

20 July 2020

Dear Casting Platforms,

It has come to our attention that some national and international **casting platforms** have been utilized in order to gain access to actresses, seemingly dozens of whom have been **scammed** into making **sexually explicit self-tapes**, in many cases up to ten tapes of an increasingly graphic nature.

From the email chains we have obtained, the alleged perpetrator is extremely predatory. He seems to **understand how casting** works and exactly how to **manipulate** actors, playing on their hopes and aspirations in order to pressure even the most reticent into giving him what he wants. He was apparently able to gain the **trust** even of some talent **agencies** by **faking credits** on **respected international platforms**. We are in the process of having those removed. And now he's even asking actresses to sign **NDAs** so that they ostensibly can't legally disclose information about their exchanges.

The **Casting Society of America** has been alerted, and we are asking our **ICDN members** to **post on social media** in order to get the word out. We are also looking into whether a **criminal inquiry** may be initiated. Similar activity has been noted dating back to at least **2015**.

Because he is actively working **as we speak** to target actresses (he just posted another notice over the weekend) we believe that the **fastest** way to warn away actors is to ask **all casting platforms** to issue a generic warning, ideally in the form of a breakdown, to all of the agencies – and importantly, unrepresented talent – who subscribe to their services.

****The authorities have so far advised us not to actually name him, though****

In addition, we have set up an **email address** to which anyone who **has been targeted** is highly encouraged to report the exchange: reportcastingabuse@theicdn.com – **please feel free to disseminate that as widely as possible to your subscribers.**

The ICDN feels very strongly that it's the **moral duty** of the entire entertainment industry to **protect our actors**, especially those most vulnerable to exploitation such as this.

If you are able to send out this warning we are requesting, please include a very **important reminder**: *Nudity clauses are **negotiated during the contracting phase**. Nobody will ever ask you to "prove" your willingness to simulate sexual acts on-screen, or to appear nude, either in a self-tape or in-person audition. If you don't feel right about something you are being asked to do, and don't have an agent to turn to, please **email the ICDN "hotline"** we've set up, at the address above.*

Timka Grin
President of the Board, ICDN