



**Best Practices for Safety Bulletin #45:
Guidelines for Long or Successive Takes**
Scripted

Below are several best practices for scripted (narrative) shows that Producers can put in place to help enforce Safety Bulletin #45: Guidelines for Long or Successive Takes:

Best Practices During Pre-Production:

- If a full handheld show is being considered, production should provide support rigs for the Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operator/First Assistant Sound persons, based on their needs/requests. Rigs should be sized correctly, tried out, and adjusted before the shoot starts.
- Productions should be made aware that there are no absolutes. A short scene can be hard on Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operator/First Assistant Sound persons' bodies due to camera build, terrain, physical demands, and physical toll on the body.
- Identify which scenes are handheld and figure out the scene length, etc.
- Provide Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operator/ First Assistant Sound persons with one or more day(s) to correctly build balanced equipment for safe use.
- Camera and Grip departments should make sure they have adequate stands and holders for resting cameras and lighting.
- Production and the AD department should read/ review Safety Bulletins #45 (Long Takes) and #44 (RF Exposure) and the 2024 Local 695 MOA Microphone Boom Op Safety Memo.

Best Practices During Production:

- Once the scene has been designed, the Assistant Director and the Director of Photography should discuss with Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operator/First Assistant Sound persons how many successive takes they're comfortable with before needing a break and how long the break will be.
- Assistant Directors should announce handheld/ long takes to standardize awareness of the safety issue to the crew.
- Director of Photography and Production Sound Mixer should be involved in making sure Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operators/First Assistant Sound persons are getting breaks.
- Director of Photography and Production Sound Mixer should be open to allowing Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operators/First Assistant Sound persons to trade off shots when possible.
- Camera Operators tasked with holding a camera for lighting setups or in between takes greatly increases the likelihood of injury.
 - Stands should be utilized for lighting set-ups wherever possible.
 - Cameras and booms should be rested while notes are given to talent, lines are rewritten, or technical changes are made, even if the roll is still going.
- All Camera Operators and Microphone Boom Operator/First Assistant Sound Persons should be present and in place when working out boom placement for reflection, shadow, and frame issues.
- Attach copies of Safety Bulletins #45 (Long Takes) and #44 (RF Exposure) to the call sheet. RF Exposure is to be included because exposure increases with long takes.
- Attach the Local 695 Microphone Boom Op Safety Memo to the call sheet as necessary, but especially on the first day of shooting for each episode of a TV series.
- Enforce Safety Bulletin #45 (Long Takes) and Safety Bulletin #44 (RF Exposure).