta (Jul 14, 2022 17:00 PDT)	
	PANY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (CO	MPANY)
DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Hunter Paniagua (Jul 14, 2022 16:39 PDT)	
PACIFIC MEDIA WORKE	BY: Joshi Telle (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)  ERS GUILD, LOCAL 39521, THE NEWSPAPER GUII	LD-CWA

#### 2. LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(GUILD)

A consultative committee shall be created consisting of three members of management and appointed by the Company and three bargaining unit members appointed by the Guild. The purpose of the committee shall be to discuss diversity related issues, measures to increase employee skills and enhance the Company's ability to operate effectively and efficiently, particularly in light of the technological changes which have been and will be occurring in the newspaper industry. The committee's discussions and recommendations, if any, shall not be binding on either party.

DATED:	Jul 14, 2022	BY: Joseph W. Kieta (Jul 14, 2022 17:00 PDT)
THE MCC	CLATCHY COMPA	NY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (COMPANY)
DATED:	Jul 14, 2022	BY: Hunter Paniagua (Jul 14, 2022 16:39 PDT)
		BY: InstruCe (uil 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)
PACIFIC	MEDIA WORKERS	GUILD LOCAL 39521 THE NEWSPAPER GUILD-CWA

#### 3. DOMESTIC PARTNERS

# Domestic Partners and Same Sex Spouses Benefit Coverage Policy (Revised Jan. 1, 2011)

#### Introduction

This revised policy is effective Jan. 1, 2011. The McClatchy Company reaffirms its continued commitment to diversity and equal employment by extending health plans and life plan coverage to domestic partners, same sex spouses, and their legal dependents on the same basis as they are made available to the spouses and dependents of other married employees.

#### **Eligibility**

This policy applies to all McClatchy employees eligible for benefits. All eligibility requirements with regard to hours, age, relationship and domestic partner/spousal eligibility for employees, spouses, domestic partners and dependents must be met before coverage is offered. This benefit is subject to the collective bargaining process. For members of a collective bargaining unit, eligibility for this benefit is subject to agreement between the Company and the union.

#### **Definition of Same Sex Spouses**

Same sex spouses are defined as two adults of the same sex who are legally married in a state that recognizes such marriages.

#### **Documentation of Same Sex Marriages**

If a same sex couple is married in a state that recognizes such marriages, they must submit a copy of their legal marriage certificate in lieu of domestic partner documentation. If documentation is provided within thirty (30) days of the marriage, coverage for the same sex spouse will begin on the first of the month following receipt of the documentation. If documentation is provided beyond thirty (30) days after the marriage, the eligible same sex spouse can enroll in McClatchy's health care plans during the next Open Enrollment period.

#### **Definition of Domestic Partners**

Domestic Partners are defined as "two adults of the same or opposite sex who have chosen to share their lives in an intimate and committed relationship, reside together, and share a mutual obligation of support for the basic necessities of life.

#### **Domestic Partner Criteria**

To qualify as a domestic partner, the domestic partners must either have a domestic partner or civil union certification from a state or municipal authority or must certify to the following:

both be at least 18 years of age;

not be related by blood to a degree that would otherwise prohibit marriage; not be married to another person;

be mentally competent to enter into a contract;

have lived together at the same regular residence for at least twelve (12) months and intend to do so indefinitely;

be engaged in a committed, mutually exclusive relationship for at least twelve (12) months;

be financially interdependent and responsible for each other's debts; and be responsible for each other's common welfare.

To qualify as a domestic partner's dependent child under the domestic partner policy, the dependent must be your domestic partner's:

biological child; or legally adopted child; or foster child.

Dependent children under age 19 are eligible for medical, dental, vision and EAP coverage. Dependent children under age 26 are eligible for medical and EAP coverage only. However, a dependent child age 19 or older is not eligible for medical or EAP coverage if he or she is eligible for coverage through his or her own employer.

Domestic partners do <u>not</u> include roommates, siblings, parents, or other similar relationships.

#### **Documentation of Domestic Partnership**

All unmarried employees requesting domestic partner coverage will be required to complete a "Declaration of Domestic Partnership". In addition to this Declaration, the employee must submit two (2) of the items listed below which documents that the domestic partners have been in the committed relationship for at least twelve (12) months. The submitted documents must have been in existence for at least twelve (12) months:

- a) A joint mortgage or lease;
- b) Designation of domestic partner as beneficiary for life insurance;
- c) Designation of domestic partner as primary beneficiary in the employee's will; d) Assignment of durable property or health care power of attorney to domestic partner; e) Joint ownership of a motor vehicle, joint bank account, or joint credit account(s).

If an employee resides in a state or municipality where registration of domestic partnership is applicable, they must register with the appropriate government agency and provide proof of such registration in lieu of the "Declaration of Domestic Partnership".

#### **Enrollment**

Employees will be permitted to enroll their same sex spouses, domestic partners and legal dependent(s) of their same sex spouse/domestic partner annually at each Open Enrollment.

If a same sex spouse or domestic partner qualifies for coverage under The McClatchy Company's health care plans, but elects to enroll in coverage elsewhere or to waive coverage, the employee is encouraged to still submit the "Waiver of Insurance" form and the "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" or legal marriage certificate. This will allow the employee and same sex spouse/domestic partner to be eligible for the benefits listed under "Other Benefits".

New hires eligible for benefits, and current employees who become eligible for benefits due to a status change, will be permitted to enroll their same sex spouses/domestic partners and legal dependent(s) of their same sex spouses/domestic partners during the initial enrollment period if 1) they have met the domestic partner criteria and they have submitted the required domestic partner documentation, or 2) they have submitted a copy of a legal marriage certificate.

If a same sex spouse/domestic partner is eligible for medical and/or dental coverage with their employer, they must enroll in that coverage first and complete a "Domestic Partners/Spousal"

Eligibility" form, in order to be eligible for secondary medical or dental coverage with our Company.

If both members of the same sex marriage or domestic partner relationship are employed at the same location, both cannot be covered as dependents of each other.

#### **Health Plans**

The medical, dental, vision and employee assistance program (EAP) will be administered under the existing provisions found in the corresponding Evidence of Coverage/Summary Plan Description or employee handbook for all enrollees. Health plans and existing coverage are subject to change.

#### Life Plans

The employee's same sex spouse/domestic partner and eligible dependent(s) may elect coverage through the supplemental life insurance program. The supplemental life insurance program will be administered under the provisions found in the insurance brochure. Life plans and existing coverage are subject to change.

#### **Contribution Schedules**

The Company will pay the same percentage share of the premium costs for the coverage of an employee with a same sex spouse/domestic partner, or same sex spouse/domestic partner with dependent(s), as it pays toward the cost of coverage of an employee with an opposite sex spouse or opposite sex spouse with dependent(s).

The employee will be subject to the annual schedule of premium contributions for employee, employee plus child(ren), employee plus spouse, and employee plus family coverage. The scheduled premium contribution for the same sex spouse/domestic partner's and/or same sex spouse/domestic partner's dependent child(ren)'s benefits will be deducted from the employee's payroll checks on an after-tax basis.

#### **Imputed Income**

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has ruled that if an employee receives health and/or life insurance benefits for a same sex spouse/domestic partner or the same sex spouse/domestic partner's legally dependent child(ren), the employee must pay FICA, federal income, and state income (unless otherwise permitted by state law) taxes on the value of that benefit. The IRS defines this as the fair market value of the same sex spouse/domestic partner's health or life insurance coverage over the amount paid for the employee's own coverage. This amount may be added to gross income and taxed accordingly. If the same sex spouse/domestic partner is a legal tax dependent under IRC Section 152, imputed income may not apply. Imputed income will not count as income for purposes of the pension plan, 401(k) plan, Employee Stock Purchase Plan, short-term disability, long-term disability, life insurance, AD& PL, or any other benefit plan which calculates benefits on the basis of compensation.

Employees on an approved leave of absence, who pay their portion of the employee contribution schedule by check rather than payroll deduction, will be obligated to pay the amounts due for

FICA tax and income tax withholding on imputed income. Income withholding tax rates will be calculated in accordance with the employee's specific W-4.

#### **Termination of Same Sex Marriage**

Legal documentation of dissolution of marriage must be provided to the People Team - within thirty (30) days of the divorce.

#### **Termination of Domestic Partnership**

The employee will be required to notify the People Team - in writing within thirty (30) days of the termination of a domestic partnership by completing the "Declaration of Termination of Domestic Partnership". This would occur when the employee's relationship with the domestic partner no longer satisfies the domestic partner criteria.

If the domestic partnership is terminated, active coverage for the domestic partner's child(ren) will be terminated. Coverage will terminate on the last day of the month when the eligibility terminates regardless of the date the employee notifies People Team. The employee will be reimbursed the domestic partner's and the domestic partner's dependent(s)' premium payments for any non-covered months already paid.

If an employee resides in a state or municipality where termination of domestic partnership is applicable, they must terminate the domestic partnership with the appropriate government agency and provide proof of such termination in lieu of the "Declaration of Termination of Domestic Partnership".

#### **COBRA** Continuation of Coverage Rights

Although there is no legal obligation to offer continued coverage to same sex spouses/domestic partners and legal dependent(s) of the same sex spouse/domestic partner, the company has chosen to extend COBRA coverage to same sex spouses/domestic partners and their eligible legal dependent(s).

This means that it is the employee's responsibility to inform the People Team if they have divorced their same sex spouse or, as noted above, terminated a domestic partner relationship. Notification must be made within 30 days of the event.

COBRA coverage will be extended on the same basis as is currently available to employees, opposite sex spouses and dependents. Periods of COBRA coverage for loss of health care coverage will be as follows:

Termination of coverage due to termination of employment: 18 months Termination of coverage due to reduction in hours: 18 months Termination of coverage due to retirement of employee: 18 months Termination of coverage due to termination of domestic partnership: 36 months Termination of coverage due to lose of dependent status: 36 months Termination of coverage due to death of employee: 36 months Termination of coverage due to Medicare eligibility: 36 months

All provisions of COBRA as outlined in the COBRA notification will apply. Same sex spouses or domestic partners electing COBRA may not add a new same sex spouse/domestic partner to their continuation of coverage.

#### **Enrolling a New Domestic Partner**

Following termination of a domestic partnership, and proper notification of termination of domes- tic partnership, there will be a waiting period of twelve (12) months after termination of coverage of the prior domestic partner or domestic partner's dependent child(ren) before the employee is allowed to enroll a new domestic partner or a domestic partner's dependent child(ren).

#### **Other Benefits**

Bereavement Leave, if offered, will be extended to include same sex spouses/domestic partners as immediate family members.

Sick Leave will be extended to include care for the same sex spouse/domestic partner or the same sex spouse/domestic partner's dependent child(ren).

Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) will be extended to include same sex spouses/domestic partners and the same sex spouses/domestic partners' legal dependent child(ren).

In the event of an employee's death, the same sex spouse/domestic partner and any dependent child(ren) currently covered under the company's health and life plans, will be extended the current month's coverage plus two additional months of coverage, and then offered COBRA benefits.

Survivor benefits for long-term disability will be extended to include same sex spouses/domestic partners. In the event of an employee's death, IRS regulations will not allow payment of the final pay check to the same sex spouse or domestic partner. Final pay will be issued to the employee's estate.

Same sex spouse/domestic partner benefits will **not** be extended to The McClatchy Company Retirement Plan (which includes the Knight Ridder Pension Plan), The McClatchy Company 401(k) Plan, or McClatchy's Premium Pass-through Plan or Flexible Spending Account Plans. Due to IRS regulations, the Health Care Reimbursement Plan and the Dependent Care Assistance Plan will **not** reimburse expenses for care of same sex spouses, domestic partners and their dependents, except those who meet the applicable IRS tax law definition of "dependent". Also, we cannot treat an employee with a same sex spouse or domestic partner as "married" for purposes of determining the employee's maximum allowable contribution to the Dependent Care Assistance Plan.

#### **Beneficiary Designation**

Employees may designate a same sex spouse or domestic partner as their beneficiary for life insurance or for The McClatchy Company 401(k) Plan.

#### 4. McCLATCHY COMPANY'S CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT & ETHICS

The Company and The Guild agree as follows:

- (1) The Code is attached hereto as Side Letter 4 and incorporated herein as part of the Agreement.
- (2) The Code is not intended to undermine or erode any of the rights and duties set forth in any other part of the Agreement.
- (3) In any event of any conflict between the Code and any other part of the Agreement, that other part of the Agreement shall take precedence.
- (4) Subject to the paragraphs 1 and 2, The Fresno Bee and The Guild agree that the Code shall apply to employees represented by the Guild.
- (5) Discipline for violations of the Code must meet the standards for discipline set forth in the Agreement.

DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Joseph W. Kieta (Jul 14, 2022 17:00 PDT)
THE MCCLATCHY COMPA	NY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (COMPANY)
DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Joshi Telle (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)

## McCLATCHY CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS

Our positions at McClatchy cause our conduct to reflect on the Company and on its mission of full and fair dissemination of information. For this reason, we must maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct.

This Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applies to all of the Company's officers, directors and employees and provides guidelines to assist in measuring our conduct in a number of very important areas. The standards set forth are high in order to preserve the good reputation that the Company, through its employees, has built. We are each responsible for protecting that reputation. As each of us knows from our own experience, it is far easier to destroy a good reputation than it is to build one.

This Code of Conduct does not cover every issue that may arise, but it sets out basic principles and a methodology to help guide all employees in the attainment of this common goal. In some situations it will be clear that contemplated activity would violate this Code of Conduct and should be avoided. Where circumstances arise that do not fit neatly within these guidelines, you should err on the side of caution. The appearance of impropriety should be avoided, as well as improper conduct itself.

Compliance with this Code of Conduct is very important and you are expected to carry out your duties in accordance with the policies set forth in this Code of Conduct and with applicable laws and regulations. Any violation of applicable law or any deviation from the standards embodied in this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination. Disciplinary action also may apply to a supervisor who directs or approves the improper actions, or is aware of those actions but does not act appropriately to correct them. In addition to imposing its own discipline, the Company may also bring suspected violations of law to the attention of the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

If you have questions about this Code of Conduct or are uncertain about the best course of action in a given situation, you are encouraged to contact your People Team representative or the Company's General Counsel. Members of the Board of Directors should contact the Company's Chief Executive Officer or General Counsel. This Code of Conduct may be supplemented by additional policies, procedures and practices at the newspaper or operation where you are employed. Please check with your People Team representative to obtain details regarding specific local policies applicable to you. If there is any conflict between local policies and this Code of Conduct, the provisions of this Code of Conduct will apply.

#### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

It has been and continues to be the established policy of McClatchy, together with its newspapers and other operations, that its officers, directors and employees avoid any situation that involves a conflict or potential conflict between their personal interests and the interests of the Company. A conflict of interest arises each time you allow a personal or outside interest to interfere with the performance of your duties and responsibilities in the best interest of the Company. Even the appearance of conflicts of interest should be avoided, as in situations in which your personal or outside interests would seem to interfere with job performance, even though no actual interference exists. The following are examples of situations that may give rise to conflicts of interest and the Company's policies that apply in those situations. These examples do not include every possible situation in which a conflict of interest could arise, and you must consider carefully any matter that interferes, or gives the appearance of interfering, with your performance for the Company.

#### **Personal Investments**

You must avoid entering into transactions where it appears that you or a member of your family would benefit personally from your relationship with the Company or from information obtained in the course of your work for the Company. You must refrain from having any outside investment or business relationship that would dilute your loyalty to the Company or impact the Company's position as a member of a free and impartial press. Situations that could have this effect include:

- holding a significant interest in any business enterprise that is or seeks to be an advertiser, supplier or customer of the newspaper or operation where you are employed, or which otherwise does business with the Company, where that investment is significant either to you or to the other person or company; or
- holding a significant investment in any business enterprise that competes directly with the Company, or purchasing any property or business that the Company would like to acquire or use in its business.

Editorial employees should also refrain from:

- investing in any company or property about which you have information not yet available to the general public (e.g., hold-for-release material, plans for stories, items that may affect prices of goods or services or projected advertising campaigns); or
- making investments or financial commitments that can be viewed as affecting the credibility or motive for any story, news item or advertisement appearing in a McClatchy newspaper or publication.

#### Use of Influence – Gifts and Entertainment

Your position with the Company may not be used to influence public officials or others, including suppliers and advertisers, for personal benefit; nor may employment with the Company be used as leverage to gain favors from customers, news sources, suppliers or advertisers.

An area of potential conflict can occur when you offer to or accept gifts from a customer or supplier, or a person or company who would like to become a customer or supplier. Generally, you may not offer or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, entertainment or reimbursement of expenses or any other item of more than nominal value or that exceeds customary courtesies, nor may you offer or accept, directly or indirectly, payment, loans, services (other than in normal business transactions on standard commercial terms offered to the public generally), employment or other benefits from or to any person who furnishes or seeks to furnish news, material, equipment, supplies, advertisements or services to the Company through you. You should check with your People Team representative to determine if any additional rules or procedures have been adopted at your newspaper or operation.

#### **Personal Interest in Transactions**

You must not represent the Company in any transaction in which you, a relative, business associate or someone significant to you has a direct or indirect interest either in the transaction or otherwise with a person involved in the transaction, or from which you, a relative, business associate or someone significant to you, including domestic partners, may benefit without first disclosing that interest to the appropriate personnel. For example, you must not represent the Company in hiring a relative as a vendor or independent contractor to perform work for the Company unless you have made your supervisor aware of the situation as described below.

Relatives include your spouse, domestic partner, sister, brother, mother, father, daughter, son, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, step relationships and in-laws.

If you are aware of any such related party transaction or potential related party transaction, you must fully disclose the transaction or potential transaction to your supervisor, or in the case of directors and executive officers, to the Board of Directors. Disclosure of all such relationships allows the Company to make a reasoned determination as to whether you will be able to impartially represent the Company in that transaction.

#### Loans

Loans to, or guarantees of obligations of, officers, directors, employees or members of their families are prohibited to the full extent required by applicable law or regulation.

#### **Corporate Opportunities**

Each officer, director and employee has a duty to advance the Company's legitimate interests when the opportunity to do so arises. Examples of prohibited conduct with respect to corporate opportunities include, but are not limited to, taking for yourself opportunities that are discovered through the use of Company property, information or position; using Company property, information or position for personal gain; or competing with the Company. If you have any doubt concerning your obligations with respect to any opportunity that presents itself to you, you should seek advice from your supervisor, the Publisher or President at your newspaper or operation, or the Company's General Counsel.

#### **Outside Employment or Service**

Officers and employees are expected to devote their full time and attention to the business of the Company during business hours. The Company is entitled to assume that the primary professional attention of its officers and employees is devoted to the interests of the Company and not to other activities, whether for-profit or charitable, except in ways and at times that do not conflict with the reasonable business needs of the Company. If other employment does or may present a potential conflict of interest, that employment must be approved in writing by the Publisher or President of your newspaper or operation. Employment will not be approved if it is considered to be in competition with the efforts of the Company, would reasonably be expected to subject the Company to criticism, will encroach on the Company work day, interfere with regular duties or necessitate long hours that may affect working effectiveness or otherwise create a conflict of interest. With respect to service as a director or trustee of any other company or charitable organization, requests for approval should be directed through regular reporting channels.

In order to avoid conflicts of interest, publishers and executive editors of the Company are required to obtain the approval of the Chief Executive Officer or a Vice President of Operations of McClatchy before accepting other employment or a position as a director or trustee of any other company or charitable organization. Officers of the Company must obtain the approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

#### CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

All information you obtain as an officer, director or employee of the Company is the property of the Company and must be treated accordingly. Information not generally available to the public about the Company, its partners, suppliers, associates, news sources, advertisers and customers, including information that might be of use to competitors or harmful to the Company or its customers if disclosed, is confidential information. In every case, the Company's confidential information may not be disclosed by you to any person outside (and

sometimes inside) the Company, including family members, for any reason other than an appropriate business purpose in light of the nature of the information. The only exception to this rule is information released in the ordinary course of business, disclosures required by legal process and information otherwise specifically authorized for release by the Company, customers, advertisers or others.

You must take steps to protect the confidential nature of documents and information both on and off the Company's premises. You must take care to disclose confidential information only on a "need-to-know" basis. When it is necessary to carry sensitive information off the premises, due care must be taken to protect its security. Confidential information in written form should not be brought to or left in public places, must not be transmitted to locations where the fax could be intercepted, must not be transmitted via an unsecured cell phone, e-mail or electronic data transmission, and must never be posted on the Internet or an electronic bulletin board. Confidential or sensitive information also must not be discussed in public places, on elevators, at restaurants or other locations where it might be overheard. Similarly, confidential information must not be shared with family or friends. It is your responsibility to safeguard, secure and properly dispose of confidential information in accordance with the record retention policy of your particular newspaper or operation. This obligation extends to confidential information of third parties.

Your obligations with respect to confidential information of the Company continue even after your employment with the Company terminates.

#### Use or Disclosure of Confidential Information and Insider Trading

You must never trade securities on the basis of confidential information. Federal law and Company policy prohibit you, directly or indirectly, from purchasing or selling stock while in possession of material non-public information concerning publicly held companies, such as existing or potential customers, suppliers, advertisers, business associates and news associates, on the basis of confidential information. The "tipping" of others who might make an investment decision on the basis of this information is also illegal.

A more complete description of the Company's insider trading compliance policy can be obtained from the Company's General Counsel. The consequences of prohibited insider trading or tipping can be severe for you and the Company. If you have any questions about whether information is material or non-public or whether a particular purchase or sale of a security is allowable, it is essential that you contact the Company's General Counsel before entering into the transaction.

#### **BUSINESS PRACTICES**

#### **Compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations**

The Company is committed to full compliance with the laws of the cities, states and countries in which it operates, and you must be too. This includes, for example, those relating to antitrust and promoting fair competition, preventing bribery, illicit payments and corruption, insider trading laws and labor laws and practices, among others.

When faced with situations in which questions of compliance or knowledge of the law arise, you should seek advice from the Legal Department.

#### **Fair Dealing**

Our goal is to be regarded as a company that does business with integrity. Accordingly, each employee should endeavor to deal fairly with the Company's customers, suppliers, competitors

and employees. You must never take unfair advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts or any other unfair-dealing practices. This type of conduct could subject the Company to civil and even criminal penalties.

#### **Payments to Government Officials**

It is the Company's policy to comply fully with all applicable laws and regulations governing contact and dealing with government employees and public officials. There are very few circumstances in which it is permissible or legal for you or the Company to give, accept or exchange (or agree to give, accept or exchange) anything of value (even for example, meals of nominal value) to or from a United States federal, state, local or municipal government official, public employee or other representative of a government body agency or department. Accordingly, such payments are prohibited and any exceptions to this general prohibition must have the prior approval of the Legal Department.

#### **Political Campaigns and Contributions**

Personal contributions to political parties, candidates or committees are a matter of individual choice. Political contributions may not be made, or represented to have been made, by the Company. This policy covers not only direct contributions but also tickets to fund-raising dinners, program advertising, use of the Company's facilities, supplies, letterhead, corporate names, logos, trademarks or other intangible assets or use of working time and similar indirect assistance.

Editorial employees who participate in, or make contributions to, political campaigns or groups may compromise their standing as an objective journalist and/ or create the appearance of a conflict of interest. For this reason, certain parameters or approval requirements may have been adopted by your newspaper or operation. If you are an editorial employee, you should check with your People Team representative to determine if any such rules or procedures apply before participating in these types of activities.

#### PROTECTION AND USE OF COMPANY ASSETS

#### General

You should endeavor to protect the Company's assets and ensure their proper use. Company assets are to be used only for legitimate business purposes of the Company and only by authorized employees or their designees. This includes both tangible and intangible property. Intangible assets include, but are not limited to, intellectual property such as trade secrets, patents, trademarks and copyrights; business, marketing and service plans; designs; databases; Company records; salary information; and any unpublished financial data and reports. Unauthorized alteration, destruction, use, disclosure or distribution of these assets violates Company policy and this Code of Conduct. Any such action, as well as theft or waste of, or carelessness in using these assets, has a direct impact on the Company's operations and profitability.

#### **Company Funds**

Every employee is responsible for all Company funds over which he or she exercises control. Company agents and contractors must not be allowed to exercise control over Company funds. Company funds must be used only for Company business purposes. Expense reports must be accurate and submitted in a timely manner.

#### RECORDS AND REPORTS

#### General

The integrity of the Company's record-keeping and reporting systems must be maintained and respected at all times. You are expected to record and report information accurately and honestly. This includes accurate reporting of time worked, business expenses incurred, production data and all other business-related activities. You should take care when preparing any Company document to ensure that it objectively and accurately reflects the facts of the situation.

#### **Financial Records**

Financial records of the Company must accurately reflect transactions and conform to generally accepted accounting principles and all applicable laws. No entry may be made or delayed on the Company's books and records that intentionally conceals, distorts or disguises the true nature of any transaction. No secret or unrecorded bank accounts, funds or assets may be established and no other practices may be used that could distort the records or reports of the Company's business, operating results or financial condition. Additionally, all documentation supporting a transaction must fully and accurately describe the nature of the transaction and be processed in a timely fashion.

#### **Record Retention**

You should retain Company documents for the period of time specified in the record retention policy of your particular newspaper or operation and dispose of them in accordance with such policy.

#### **Records on Legal Hold**

A legal hold suspends all document destruction procedures in order to preserve appropriate records under special circumstances, such as litigation or government investigations. The Legal Department determines and identifies what types of Company records or documents are required to be placed under a legal hold. The Legal Department will notify you if a legal hold is placed on records for which you are responsible. You then must preserve and protect the necessary records in accordance with instructions from the Legal Department. Records or supporting documents that have been placed under a legal hold must not be destroyed, altered or modified under any circumstances. A legal hold remains effective until it is officially released in writing by the Legal Department. If you are unsure whether a document has been placed under a legal hold, you should preserve and protect that document while you check with the Legal Department.

#### COMPLYING WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

#### **Reporting Suspected Violations**

The Company's efforts to ensure observance of, and adherence to, the goals and policies outlined in this Code of Conduct require your cooperation. You are expected to bring any instance, occurrence or practice that you, in good faith, believe is inconsistent with or in violation of this Code of Conduct to the attention of your supervisor, the Publisher or President of your newspaper or operation or the Company's General Counsel. The following is an approach to dealing with potential problem situations.

Discussion of Possible Problems With Company Management. In the event you believe a violation of this Code of Conduct has occurred or you have observed or become aware of

conduct which appears to be contrary to this Code of Conduct, you are encouraged to discuss the situation with your immediate supervisor. If it would be inappropriate to discuss the issue with your supervisor or your People Team representative, you should contact the Company's General Counsel, Billie McConkey, at bmcconkey@mcclatchy.com (or 916-321-1940). Members of the Board should contact the Company's Chief Executive Officer and/ or General Counsel. If the matter concerns the Chief Executive Officer or the Chief Financial Officer or relates to accounting or auditing issues, concerns or reports of possible violation may be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors c/o the Board Secretary, P.O. Box 15779, Sacramento, California 95852- 0779. Alternatively, you may use the confidential hotline number or email address that has been established by the Company. You can obtain further information from your People Team representative

Use of Common Sense and Good Judgment. You are expected to become familiar with and to understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct. If you become aware of a suspected violation, don't try to investigate it or resolve it on your own. Prompt disclosure to the appropriate parties is vital to ensuring a thorough and timely investigation and resolution. A violation of this Code of Conduct is a serious matter and could have legal implications. Allegations of such behavior are not taken lightly and should not be made to embarrass someone or put him or her in a false light. Reports of suspected violations should always be made in good faith.

*Internal Investigation.* When an alleged violation of this Code of Conduct is reported, the Company shall take prompt, objective and appropriate action, which may involve an internal investigation. You are expected to cooperate in internal investigations of misconduct.

No Fear of Retaliation. It is a federal crime for anyone to intentionally retaliate against any person who provides truthful information to a law enforcement official concerning a possible violation of any federal law. In cases in which you report a suspected violation in good faith and are not engaged in the questionable conduct, the Company will attempt to keep its discussions and actions confidential to the greatest extent possible. In the course of its investigation, the Company may find it necessary to share information with others on a "need to know" basis. No retaliation shall be taken against you for reporting alleged violations while acting in good faith. If you feel you have been retaliated against in any way, you should contact your People Team representative or the Company's General Counsel.

#### **Publication of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

The most current version of this Code of Conduct will be posted and maintained on the Company's website.

#### Waiver of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

Any waiver of this Code of Conduct for executive officers or directors may be made only by the Board of Directors or a committee of the Board of Directors.

2100 Q Street Sacramento, CA 95816-6899 www.mcclatchy.com

Publication: 08/2020

#### 5. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

#### LETTER OF AGREEMENT

#### REGARDING SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

This Letter of Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into between The McClatchy Company Inc., Publisher of the Fresno Bee ("Company") and Pacific Media Workers Guild, Local 39521, The Newspaper Guild-CWA ("Guild"). The Company and the Guild agree that the Agreement shall be considered a part of the Social Media Policy ("Policy") and, in the event of a conflict between the Policy and this Agreement, the Agreement shall govern. Any dispute between the Company and the Guild over the interpretation or application of the Policy or this Agreement is subject to the grievance and arbitration procedure of the collective bargaining agreement between the Company and the Guild.

- 1. If the Company determines that it is necessary to change the Policy, it shall inform the Guild of the contemplated change(s). If the Guild does not accept the contemplated change(s), the Company and the Guild shall immediately enter into bargaining over the change(s). In that bargaining, each party reserves to itself any rights that it may possess under the National Labor Relations Act or any other applicable law if agreement is not reached during those negotiations.
- 2. Footnote 1 of the Policy is applicable to and an integral part of the entire Policy. As such, the Policy shall be interpreted consistently with Footnote 1, which reads as follows: "Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit employees from communicating in good faith about wages, hours, or other terms and conditions of their or their co-worker's employment." This interpretation shall include, but not be limited to, the first bullet point on Page 1 (beginning with the words, "Abide by all company policies"); the fourth bullet point on Page 1 (beginning with the words, "Respect the confidentiality of those you work with"); and the first bullet point on Page 2 (beginning with the words, "Don't use your newspaper's or The McClatchy Company's logos").
- 3. The first paragraph under "General Guidelines for Use of Social Media" (beginning with the words, "Company-provided social media tools") should be interpreted consistently with the following:

#### Personal Use

The Company's information systems should be used for Company and business-related purposes. Although we understand and expect that from time to time employees may use the information systems for personal reasons, such use must be appropriate, in good taste and limited in time, so it does not interfere with productivity or otherwise interfere with the workplace environment, violate Company policy, or violate the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. Personal Web sites or business established on the Company's information systems are not permitted. If an employee is unsure about a specific type of personal use, the employee should request guidance from the department manager or the People Team.

At the time of execution of this Agreement, the term "company-provided social media tools" refers specifically to Google products that are accessed through a company-provided email address. It is understood that the Company may provide other social media tools for employee use in the future.

- 4. The fifth bullet point on Page 1 of the Policy (beginning with the words, "You should not create social media accounts [e.g. Facebook and Twitter] using your work email address") should be interpreted as follows. Any employee currently using a work email address for social media accounts may continue to do so for those social media accounts already created, provided that such use has been authorized by their manager for business purposes and is otherwise consistent with the Policy. From the signing date of this Agreement forward, an employee shall not create personal social media accounts using his or her work email address.
- 5. The seventh bullet point on Page 1 of the Policy (beginning with the words, "If you are a journalist or work with advertisers of the public") should be interpreted as follows. Part of an employee's

professional duties may include the communication through social media of relevant personal information that does not compromise the employee's professional duties.

- 6. The intent of the third bullet point on Page 2 of the Policy (beginning with the words, "Personal views on social media can be misinterpreted") is to maintain a responsible separation between personal and professional activity on social media. However, as stated above, part of an employee's professional duties may include the communication through social media of relevant personal information that does not compromise the employee's professional duties, including, but not limited to, perceptions of bias or conflicts of interest. It is not expected or required that an employee will attach a disclaimer to each individual message stating the view or information expressed therein is the employee's alone. It is understood, however, that an employee, when necessary, should ensure with a disclaimer, that the expression of a personal view is not misinterpreted as speaking on behalf of the company.
- 7. The eighth bullet point on Page 2 of the Policy (beginning with the words, "Personal information in social media profiles") should be interpreted consistently with the "Personal Use" explanation set forth above in Section 3 of this Agreement.
- 8. The ninth bullet point on Page 2 of the Policy (beginning with the words, "Social media networks such as "circles" and "friends") applies only to those social media networks in which the employee can exercise control over who joins. The intention of this section is to avoid perceptions of bias, and it is not intended to otherwise limit the inclusion in such networks of family, friends, acquaintances, sources, and others who have an interest in the employee or his or her work.

DATED:	BY: Joseph W. Kieta (Jul 14, 2022 17:00 PDT)
THE MCCLATCHY COMPA	NY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (COMPANY
DATED: Jul 14, 2022	BY: Hunter Paniagua (Jul 14, 2022 16:39 PDT)  BY: Joshu Teirfe (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)

PACIFIC MEDIA WORKERS GUILD, LOCAL 39521, THE NEWSPAPER GUILD-CWA (GUILD)

#### 6. GRANDFATHERED – SEVERANCE

Notwithstanding Section 7.1(a) all full-time employees employed as of July 8, 2011 and all regular part-time employees hired on or before September 21, 1993 shall be entitled to severance pay up to a maximum of forty (40) weeks in a lump sum equal to two (2) weeks pay for every

had worked as of December 31, 2010.
Employees eligible for this benefit are:
Employee Severance Weeks
James Guy 40.00
Robert Rodriguez 32.90
Anthony Galaviz 31.55
Eric Zamora 27.86
DATED:BY:BY:
THE MCCLATCHY COMPANY LLC, PUBLISHER OF THE FRESNO BEE (COMPANY)
DATED: Jul 14, 2022  BY: Hunter Paniagua (Jul 14, 2022 16:39 PDT)
BY:
PACIFIC MEDIA WORKERS GUILD, LOCAL 39521, THE NEWSPAPER GUILD-CWA (GUILD)

year of full-time equivalent service (prorated for fractional years of service) which the employee

### 7. 2022 ONE-TIME BONUS/SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

(a) Salary adjustments as proposed on the 6/3/22 Company spreadsheet. The effective date of the salary adjustments will be as of the beginning of the first full pay period following the ratification date of the contract.

- (b) Employees employed by 1/1/22 that are not eligible for a salary adjustment, (as described in the Company's 6/3/22 proposal), shall receive an additional wage increase of \$.50 as of the beginning of the first full pay period following the ratification date of the contract.
- (c) Employees described above in (b) shall be eligible to receive a one-time bonus of \$1,000.
- (d) These one-time bonus and salary adjustments, shall be conditioned upon both: 1) Reaching a full contract tentative agreement, with the Guild Bargaining team endorsing this Agreement to its membership no later June 30th and, 2) the successful ratification of this Agreement by the Guild membership no later than July 14, 2022. The bonus shall be subject to taxes and withholdings and shall be payable upon the first full payroll cycle following successful ratification.

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#### 8. CLARIFICATION OF POLICIES

The Company and the Guild agree to the following clarifications of the following policies:

#### **McClatchy Newsroom Ethical Guidelines:**

#### 1. Photography of Minors

People can be sensitive to photography of minors even in public places. Use your best judgment when photographing minors at public events, crowds and events where parental permission is implicit. Always talk to parents, or an authority figure if that's not possible, when interviewing younger children, and if possible, for documentary photography. High school-age minors can provide their own consent for interviews.

#### 2. Visual Standards

Generally, images should not be blurred, absent specific taste or confidentiality. On those rare occasions when an image is to be used that has been altered (for example, blurring of faces) the caption must clearly explain the alteration.

#### 3. Ethical Standards – Receipt of Gifts and Freebies

The Parties agree that in connection with the Gifts and Freebies section of McClatchy's Newsroom Ethical Guidelines policy, that an employee's receipt of a gift, sample, item or service valued at \$20 or less shall be deemed de minimis and not a violation of that policy. Additionally, in connection with the reporting and/or photography associated with a restaurant or food provider, the receipt of unsolicited food or beverages shall not be deemed a violation of the policy as long as the food or beverage were not solicited by the employee and there is no quid pro quo associated with the receipt of such food or beverage.

#### 4. Outside Work

The Parties agree that in connection with the Outside Work section of McClatchy's Newsroom Ethical Guidelines policy, that an employee may request permission to use Company computers, cameras and other Company equipment for personal use and, upon permission being granted, any such use shall not be deemed to be a violation of the policy

#### 5, Social Media

The Parties agree that in connection with the Social Media section of McClatchy's Newsroom Ethical Guidelines policy, that an employee may block or mute overly aggressive accounts or users without preapproval of the employee's editor.

#### **Maternity and Parental Policy**

The parties agree that in connection with the Maternity and Parental Leave Policy, assuming that the employee meets all other eligibility criteria, the biological father of the child is

eligible for the parental leave described in the policy, regardless of their marital or domestic partner status with the birth mother.

#### **Drug and Alcohol Policy**

- 1. It is understood that until there is a medically certified test for being under the influence of cannabis (THC), positive test results for cannabis (THC) will not be considered during a candidate's applicant post-offer testing process. Until the tests are updated, if the testing service tests for cannabis (THC), the results shall remain confidential and not included in the employee's personnel file.
- 2. Employees shall not be subject to discipline over a positive test result for cannabis (THC) without the presence of other evidence of impairment while on work time. Any discipline resulting from reasonable suspicion drug testing shall be subject to grievance and arbitration.
- 3. It is understood that this clarification in (b) regarding evidence of impairment does not impact the Company's ability to test and discipline as a result of a vehicle accident. Any discipline shall be subject to grievance and arbitration.

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DATED:	Jul 14, 2022	BY: Joshuk Telke (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)

#### 9. COMPASS PERFORMANCE REVIEW SYSTEM

The Company and the Union agree that there will be a new format for the annual newsroom performance reviews. The overall performance rating shall be 50% based on core competencies (functional competencies, news judgment, -reporting, -writing/editing /storytelling and journalism ethics).

The other portion of the review focuses on individual goals. The discussion setting goals between the supervisor and employee occurs 15 day before each quarter and should be finalized by the first day of the quarter. In this category, 30% of the performance rating shall be based on journalism specific goals established between the reporter and a supervisor, such as beat coverage, writing, source development, and other areas applicable to the employee's responsibilities.

The remaining 20% of the overall performance rating shall be based on an "audience growth" category that considers performance metrics or other engagement tools to grow audiences and promote the value of The Fresno Bee. This category could consider, among other things, the employee's efforts to build relationships with the community, the employee's willingness to adjust coverage to grow subscriptions, and the employee's ongoing collaborative effort with supervisors to build new readership through newsletters, social media posts, subscription deals, etc.

Employees should participate with their editors in decisions about story selection, angles and other elements of coverage. Metric goals such as page-views, conversions and other measure of reader engagement should be part of those conversations, and so should potential impact, community value and The Bee's high standards for journalism.

Employees and editors, by mutual agreement, may chose a goal such as page-views, led-to-conversions, digital subscriptions or others that measure audience growth. It is understood that any agreement to include such metrics shall be optional to the employee.

For example, if an employee does not achieve their page-view goal, despite reasonable efforts, they will not lose point in the review unless the reporter chose to include a page -view goal in their review.

Appeal process for employee goals:

If the employee disagrees with their assigned goals, they may appeal in writing to their immediate supervisor within 5 working days. The decision of the supervisor to adjust or maintain assigned goals must be made within 3 working days, unless extended by mutual consent. If the employee still disagrees, they may appeal to the Managing Editor/Editor. The decision of the Managing Editor/ Editor must be made within 5 working days, unless extended by mutual consent. The decision of the Managing Editor/Editor shall be final. The employee may have a Guild representative present during their appeal process. This appeal provision shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 9 (Grievance and Arbitration).

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		BY: Joshi Telle (Jul 14, 2022 16:52 PDT)

### 10. Updated/New Company Policies

The Company and the Guild reached agreement on the implementation of the following new and/or updated McClatchy corporate-wide policies:

- 1. Social Media Policy (see side letter 5 and side letter 8)
- 2. McClatchy Newsroom Ethical Guidelines Policy (see side letter 8)
- 3. McClatchy Visual Standard Policy (see side letter 8)
- 4. McClatchy Acceptable Standards of Use Policy (see side letter 8)

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#### ATTACHMENT:

#### DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

#### **Purpose**

The Fresno Bee is committed to maintaining a safe and efficient workplace free of drugs and alcohol and to discouraging drug, alcohol and substance abuse by its employees. Employees who are under the influence of drugs, alcohol or other substances on the job compromise The Fresno Bee's interests, and may endanger their own health and safety and the health and safety of others.

The Fresno Bee's goals are to avoid accidents, promote and maintain safe and efficient working conditions for its employees, and to protect its business, property, equipment and operations. To support these goals, The Fresno Bee has established this policy concerning the use of drugs, alcohol and other substances. As a condition of continued employment with The Fresno Bee, each employee must abide by this policy.

#### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this policy:

- (1) "Illegal drugs or other controlled substances" means any drug or substance that (a) is not legally obtainable; (b) is legally obtainable but has not been legally obtained; or (c) has been legally obtained but is being sold or distributed unlawfully.
- (2) "Legal drug" means any drug, including any prescription drug or over-the-counter drug, that has been legally obtained and that is not unlawfully sold or distributed.
- (3) "Abuse of any legal drug" means the use of any legal drug (a) for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was prescribed or manufactured; or (b) in a quantity, frequency or manner that is contrary to the instructions or recommendations of the prescribing physician or manufacturer. (4) "Substance" includes but is not limited to any inhalants, adhesives glues, paints or other substances used for the purpose of intoxication.
- (5) "Possession" means that an employee has the substance on his or her person or otherwise under his or her control.
- (6) "Drug and alcohol testing" means testing for drugs, whether illegal or legal, and/or alcohol as defined within the policy.

#### **Prohibited Conduct**

This policy applies to employees whenever the interests of The Fresno Bee or its employees may be adversely affected, including any time the employee is:

- (1) On The Fresno Bee's premises;
- (2) Conducting or performing Fresno Bee business, regardless of location;
- (3) Operating or responsible for the operation, custody or care of Fresno Bee equipment or other property;
- (4) Driving a Fresno Bee-owned, leased or rented vehicle or any other vehicle on behalf of The Fresno Bee, including a personal vehicle;
- (5) Responsible for the safety of others; or
- (6) Off-duty but using drugs, alcohol or other substances in a manner that in any way adversely affects The Fresno Bee or the employee's ability to perform his or her job.

Prohibited use of drugs, alcohol and other substances is described below:

#### Alcohol

The unauthorized use, possession, purchase, sale, manufacture, distribution, transportation or dispensation of alcohol or being under the influence of alcohol is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

The only exception to this policy is for moderate consumption in connection with Fresno Bee-authorized events at which consumption of alcohol has specifically been approved, in places of public accommodation, or at business affairs designed to serve The Fresno Bee interest. Even in such circumstances, however, excessive use, intoxication or other abuse of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

#### **Illegal Drugs**

The use, possession, purchase, sale, manufacture, distribution, transportation or dispensation of any illegal drug or other controlled substance, or being under the influence of any illegal drug or other controlled substance is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

#### Legal Drugs

The abuse of any legal drug, or the purchase, sale, manufacture, distribution, transportation or dispensation of any legal prescription or drug in a manner inconsistent with law is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary actions up to and including termination.

Working while impaired by the use of any legal drug, including marijuana or other controlled substance used as part of a prescribed treatment program, whenever such use might (a) endanger the safety of the employee or others, (b) pose a risk of damage to The Fresno Bee property or equipment, or (c) substantially interfere with job performance or the efficient operation of The Fresno Bee's business or equipment also is prohibited. Employees under the influence of legal drugs that may cause such an impairment must notify The Fresno Bee's designated physician before reporting to work. This information will be treated confidentially. If it is determined that the employee cannot safely perform his or her duties while under the influence of the legal drug, he or she will not be permitted to return to work. The employee may use available sick leave and/or vacation time during his or her absence. The employee also may request time off during this period. Nothing in this policy is intended to diminish The Fresno Bee's commitment to employ and reasonably accommodate qualified, disabled individuals.

#### **Substances**

The abuse of any substance, or the purchase, sale, manufacture, distribution, transportation or dispensation of any substance in a manner inconsistent with law is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

This applies to the use of inhalants, adhesives, glues, paints or other substances used for the purpose of intoxication.

#### Types of Testing

#### **Applicant Testing**

As part of The Fresno Bee's employment screening process, any applicant, including part-time or on call employees, to whom an offer of employment is made must pass a drug test. This policy also applies to previous employees of The Fresno Bee who are rehired. The offer of employment (or reemployment) is conditioned on a negative test result. Applicants will be informed of The Fresno Bee's Drug, Alcohol and Substance policy during the employment application process.

#### Reasonable Suspicion Testing

If a supervisor or manager has reasonable suspicion that an employee is working in an impaired

condition or otherwise engaging in conduct that violates this policy, the employee will be asked about the observed behavior and offered an opportunity to provide a reasonable explanation. If the employee is unable to explain the behavior, the People Team - will be consulted. With People Team approval, the employee will be required to take a drug and/or alcohol test in accordance with the procedures outlined below.

If the employee refuses to cooperate with the administration of drug and alcohol testing, the refusal will be handled in the same manner as a positive test result.

Examples of reasonable suspicion that will lead to drug and/or alcohol testing include but are not limited to:

- a. When an employee's actions during the course of employment cause or contribute to an injury of the employee or another person that required medical attention beyond first aid.
- b. When an employee driving a personal or a company-owned, leased or rented vehicle is involved in any vehicle accident during the course of employment that involves another vehicle, results in injury to any party involved, and/or results in vehicle or property damage of any kind.
- c. When an employee's actions during the course of employment result in unusual and/or significant property, material and/or equipment damage.
- d. When an employee is observed using alcohol or drugs during work hours.
- e. When there is reasonable suspicion in which a supervisor believes the actions, appearance and/or conduct of an employee's behavior is indicative of drug, alcohol or substance use. This includes but is not limited to suspicion that is based on specific personal observations such as an employee's manner, disposition, muscular movement, appearance, behavior, speech or breath odor; information provided to management by an employee, by law enforcement officials, by a security service or by other persons believed to be reliable; or a suspicion that is based on other surrounding circumstances.

An Observation of Behavior and Conduct form is provided as Exhibit A. Supervisors may use this form to document signs of possible impairment. When possible, two or more supervisors should complete copies of this form independently, and then consult to determine reasonable suspicion of impairment.

Exceptions to drug and alcohol testing for reasonable suspicion may occur in certain circumstances at the direction of any two of the following: the immediate supervisor, the department head or above, and/or the People Team or above.

Employees are required to immediately report all incidents, accidents, property damage and/or injuries to a supervisor, manager or the People Team . Any employee who fails to do so will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. Furthermore, the supervisor and/or the People Team - will have sole discretion in determining if property damage is unusual and/or significant, and their decision will be binding.

Employees who are tested for reasonable suspicion may be suspended with or without pay until the test results have been confirmed or until the investigation is complete.

#### Random Testing

Random drug and alcohol testing only will be used when (a) required for certain positions in compliance with applicable laws or regulations; or (b) as part of the terms and conditions of a rehabilitation program or Return to Work Agreement.

#### Testing Procedures

The Fresno Bee has established procedures for when and how drug and alcohol testing should be conducted.

a. Work injuries requiring medical treatment and drug/alcohol testing (Exhibit B)

- b. Reasonable suspicion drug/alcohol testing (Exhibit C)
- c. Vehicle accidents requiring drug/alcohol testing (Exhibit D)

The Fresno Bee-appointed medical staff will collect test samples. Urine samples will be used for drug testing, and breath analysis will be used for alcohol testing. Employees and applicants will have the opportunity to alert the medical staff to any prescription or non-prescription drugs being taken that may affect the outcome of test.

Drug test samples will be sent to an independent National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)-certified medical clinic or laboratory for processing. All test results will then be read and interpreted by a Fresno Bee-appointed, certified physician acting as our Medical Review Officer (MRO).

If a drug test is positive, the results will be confirmed by an additional test, using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. The MRO-certified physician will contact the applicant or employee to confirm the test data and discuss variables that may have affected the test. The Fresno Bee will pay the cost of the first drug test and the confirming gas/chromatography/mass spectrometry test If the applicant or employee disagrees with a confirmed positive result after discussion with the physician, the applicant or employee may have the same sample sent by courier to any NIDA-certified lab to be tested at his or her own expense. This request must be made in writing within two working days of being advised of a positive test result.

If a breath analysis is positive, the test will be administered up to two more times within consecutive, fifteen-minute intervals. If an applicant or employee disagrees with the positive test results, the employee may elect to have a blood test conducted immediately at his or her own expense. Any attempts to tamper with or adulterate a sample will be grounds for immediate termination.

#### Positive Test Standards

#### Alcohol

Employees required to maintain a commercial driver's license will be held to applicable laws or regulations governing alcohol consumption and use. All other employees will be presumed to have a positive test for alcohol and to be "under the influence" when the test results meet or exceed a blood alcohol level of .08.

#### Drugs

Employees will be presumed to have a positive test result and to be "under the influence" of a drug and in violation of this policy when the test results meet or exceed the cutoff level established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the specific drug or substance in question.

#### Positive Test Results and Discipline

#### <u>Applicants</u>

If an applicant tests positive, the offer of employment will be revoked. The applicant may not reapply for at least twelve months from the date of the last drug test.

#### **Employees**

If an employee tests positive, or otherwise violates this policy, he or she may be disciplined up to and including termination.

#### Mandatory Referral to EAP

Any employee who tests positive for the presence of drugs and/or alcohol may be suspended with or without pay pending further review. Employees who test positive for the first time may be referred to the

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. If an employee is referred to the EAP, the employee must contact the EAP provider within two working days. An employee who does not contact the EAP within this time period will be terminated.

As a condition of continued employment, an employee referred to the EAP must comply with all recommendations of the EAP provider and must enter into a Return to Work Agreement before returning to work. The employee must meet and comply with all requirements of the Return to Work Agreement. These requirements will include (a) remaining drug, alcohol and substance abuse free, (b) being randomly tested for drugs and/or alcohol for a period of time as set forth in the Agreement, and (c) continuing to meet all job requirements and standards of his or her position. If the employee does not comply with these and all other requirements of the Return to Work Agreement, he or she will be terminated immediately.

An employee who is referred to the EAP in lieu of termination will receive a final written warning. If the employee tests positive for drugs and/or alcohol a second time, or in any other way violates this policy, he or she will be terminated.

#### Voluntary Referral to EAP

If an employee suspects he or she may have a drug, alcohol or substance abuse problem, he or she is encouraged to seek treatment before becoming involved in an incident that may lead to drug and alcohol testing or disciplinary action. Dependence on drugs, alcohol and/or other substances or participating in a rehabilitation program will not protect an employee from disciplinary action for unacceptable performance, continued abuse or from a policy violation that occurred before the employee seeks assistance.

Employees are provided with professional counseling and medical referrals through The Fresno Bee's Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) and through its Behavioral Health Care Plan. All information regarding referrals, evaluation and treatment of an employee who participates in an assistance program will be maintained in a private and confidential manner.

Employees who wish to voluntarily enter and participate in an approved drug or alcohol rehabilitation program are encouraged to contact the People Team. The People Team member will determine whether The Fresno Bee can accommodate the employee by providing unpaid leave for the time necessary to complete participation in the program.

#### Acknowledgement and Consent

Any employee or applicant subject to testing under this policy will be asked to sign a form

acknowledging the procedures governing testing, and consenting to (a) the collection of a urine and/or breath sample for the purpose of determining the presence of drugs and/or alcohol, and (b) the release to The Fresno Bee of medical information regarding the test results. If an applicant refuses to sign the agreement and consent form or to submit to the drug and/or alcohol test, the refusal will result in the revocation of an applicant's job offer. If an employee refuses to sign the acknowledgement and consent form or cooperate with the administration of the drug and alcohol test, the refusal will be handled in the same manner as a positive test result.

#### Confidentiality

All drug and alcohol testing records are kept confidential. Access to such information is limited to individuals who have a business need to know. In addition, disclosures made by an employee to his or her manager, The Fresno Bee's physician or the People Team - concerning use of legal drugs or participating in a drug program will be treated confidentially and will not be revealed to other managers or supervisors unless there is a work-related reason to do so.