

CONTRACT

**DP Media Network, LLC, dba The Denver Post
and
Denver Newspaper Guild-CWA Local 37074
(Covering Newsroom Unit Employees)**

EFFECTIVE

April 19, 2026 - April 19, 2029

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| PREAMBLE..... | 1 |
| ARTICLE I EXEMPTIONS..... | 1 |
| ARTICLE II JURISDICTION..... | 1 |
| ARTICLE III WORK ASSIGNMENT..... | 1 |
| ARTICLE IV DUES DEDUCTION..... | 2 |
| ARTICLE V HIRING AND INFORMATION..... | 3 |
| ARTICLE VI GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE..... | 3 |
| ARTICLE VII-A UNION SECURITY..... | 5 |
| ARTICLE VII-B EMPLOYEE SECURITY..... | 5 |
| ARTICLE VIII SEVERANCE PAY..... | 8 |
| ARTICLE IX PENSION..... | 9 |
| ARTICLE X DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN (401(K))..... | 10 |
| ARTICLE XI TRANSFERS AND PROMOTIONS..... | 10 |
| ARTICLE XII HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME..... | 12 |
| ARTICLE XIII HOLIDAYS..... | 14 |
| ARTICLE XIV VACATIONS..... | 14 |
| ARTICLE XV SICK LEAVE..... | 15 |
| ARTICLE XVI HEALTH PLAN AND OTHER BENEFITS..... | 16 |
| ARTICLE XVII LEAVES OF ABSENCE..... | 20 |
| ARTICLE XVIII MILITARY SERVICE..... | 21 |
| ARTICLE XIX PART-TIME AND TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES..... | 22 |
| ARTICLE XX WAGES..... | 23 |
| ARTICLE XXI GENERAL WAGE PROVISIONS..... | 24 |
| ARTICLE XXII EXPENSES AND EQUIPMENT..... | 25 |
| ARTICLE XXIII MISCELLANEOUS..... | 26 |
| ARTICLE XXIV HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS..... | 28 |
| ARTICLE XXV PRIVILEGE AGAINST DISCLOSURE AND AUTHENTICATION..... | 29 |
| ARTICLE XXVI DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY..... | 29 |
| ARTICLE XXVII NO STRIKES..... | 31 |
| ARTICLE XXVIII MANAGEMENT RIGHTS..... | 31 |
| ARTICLE XXIX SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY..... | 31 |
| ARTICLE XXX SEVERABILITY..... | 34 |
| ARTICLE XXXI DURATION AND RENEWAL..... | 35 |

CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT

Preamble

This Contract and Agreement is made effective April 19, 2026 replacing the prior agreement, by and between DP Media Network, LLC, dba The Denver Post, hereinafter known as “the Employer,” or “the Company,” and the Denver Newspaper Guild-CWA, Local #37074, of The NewsGuild-CWA, AFL-CIO-CLC, hereinafter known as “the Guild” or “the Union,” for itself and on behalf of all employees in the Newsroom Department of The Denver Post, except for those exempted under Article I, Exemptions.

ARTICLE I Exemptions

1. Managers, supervisors and confidential employees are exempted from the Guild bargaining unit.
2. The Employer shall notify the Guild of any additional exemptions. All exemptions must conform with the criteria for manager, supervisor, or confidential employee as established by the Labor-Management Relations Act, as amended, and as interpreted and applied by the National Labor Relations Board and the federal courts. Any dispute regarding exemptions proposed during the term of this Agreement shall be subject to grievance and arbitration procedures defined in Article VI, Grievance Procedure.
3. If any person with a job title covered by the exemptions accepts a position within the Guild’s jurisdiction, the Employer shall so notify the Guild in accordance with the provisions of Article VII-A, Union Security.

ARTICLE II Jurisdiction

The Guild’s jurisdiction is recognized as covering employees of the Employer in the departments listed in the preamble of this agreement less those positions listed as exemptions in Article I, Exemptions, and includes (a) the kind of work normally and presently performed and such work as has been performed in the past by employees in those departments, (b) new or additional work assigned to be performed by employees in those departments. Performance of such work shall be assigned to employees of the Employer within the Guild’s jurisdiction and shall be covered by the Guild contract.

The Employer may engage freelance writers to cover Colorado pro soccer and lacrosse teams. Additional beats may be staffed with freelance writers upon mutual agreement of the Employer and Guild.

ARTICLE III Work Assignment

In the course of performing their primary functions, employees also are expected to gather and process information for multiple media platforms using a variety of print, visual, audio and other tools.

Management agrees to (1) provide necessary training and learning opportunities, and (2) articulate clearly its reasonable expectations.

The Company and the Union agree that it is their mutual intent to maintain a high standard of quality and credibility in news and other products produced by the staff.

Upon hire, employees shall receive a beat or assignment.

**ARTICLE IV
Dues Deduction**

1. Upon an employee’s voluntary written assignment, the Employer shall deduct from the earnings of such employee and pay to the Treasurer of the Denver Newspaper Guild not later than the tenth (10th) day of each month all Guild membership dues, initiation fees and assessments. Such membership dues, initiation fees and assessments shall be deducted from the employee’s earnings in accordance with a schedule provided to the Employer by the Guild. Such schedule may be amended by the Guild by notifying the Employer ten (10) days prior to the start of any payroll week. An employee’s voluntary written assignment shall remain effective subject to the terms of such assignment.

2. The dues deduction assignment shall be made upon the following print or electronic form:

To: The Denver Post:

I hereby assign to the Denver Newspaper Guild and authorize the Employer to deduct from my salary account as their employee an amount equal to my Guild membership dues, initiation fees or assessments, in accordance with the schedule submitted by the Treasurer of the Denver Newspaper Guild, for each calendar month following the date of this assignment.

I further authorize and request the Employer to remit the amount deducted to the Denver Newspaper Guild not later than the tenth (10th) day of that month.

This assignment and authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me, but shall be irrevocable for a period of one (1) year from the date appearing below or until the termination of the collective bargaining agreement between yourself 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 period of one (1) year each or for the period of each succeeding applicable collective bargaining agreement 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 mail not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration of each period of one (1) year or of each applicable collective bargaining agreement 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.

This assignment and authorization supersedes all previous assignments and authorizations heretofore given by me in relation to my Guild membership dues.

Employee’s Signature _____
Department _____
Date _____

If authorization is completed electronically, alternate verification in lieu of signature shall be required.

3. Deductions of dues, initiation fees and assessments shall be made for the week designated for such deductions even though the employee may be on or scheduled for vacation that week or otherwise absent, and the amount remitted in accordance with Section 1 of this article.

ARTICLE V
Hiring and Information

1. The Employer acknowledges its employment policies shall be in accordance with and as required by applicable local, state and federal laws, that there shall be no dismissal or other discrimination against employees or applicants for employment because of their race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, veteran status, national origin or any other basis provided in federal, state and/or local laws. Neither shall such conditions affect promotion or merit raise consideration.

(a) In an effort to create a diverse newsroom that more closely reflects the community, The Denver Post will seek to attract applicants from underrepresented communities through community outreach and work with professional minority journalism organizations. The Employer will strive to interview at least one applicant from a traditionally under-represented group who meets the qualifications of the position and applies for the job.

2. The Employer agrees not to have or enter into any agreement with any other employer binding such other employer not to offer or give employment to employees of the Employer.

3. Written notice of the name, address, the last four digits of the social security number, gender, minority status, telephone number, date of birth, date of hiring, Union security status classification, experience rating, anniversary date, salary, and department of each new employee covered by this agreement shall be sent to the Guild office at least monthly and upon request by the Guild. The Employer shall notify the Guild office promptly of (a) any change in classification and wage changes by reason thereof and effective date thereof; (b) the resignation, retirement, death, transfer to another named department, change in experience rating, change of address reported by employees, change of name reported by employees or separation from employment of any employee covered by this agreement.

4. After a new part-time or full-time employee completes a satisfactory ninety (90) calendar day trial period (which includes the first day of employment), said person shall be considered an employee with tenure and benefits according to the conditions of this agreement effective as of the date of hiring. The ninety (90) calendar day trial period may be extended by an additional forty-five (45) calendar days for any employee by mutual agreement of the Employer and the Union prior to the expiration of the original ninety (90) calendar days. If the Employer requests an extension of the probationary period prior to the expiration of the original ninety (90) days and the Union acknowledges such a request, the Employer's rights shall be extended until the Union responds in writing to the request. This section shall not apply to temporary employees.

5. If, in the opinion of the Employer, the employee has proven their competency in less than the trial period, the employee may be so certified as an employee.

6. The Employer shall give reasonable advance notice to a probationary employee of any weaknesses that may exist in their performance which, if not corrected, could result in their discharge prior to or on the expiration of their probationary period and shall notify the employee of a request for a probationary-period extension prior to the original expiration date. It is expressly understood that this section does not create any right of tenure of employment for a probationary employee. Discipline or termination of a probationary employee shall not be subject to Article VI, Grievance Procedure, of this agreement.

ARTICLE VI
Grievance Procedure

1. The Guild shall designate a committee of its own choosing to take up with the Employer or the Employer's authorized representative any matter arising from the application of this agreement or affecting the relations of the employees and the Employer.

2. The Union agrees to attempt to resolve a dispute before filing a grievance through a call to a Human Resources Department representative and discussing the dispute.

3. The Employer or the Employer's authorized representative shall meet with the grievance committee within five (5) days after request for such meeting.

The request shall be in writing, with the name of the grievant(s) (if any), the section(s) of the contract grieved (if any) and a factual description of the complaint as then known and signed by the designated officer of the Guild. The Guild and the Employer shall exchange all available pertinent data required for complete investigation.

A grievance may be raised under this Article no later than ninety (90) calendar days after the occurrence unless circumstances can be shown to justify an extension. In no event shall the extension exceed one hundred and twenty (120) days after the occurrence. The grievance may be moved to arbitration no later than ninety (90) days after its first consideration unless mutually agreed otherwise. The parties understand that the ninety (90) day time limitation on the filing of grievances does not apply to the remedy of the grievance.

When the Employer exercises its rights under Article I, Exemptions, to exempt positions not previously exempted, the Employer will give the Union at least two (2) weeks' written notice in advance of the implementation of the change. If the Union challenges the Employer's action, the Union will inform the Employer of its protest in a written grievance within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of the notice. The Employer may implement the change pending the outcome of any dispute.

In case of discharge, the grievance must be submitted within twenty-one (21) days after notification to the Guild of the action or condition leading to a grievance. This limitation may be extended by mutual agreement.

Disposition of the grievance shall be in writing and signed by the Employer or his authorized representative and the designated officer of the Guild. Appeals and their subsequent disposition shall be in writing and signed in the same manner. In the event new evidence that would substantially alter the facts of a discharge case is discovered after the twenty-one (21) day limitation on submission of a grievance or any extension thereof expires, the case may be opened for further consideration by either the Employer or the Guild.

4. The Employer agrees to permit the Guild grievance committee to meet with the Employer or his/her authorized representative within regular working hours provided twenty-four (24) hours' notice is given and committee members' work schedules can be rearranged. The restriction of Article XII, Section 2, Hours of Work and Overtime, requiring the working day to fall within nine (9) consecutive hours will not apply in this case. If the Employer or his/her authorized representative calls such grievance session, it will be held on company time. In addition, the Employer will grant up to two (2) hours on company time to a maximum of five (5) Guild committee members to attend any grievance session initiated by the Union.

5. Conditions prevailing prior to an action or circumstance that results in a grievance shall be maintained unchanged pending final settlement of the grievance unless the action or circumstance arises out of Article VII-B, Employee Security, Section 1, in which case the action of the Employer shall remain in effect until such action is resolved through appropriate grievance procedure.

6. In the event of failure to adjust the disputes within ten (10) working days after the first grievance meeting, it shall, upon motion by either party, be referred in writing to a Resolution Board composed of two (2) representatives of the Union and two (2) representatives of the Employer in a further effort to settle the dispute.

7. In the event said four (4) members of said Board are unable to reach a majority decision on said dispute within five (5) working days after their initial meeting, they shall submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration, and if they are unable to select an arbitrator, they shall request a list from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service or the American Arbitration Association. By mutual agreement such lists need not be restricted to arbitrators in the Colorado area. A grievance moved to arbitration will be considered closed with prejudice if the Guild does not send a request for a list to FMCS or AAA within ninety (90) days after receiving from the Employer their half of the cost for such list. The ninety (90) day deadline can be extended by mutual agreement.

8. Renewal of this contract shall not be a dispute under the jurisdiction of the arbitrator. The decision shall be limited to determining the specific disputes submitted to the arbitrator for adjudication. The arbitrator shall have no

power to add to, subtract from, change or modify any provisions of this agreement, but shall be authorized only to interpret the existing provisions of the agreement and apply them to the specific facts of the dispute.

9. Costs of such arbitration shall be borne equally by the parties, except that no party shall be obligated to pay any cost of a stenographic transcript without express consent.

10. The award of the arbitrator shall be given to both parties in writing within thirty (30) days after oral arguments or submission of post-hearing briefs, whichever is later. This thirty (30) day time limit and, in fact, all time limits throughout Article VI, Grievance Procedure, may be extended by mutual agreement between the Union and the Employer.

11. Employees shall have the right but must request that a union representative or representatives be present at any discussion with the Employer or his authorized representative that affects the relations of the employee and the Employer. An employee shall be given reasonable advance notice when such discussion is scheduled and the employee shall be informed of the nature of the complaint against him or her. If a request for Union representation is made, the discussion shall not proceed until the Union representative or representatives is given a reasonable opportunity to be present.

ARTICLE VII-A Union Security

1. Not less than thirty (30) calendar days following the execution of this Agreement or not less than thirty (30) calendar days following the beginning of employment, whichever is later, all employees covered by this Agreement shall, as a condition of continued employment, become and remain members of the Denver Newspaper Guild to the extent of remitting to the Guild membership dues uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership in the Guild whenever employed under and for the duration of this Agreement.

2. The Guild shall indemnify and hold the Employer harmless from and against any or all claims, demands, costs, fees, judgments and any other charges or liabilities of any kind that may arise out of the enforcement by the Employer of the provisions of this article for the maintenance of membership or for compulsory membership in the Guild as a condition of employment for any employee or employees.

3. An employee dismissed for failure to comply with this Article shall not be entitled to dismissal pay provided for in Article VIII-B, Severance Pay, of this agreement.

4. Each employee hired will be given a copy of the Union security provisions of this contract at the time of hire.

ARTICLE VII-B Employee Security

1. No discipline or dismissals shall be made except for just and sufficient cause.

2. There shall be no dismissals as a result of putting this agreement into effect.

3. The Employer has the right to determine an employee's competence, availability or fitness for his/her requirements, or to dismiss an employee for just and sufficient cause, subject to the grievance procedures outlined in Article VI, Grievance Procedure. For all employees discharged, reason for discharge will be made in writing to the employee and to the designated executive officer of the Guild.

4. Dismissals to reduce the force, as distinguished from dismissals for just and sufficient cause, may be made in accordance with the following:

(a) Company seniority shall determine the employee, or employees, within a job title to be discharged in a reduction of force for economic reasons. The only exceptions to this are:

(1) Employees within the job titles of reporter and columnist will be subject to company seniority within a department. Departments are defined as Sports, Features, Metro, Business, and Editorial Page.

(2) Less senior employees with abilities or differences in qualifications for a particular function demonstrably not available from the more senior employee may be retained while the more senior employee is dismissed. In such a case, the Employer must have made the employee aware of deficiencies or, if appropriate, offered the employee sufficient training and opportunities to maintain and develop necessary skills. Where there are such differences, the Employer may retain the less senior employee.

This subsection (a) governs reductions in force only until subsection (k) below is completed. At that time, this subsection (a) only applies if appraisals are not completed according to the terms described in subsection (k).

(b) The Employer shall notify the Guild of any such projected dismissals, specifying the job title (and department for Reporters and Columnists), number of employees involved, and the reasons for such projected dismissals.

(c) There shall be no dismissals for a period of two (2) weeks following notification required in paragraph (b), during which period the Employer shall accept voluntary resignations or retirements from employees in the job titles (and, within a department for Reporters and Columnists) involved, with such employees being paid the amount of severance pay provided in Article VIII-B, Severance Pay. The number of employees to be dismissed shall be reduced by the number of resignations and retirements.

(d) Reductions in force are based on continuous full-time Guild-covered service within a job title (and, within a department for Reporters and Columnists). A full-time employee scheduled to be dismissed may elect within seven (7) days after notification of scheduled dismissal to move into another job title (or department for Reporters and Columnists) in which the employee has worked during continuous full-time employment as follows:

(1) The employee may displace an employee in a previous job title (or department for Reporters and Columnists) whose years of service in that job title (or department for Reporters and Columnists) are less than the total years of the dismissed employee in the two job titles together.

(2) If the employee has previously worked in a Guild-covered job title (or department for Reporters and Columnists) but his/her immediate prior position was non-Guild covered, the employee may bump into a prior Guild-covered position if the employee's combined service in the two Guild-covered position(s) (excluding service in the non-Guild job title) is greater than the service of the employee determined to be junior in the prior job title (or department for Reporters and Columnists).

The employee thus displaced shall be the one with the lowest Company seniority.

(e) An employee thus displaced may similarly elect to move into another job title in which the employee has worked or the employee may elect to take severance pay provided in Article VIII-B, Severance Pay.

(f) An employee who moves into a lower classification shall be paid the top minimum for that classification plus whatever dollar differential above minimum the employee had in the classification from which the employee was displaced.

(g) Employees who are dismissed to reduce the force and employees who have elected to bump into another job title will be placed on a rehire list based on seniority, and will be rehired on a seniority basis in the old job title (and, within a department for Reporters and Columnists) if and when a vacancy occurs. All dismissals to reduce the force affect first the employee with the least amount of seniority, and the last employee so dismissed will be the first eligible for rehire. Employees on the rehire list, when notified of vacancy availability, must accept or reject this offer within seven (7) days unless extended by mutual agreement. A copy of the rehire list shall be provided to the Guild. New employees shall not be hired until the rehire list has been exhausted. Notice sent by certified mail to a person on the rehire list at the last address known to the Employer shall be deemed sufficient; a copy of such notice shall be sent to the Guild by ordinary mail.

(h) On rehire, the employee shall have the option of refunding severance pay to regain all benefits of this agreement. If the employee elects not to repay severance pay, they shall retain all benefits of this agreement except past severance credits. Their severance credits will commence on the day of rehire.

(i) Seniority means length of continuous full-time Guild-covered employment. Employment shall be deemed continuous unless interrupted by (1) dismissal for just and sufficient cause; or (2) resignation; or (3) refusal to accept an offer to rehire made according to the procedure given in paragraph (g) above; or (4) retirement; provided that any period of employment for which severance pay actually has been paid and not refunded shall not be counted as employment in calculating severance which may again become due after rehire.

(j) All rehire lists shall be maintained for one (1) year from the date of dismissal.

(k) Performance Appraisals:

(1) The performance appraisal form and factors shall be negotiated annually by representatives of Denver Post management and the Guild. This work shall be completed by March 1 of each year. In addition to being used for layoffs, the evaluations are an opportunity to foster professional growth, provide useful feedback, discuss career opportunities, promote communication and highlight successes.

(2) Between March 1 and March 31 of each year the Employer shall give each Guild-covered employee a performance appraisal. Appraisals will be conducted by the employee's immediate supervisor or a supervisor with intimate knowledge of the employee's work.

(3) After all Guild-covered employees on staff at the time of ratification of this Contract have received one full performance appraisal, the Evaluation Subcommittee shall reconvene to review the process, including necessary data.

(4) Thereafter, all performance appraisals will be completed and received by the end of March.

(5) During the period between contract ratification and the time when all Guild-covered employees who were on staff at the time of ratification have had their second full performance appraisal, any reductions in force will be conducted as provided in subsection (a) above.

(l) Reductions in force after the performance appraisal process has been established:

(1) After completion of the second full performance appraisal process for all employees on staff as of the second March following the date of contract ratification, layoffs shall be by job title, except the Reporter and Columnist job titles shall also be by department.

(2) Layoffs shall be in reverse order of the total number of points. The total number of points is determined as follows:

- A maximum of forty (40) points assigned for seniority (two (2) points for each year of service within a job title or within a department for reporters and columnists).
- A maximum of thirty (30) points for General Competencies as scored in the most recent performance appraisal.
- A maximum of thirty (30) points for Specific Skills Assessment as scored in the most recent performance appraisal.
- For newly hired employees who have not yet received a performance evaluation, a performance evaluation will be completed.
- If two or more employees subject to the layoff have the same total points, company seniority shall be the tie breaker.

- After implementation, if appraisals are not completed according to the terms described in subsection (k) above, any reduction in force shall be done in reverse-seniority order as provided in subsection (a) above.

(m) After subsection (k) has been completed, and as long as the requirements of subsection (k) are fulfilled, bumping described in Section 4(d) shall be based on points described in subsection (k).

5. (a) The Guild shall be given three (3) months' notice, if possible, and no less than one (1) month's notice of intent to introduce new or modified equipment, machines, apparatus or processes that will create new job titles or alter the job content of existing job titles. The parties shall immediately enter into negotiations for a mutual agreement covering procedures for the introduction of such new or modified equipment, machines, apparatus or processes. Any employee who is displaced shall be retrained for available positions in other job titles, and continued in the employ of the Employer at no reduction in salary or impairment of benefits.

(b) The retraining period shall be limited to ninety (90) days, which may be extended an additional ninety (90) days by mutual agreement, after which the employee will be certified in the new position or, if they fail to qualify for the new position, may resign or retire in accordance with paragraph 5 (c) below.

(c) Displaced employees who do not desire to transfer to another job title or who do not wish to retrain for other positions may elect to resign or, if eligible under The Denver Post-Denver Newspaper Guild Newsroom Employees' Pension Plan, retire. In such cases, accrued severance pay will be paid. Such election may be made at any time prior to or during the retraining period specified above.

(d) If the sale, merger, or discontinuance of publication shall result in the dismissal or layoff of any employee in the Guild's jurisdiction, The Denver Post shall pay to such employee four (4) weeks' compensation at straight time rates as a legal obligation in addition to any severance pay due under the terms of Article VIII-B, Severance Pay, Section 1.

6. The Employer may enter into individual discussions with employees and may offer monetary payments or other incentives, at its discretion, in exchange for an employee's voluntary termination of employment. The Employer shall notify the Union of the terms of any such offers made to the employee. If the Employer offers a buyout to a group of employees, the Employer shall notify the Union at least one week in advance of the terms of any such proposed offers to be made to bargaining unit employees and will negotiate with the Union concerning the terms of such offers upon the Union's request. Such negotiations shall last no longer than one (1) week from the date the Employer gives notice to the Union. The Employer shall meet and negotiate as frequently as requested by the union during such week. In the event that the Parties have not reached an agreement on the terms of the group buyout offer within the week, the Employer's last proposed offer will prevail and shall be offered to bargaining unit employees as long as the offer meets the requirements in the paragraph below.

In any buyout initiated by the Employer, the Employer shall offer as one option an amount at least equal to the value of severance pay as provided in Article VIII-B, Severance Pay to each employee who accepts the buyout offer and voluntarily resigns. The amount shall be computed at the employee's current weekly rate of pay. Alternatively, an employee freely and of their own volition and without coercion may initiate buyout discussions. When an employee initiates such an offer, the buyout amount may be any sum agreeable to the employee and the Employer. In such an employee-initiated buyout, the Employer shall notify the Union of the terms.

ARTICLE VIII

Severance Pay

1. An employee shall receive a cash severance allowance equal to one (1) week's pay for each six (6) months of continuous service, or major portion thereof, to a maximum twenty-six (26) weeks upon layoff or death. Employees who, on March 12, 2008, had at least twelve and one half (12.5) years of continuous full-time service, shall be grandfathered and will be entitled to continue to accrue severance pay up to the previous maximum of forty-four (44) weeks' pay upon layoff or death. Employees hired after September 24, 2023 are eligible to receive severance pay equal to a rate of one (1) week of severance pay for each year of service with a minimum of two (2) weeks and

a maximum of twelve (12) weeks of severance. Severance pay is to be computed at the highest weekly rate of pay received by the employee in the previous calendar year. Severance shall be paid bi-weekly with the normal payroll cycle for the number of weeks the severance amount represents or, at the employee's request, severance shall be paid in a lump sum. Employees who are terminated for just and sufficient cause are not eligible to receive severance.

2. In the case where an employee separates from employment because of death while employed full-time, a severance benefit shall be paid as defined in Section 1. The amount shall be paid in cash in a single sum to their beneficiary. The term "beneficiary" means (a) the person or persons designated by the employee in the employee's latest written notice to the Employer; (b) if there is no designated beneficiary living, the employee's legal spouse; (c) if neither a designated beneficiary nor the legal spouse of the employee survives the employee, the employee's estate. Any designation of the beneficiary may be changed from time to time by the employee by giving written notice to the Employer.

3. If an employee has been terminated for any reason, has received severance benefits under the terms and conditions of the contract and subsequently returns to work for The Post, they shall at the employee's option:

- (a) return the severance in a lump sum, or
- (b) make no return of severance benefits received or make a partial return, in which case the amount not returned shall be subsequently withheld from any severance benefit the employee may be entitled to in the future.

ARTICLE IX

Pension

1. Terms and conditions of retirement are specified in The Denver Post-Denver Newspaper Guild Newsroom Employees' Pension Plan as amended, the duration of which is hereby made coextensive with the duration of this agreement. Changes to the plan may be made from time to time as required by law.

Benefit formula:

The monthly benefit will be equal to the greater of (a) \$45 per year of service per month, or (b) 1.65% times Average Final Monthly Compensation up to \$1,500, plus 1% times Average Final Monthly Compensation over \$1,500, the sum not to exceed \$60 per year of service per month, multiplied by the number of the employee's years of Credited Service. "Compensation" and early retirement rules are defined in the Pension Plan Document and Summary Plan Description, available in the Human Resources Department.

2. The Employer and the Union agree that effective January 1, 2013, The Denver Post-Denver Newspaper Guild Newsroom Employees' Pension Plan was frozen as follows:

- (a) No Participant will accrue or be credited with any additional Benefit Service (as defined by the Plan) for service performed on or after January 1, 2013.
- (b) For Participants who are Covered Employees and employed by the Employer on January 1, 2013, all Benefit Service Credits as of January 1, 2013 will be considered vested without regard to actual Vesting Service.
- (c) Participants who are Covered Employees and employed by the Employer on January 1, 2013, shall be credited with (i) the Participant's actual Benefit Service earned as of December 31, 2012; plus (ii) an additional credit of Benefit Service in an amount equal to the Participant's actual Benefit Service earned for the Plan Year ended December 31, 2012. In other words, Participants will earn double Benefit Service credit for calendar year 2012.
- (d) Compensation received by the Participant on and after January 1, 2013, shall not be taken into account for purposes of determining the Participant's Average Monthly Compensation.
- (e) Effective January 1, 2013, no new employees were eligible to become Plan Participants.

3. The Employer will continue to contribute future amounts, if necessary, to maintain funding of the Plan as required by federal law and regulations based on actuarial recommendations.

4. The Union will continue to negotiate monthly benefit amounts with the Employer in subsequent collective bargaining agreements. Future benefit increases will not be precluded by the freeze of the Plans as provided in Section 2 and may be negotiated, depending on funding and mutual agreement by the Employer.

5. In addition to The Denver Post-Denver Newspaper Guild Pension Agreement, the Employer will make contributions to The Newspaper Guild International Pension Plan (TNGIPP). The Employer will contribute \$8,195.40 per week for each full-time employee to The Newspaper Guild International Pension Plan. Part-time employees will be eligible to become Participants in the TNGIPP, and contributions for part-time employees will be made after it is determined they have worked a minimum of one thousand (1,000) hours in a calendar year. The contributions will be pro-rated based on hours worked, and the rate of contribution will be based on the rate in effect at the time for full-time employees. No contributions will be made for part-time employees who have not yet worked one thousand (1,000) hours in a calendar year.

ARTICLE X Defined Contribution Plan (401(k))

The Employer shall offer a 401(k) plan to all employees covered by this contract. The Employer match of no less than 50% of the first 6% of eligible pay saved pre-tax under the Plan once an employee becomes eligible shall be suspended indefinitely.

ARTICLE XI Transfers and Promotions

1. No employee shall be transferred by the Employer to another enterprise in the same city, or to another city, whether in the same enterprise or in other enterprises conducted by the Employer, without the employee's consent and payment of all transportation and household moving expenses of the employee and their family. The "home base" of employees hired to work outside Denver shall be construed to be Denver for purposes of this Section. There shall be no reduction in salary or impairment of other benefits as a result of such transfer. An employee shall not be penalized for refusing to accept a transfer.

An employee's consent to a transfer from the city in which they were hired to work to an assignment in another city is a round-trip commitment by the employee and the Employer. The Employer may choose to transfer the employee back to their original work location at any time, but will give reasonable advance notice to the employee. The Employer shall pay transportation and moving expenses of the employee for the move to a new city and for the return to the original city. If the employee is terminated while assigned to the new city, the Employer shall pay moving expenses back to the original city, but is not required to pay moving expenses to any other location.

To the extent practical, details of the transfer to the new city and the possible return shall be agreed upon in advance of the transfer, including the amount of moving expenses and length of advance notice of a return transfer.

For the purpose of this Article, the Seven County Denver Metro Area is one city.

Prior to accepting transfer consent from an employee, the Employer shall discuss the application of this provision with the employee.

2. The Employer's right to make normal transfers is not restricted, but such transfers are not to be made for purposes of whim or harassment. An employee transferred to another job classification or department against their wishes shall have the right to appeal under the grievance procedure of this contract. If an employee refuses a job transfer at the time it is offered and resigns, they shall receive severance pay.

3. No employee shall in any way be penalized for refusing to accept a promotion.

4. (a) The Employer shall post notices of vacancies for regular full-time positions except when the vacancy is to be filled by the reassignment of an employee without a change in the employee's title. Whenever the Employer intends to transfer an employee to another beat or assignment, the Editor shall first discuss the proposed change with affected employees and consider other suggested options.

(b) Current employees who have completed their probationary periods will be given first consideration when vacancies occur subject to the rehiring requirements of Article VII-B, Employee Security.

(c) Notice of such vacancies shall be posted on the bulletin boards in the departments involved and on one centrally designated bulletin board for at least seven (7) days or, at the option of the Employer, five (5) days in cases of urgency in filling the position. The Guild will be notified of such vacancies. In cases of five (5) day notification, the date the opening must be filled shall be specified. All vacancy notices shall be posted by 10 a.m.

(d) Employees desiring to fill such vacancies shall submit written applications within the specified period of such posting or provide written notification of intent to renew a previous application on file. Upon request, the Employer shall provide a written explanation to the employee of why an applicant is denied promotion or transfer.

(e) Employees transferred or promoted under this article shall be given a trial period of ninety (90) days, which period may be extended by mutual agreement. The Employer's evaluation of the employee's progress shall be discussed with the employee at intervals during the trial period and at its end. During the trial period, the employee shall receive at least the minimum next higher than the employee's salary in the classification from which the employee advanced, with full credit being given in experience rating for past similar work. Any time during the trial period, the Employer may confirm or not confirm the employee in the new position, but shall confirm or not confirm the employee at least at the conclusion of the trial period.

(1) During the trial period, the employee may elect to return to a comparable position without penalty or prejudice.

(2) If the employee is confirmed in the new position, the trial period shall be included for all purposes in determining the length of service in the classification or job.

(3) If the employee is unable to perform satisfactorily the duties of the job, the employee will be returned to the employee's old job without penalty or prejudice.

(4) Upon return to the old job or a comparable position, the employee will receive the salary to which the employee would have been entitled if the employee had not been advanced. The employee's period of service in the higher classification shall be counted for all purposes as service in the classification from which the employee advanced.

(f) Part-time employees desiring a transfer to another part-time position or assignment within the employee's job classification and department may submit a request for such transfer at any time. Transfer requests shall be kept on file by the department head. When an opening occurs in the position requested, the employee shall be given first consideration. If more than one employee requests the same transfer, consideration shall be made in seniority order. Such transfers shall not be denied without legitimate business reasons. Upon application, part-time employees shall be given first consideration for full-time positions in their job title and department.

5. The Employer is entitled at its sole discretion to select employees for all vacancies from among qualified applicants for such job openings. If the Employer determines that two or more applicants — whether current employees or not — are virtually equal in all other respects (considering ability to perform the work, previous experience, references, education and training, quantity and quality of work, attendance and other performance records, dependability, and other reasonable criteria), the employee with the greatest Company seniority shall be appointed to fill the bargaining unit vacancy, unless affirmative action considerations conflict.

ARTICLE XII

Hours of Work and Overtime

1. The five (5) day, forty (40) hour week shall apply to all employees, except that employees may work a four (4) day, forty (40) hour week by mutual agreement.
2. The working day shall consist of eight (8) hours falling within nine (9) consecutive hours. In the case of a four (4) day work week, ten (10) hours shall fall within eleven (11) consecutive hours.
3. The Employer shall compensate for overtime at the rate of time and one-half in cash, except as noted in subsection (a) below. Overtime shall be defined as work beyond forty (40) hours in the work week. The Employer will endeavor to evenly distribute overtime and rotate overtime so that no single employee is burdened with excessive amounts of overtime work except where operational and skill requirements do not permit.
 - (a) Any employee assigned to work more than twelve (12) consecutive hours shall be paid time and one-half pay for any work beyond twelve (12) hours.
 - (b) The Employer shall cause a record of all overtime to be kept with such record to be made available to the Guild upon request. The Guild may request this information as regards all covered employees, or as regards only a department or generally recognized sub-department only. The Guild agrees to request overtime records on all covered employees not more often than three (3) times within any calendar year, but may request overtime records of a department or generally recognized sub-department or individual as often as once per month.
 - (c) An employee must be given and take a lunch break after working not more than five and one-half (5 1/2) consecutive hours.
 - (d) No employee shall, without their consent, be scheduled to work more than five (5) consecutive days without being given at least one (1) day off or being compensated at time and one-half rates for work on a sixth, and double time rate for a seventh or more consecutive days of work except as noted in Article XIX, Part-time and Temporary Employees.
4. An employee who is called back to work on their day off shall be compensated at a rate of time and one-half of straight time except as noted in Article XIX, Part-time and Temporary Employees. The employee shall receive four (4) hours of pay for up to four (4) hours of work and at least eight (8) hours of pay if the employee works more than four hours.
5. Employees called back after the regular day's or night's work shall receive a bonus of two (2) hours pay. This shall not be in payment for any time actually worked. Time and one-half of straight-time rates unless otherwise provided (with a guaranteed minimum of one (1) hour's pay) for the time worked on said callback shall be paid.
6. That part of a scheduled shift within ten (10) hours after the completion of the employee's previously scheduled shift shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half. Agreed-upon exceptions to this will be the shifts immediately following municipal, state and federal elections.
7. Work schedules shall be posted in each department by 3 p.m. two Friday's in advance of the effective date of the schedule, provided that no alterations may be made at any time except by mutual agreement of the employee and supervisor. Employees shall be allowed to trade shifts and/or days off provided (a) no overtime shall be paid as a result of such trade and (b) the supervisor agrees in advance to each instance of a trade. Overtime shall be defined as all work beyond the unit of hours in the work week, forty (40), or any work outside of regularly posted scheduled hours not mutually rearranged as specified above. The Employer may elect not to post weekly work schedules in those work groups that are normally scheduled for the same hours but to post the work schedule whenever there is a change in the normal schedule, including scheduled overtime, and inform all employees in the work group of the schedule change as soon as practical but no later than 3 p.m. two Friday's in advance of the change.
8. Employees who work shifts starting between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight on Sundays shall at their request be given consecutive days off during the week.

9. An employee working more than four (4) hours in any one shift of eight (8) hours in a higher wage classification shall be paid at the rate of pay for the higher wage classification.

10. (a) Time actually spent in transit by employees traveling to and from out-of-town assignments, including travel time on overnight assignments, shall be considered working time. Insofar as possible, the travel time shall be scheduled within the normal work day. Where the employee is permitted a choice of more than one form of transportation, the shortest time by which the assignment can be reached shall be allowed.

(b) Insofar as possible, the employee shall adhere to the eight (8)-hour work day.

(c) In cases involving out-of-the-ordinary news developments, including picture assignments, the employee is authorized to work overtime at the rate of time and one-half for actual hours worked. The department supervisor shall be the judge of the validity of such overtime when submitted, subject to the grievance procedures outlined in the contract.

(d) In cases involving travel to out-of-state assignments where the employee is forced to return on the next or some succeeding day, the following policy may be adhered to:

(1) Where the situation is known in advance, the employee's work schedule may be adjusted to give him or her a different day off during the same calendar week.

(2) Where the situation is not known in advance, the employee shall be entitled to a compensating day off.

11. On request, full-time employees in the newsroom who are regularly scheduled for a Saturday and/or Sunday shift may once every eight (8) weeks have their schedule changed to provide the employee with a Saturday and Sunday off. Such requests must be made at least four (4) weeks in advance. Additional requests for Saturday or Sunday off beyond those provided in this section shall not be unreasonably denied.

12. Under no circumstances will an employee receive more than double-time pay for any time worked.

13. Reporters who are classified specifically as Legislative Reporters will be assigned to a Fluctuating Workweek. As outlined in Title 29 CFR 778.114, this provides a paid 40-hour work week with the understanding that work fluctuates and some weeks require more hours while others require less. Those who are classified Fluctuating Workweek will be paid at a rate of 0.5 of their normal hourly rate of pay for hours worked over 40 hours in a workweek. Additionally, these employees will receive additional time off associated with the overtime hours at a rate of 0.5 : 1 (One half hour for every hour worked beyond 40 hours in a workweek). The department head shall keep accurate records of such additional time off.

As an exception to Section 15(a) below, during the legislative session and during any special session, Legislative Reporters may work up to forty-five (45) hours per week, when necessary, without preapproval from management but shall report additional hours worked to their supervisor by the end of the workweek. Any hours beyond forty-five hours per week requires prior approval from management.

The scheduling of this time off will still require manager approval, can be taken when business needs are met and in the off season, and within six months from the date it is accrued. Comp time not scheduled and taken within six months of the date it is accrued may be assigned by the Employer.

14. The positions of Sports Reporter and Sports Columnist are salaried, overtime exempt. Sport Reporters and Sports Columnists shall be paid a weekly salary for all hours worked and shall not be eligible for additional pay for hours worked beyond forty hours in a work week. The salaries for Sports Reporters and Sports Columnists shall be at least \$100 per week greater than the weekly rate for Reporter and Columnist provided in Article XX, Wages.

15. (a) Employees are required to get preapproval of overtime before it is worked with as much advanced notice as possible.

(b) The overtime hours shall be submitted to the Employer by the end of the pay period in which the overtime was worked. If denied overtime, employees shall not be disciplined for the consequences of ceasing work in compliance

with overtime denial (e.g., not completing work assignment, delayed stories). This section 15(b) does not preclude the Employer from disciplining bargaining unit employees for just and sufficient cause.

ARTICLE XIII Holidays

1. The recognized holidays are: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and two floating holidays after six months of employment.
2. Employees who are not required to work on those holidays will receive their regular day's pay. Full-time employees who are required to work on a holiday will be paid at double the straight-time rate for not less than eight (8) hours.
3. Arrangements for selection of the floating holidays must be made and mutually agreed to with the employee's department head. The department head shall be notified at least two (2) weeks in advance of the employee's choice of their floating holidays which can be earned once in a calendar year, and taken on a mutually agreeable date. If two or more employees in the same department or section request the same floating holiday, the department head will endeavor to grant the requests, but if they must limit the number who can take the same floating holiday, requests will be granted on the basis of full-time Company seniority. Unused floating holidays will be paid out at the time of termination.
4. If a holiday falls on an employee's regular day off, they shall be given an additional day off by mutual arrangement with the Employer.
5. Part-time employees who work on a recognized holiday shall be compensated at double their regular rate for the hours actually worked.
6. By agreement with the Employer, an employee may select any two (2) religious holidays to substitute for any two (2) of the holidays listed in Section 1 above. Such selection shall be arranged with the department head not less than two (2) weeks before the religious holidays chosen.
7. An employee's regular day off will not be changed or shifted to avoid payment of holiday premium pay they normally would receive.

ARTICLE XIV Vacations

1. The vacation period shall be for the entire calendar year.
2. (a) Eligibility for vacations shall be determined as follows: Employees shall accrue (a) two (2) weeks' vacation with pay after one (1) year of continuous service, one week of which may be taken after six (6) months; (b) three (3) weeks' vacation with pay after three (3) years' continuous service; (c) four (4) weeks' vacation with pay after seven (7) years of continuous service with the Employer.

(b) Once an employee reaches one year's accrual, accrual shall stop until the employee uses enough vacation to reduce accrual below such limit. Cash in lieu of vacation will not be paid except as provided in Section 7 of this Article.
3. Accrued vacation shall be computed from the anniversary date of employment.

4. A full-time and a part-time vacation calendar covering April 1 of the current year through March 31 of the following year shall be posted in all departments or sections by February 1 of each year, together with a list of names of full-time employees ranked in order of full-time company seniority and a list of part-time employees ranked in order of company seniority. Employees must select vacation dates on the basis of their seniority prior to April 1, or lose their seniority rights for vacation selection. Changes shall not be made in the vacation schedule after April 1, except upon mutual agreement between affected employees and the department head. Part-time employees shall be permitted to schedule vacations in the same manner as full-time employees as described in this Article, except they will be provided a separate vacation calendar.
5. Requests for single-day vacation time will be considered in the order they are received. Employees scheduled for full-workweek vacation time shall have precedence over requests for single-day vacation.
6. An employee whose vacation time includes a recognized holiday shall receive a substitute day with pay on a mutually agreeable date.
7. Upon termination of employment, an employee (or their estate in case of death) shall receive accrued vacation pay.

ARTICLE XV

Sick Leave

1. Sick leave is designed to protect employees against loss of income during periods of physical or mental illness, injury or disability. Sick leave may be used to cover absences caused by the illness of or injury to the employee, employee's immediate family or domestic partner. Illness or injury shall include doctor or dental appointments. Proven abuse, defined as any situation in which an employee falsely claims the reason for missed work is illness, injury, disability or doctor or dental appointment(s), may result in discipline up to and including discharge. Excessive use of sick leave, including a pattern of use, may also result in discipline up to and including discharge. Such discipline shall be reviewed by the Human Resources Department. If reasonable cause for suspicion of misuse or abuse of the sick leave benefit arises, the Employer may request the employee provide a doctor's note or other appropriate documentation.
2. No deductions shall be made from overtime or vacation credited or to be credited to an employee because of illness unless the absence occurs on the scheduled sixth day outside the employee's regular schedule.
3. Sick leave of not less than twelve (12) working days, ninety-six (96) hours, shall be accrued per calendar year (pro-rata for partial calendar year) of employment, and be accumulated up to thirty-six (36) days, two hundred eighty-eight (288) hours.
4. No employee absent from work due to legitimate disability shall receive more in benefits than their regular take-home pay.
5. Where an employee is absent due to legitimate disability and where no other weekly benefits are provided, they shall receive their regular take-home pay from accrued sick-leave credit to the extent that such sick-leave credit is available.
6. Where an employee is absent due to legitimate disability and other weekly benefits are available, accrued hours of sick-leave credit shall be paid to the extent that such sick-leave credit is available to make up the difference between the total regular take-home pay and other weekly benefits. Only the hours of sick-leave pay used to make up the difference shall be charged the employee's accrued sick-leave credit.

7. Sick-leave compensation for part-time employees shall accrue in proportion to total hours worked. The accrual rate for part-time employees is one-half the accrual rate of full-time employees (six (6) days per year pro-rata based on hours worked).

8. After five consecutive days of absence because of illness of the employee, the employee is eligible to apply for sickness and accident coverage (Short-Term Disability) as provided in Article XVI, Health Plan and Other Benefits, Section 4.

ARTICLE XVI Health Plan and Other Benefits

The Employer shall offer the MediaNews Group Health Plan, or a successor plan, which will provide Medical, Dental, Vision and Life/Accidental Death and Dismemberment (“AD&D”) Insurance plans, Sickness and Accident coverage (“Short-Term Disability”) and Flexible Spending Accounts and Sec 132(f) tax-free Qualified Transportation Benefit Accounts to eligible employees covered by this collective bargaining agreement, upon proper enrollment. Employees hired after the date of ratification will not be eligible to enroll in the Kaiser DHMO plan.

1. ELIGIBILITY:

Full-Time Employees:

(a) Full-time employees become eligible the first of the month following one full calendar month from the date of full-time employment for The Denver Post Health Plan (which includes medical, dental and life and AD&D insurance benefits), with the exception of Short-Term Disability.

Part-Time Employees:

(a) Part-time employees become eligible for a medical HMO plan, Dental and Vision benefits (Dental and Vision premiums will be paid 100% by the part-time employee) when they have worked an average of 27 hours per week during a “Measurement Period” described in this paragraph. The Measurement Periods shall be: (1) October through February of the following calendar year, and (2) April through August. To maintain coverage under these benefits, the employee must continue to be paid an average of 27 hours per week in each Measurement Period. The Benefits Department will review the hours paid for each of the Measurement Periods and will notify the employee during March and September if they are no longer eligible, or becomes eligible, for benefits during the Measurement Period that has just concluded.

(b) For coverage to be effective, part-time employees must properly enroll by the end of the month of the notification period (March and September of each year).

(c) If an employee loses eligibility because of a reduction in hours, they will be offered COBRA continuation coverage (for a period of up to 18 months) and will pay 102% of the cost of the benefits. Hours shall not be reduced solely to avoid the payment of benefits under this section.

2. PREMIUM SHARE:

(a) Medical coverage: The Employer shall make Medical premium share contributions for full-time and part-time employees enrolled in the primary medical plan (currently Kaiser DHMO) as follows:

Employee Only

78%

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Employee + Child(ren) | 74% |
| Employee + Spouse | 70% |
| Employee + Family | 70% |

The change in the Employer’s Employee + Child(ren) premium share from 70% to 74% shall be effective the beginning of the first pay period in the month following ratification.

For any other Medical plans offered, the Employer shall pay an amount equal to its share of the Kaiser DHMO plan or its successor plan premiums and the enrolled employee shall pay the remainder.

(b) The Employer shall offer Dental and Vision plans.

1. The Employer’s contribution for Dental Insurance shall not be less than 64% for full-time employees. Eligible part-time employees will pay 100 percent of the dental premium.
2. Employees shall pay the full cost of the Vision plan.

(c) The employee shall pay their premium share by payroll withholding or directly to a Third Party Administrator (“TPA”) if COBRA coverage has been offered and elected.

3. LIFE AND AD&D INSURANCE:

(a) The group term Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance for full-time employees up to age 65 shall be one times (1X) the employee’s annual base wage, annualized and rounded up to the nearest \$1000 up to age 65. An age reduction schedule applies after age 65.

(b) The cost of this coverage within the Employer’s Plan will be fully paid by the Employer.

(c) An additional amount of life insurance and voluntary AD&D insurance may be purchased by the employee.

(d) The rates for this coverage are provided during the annual Open Enrollment period.

(e) Complete information: For a detailed description of the Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment and STD Insurance plans and the terms, conditions and extent of benefits refer to the Plan document, which is available in the Benefits Department.

4. DISABILITY:

(a) Short-Term Disability (“STD”): The Employer shall provide STD coverage for all full-time employees covered by this agreement. Employees hired after the date of implementation of this Agreement shall have a waiting period of one (1) year from their date of hire before they are eligible to receive STD benefits.

1. The first five (5) days of absence because of illness (“Elimination Period”) will be charged to the employee’s sick leave, if any is available. If an employee’s sick leave has been exhausted, the elimination period will be unpaid. Upon proper application by the employee to the Employer’s Third Party Administrator (“TPA”) and upon approval by the TPA, payment for the STD benefit will be paid for the sixth (6th) day of absence because of illness and consecutive days of disability through the period of time approved by the TPA, up through a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks.

2. Complete details regarding the Employer’s disability benefit and procedures for applying are available in the Benefits Department.

(b) Long-Term Disability (LTD): Full-time employees shall be eligible and are encouraged to purchase this insurance at a group rate.

(c) The Company maintains an approved private plan to provide the paid family and medical leave (PFML) benefits required by the state of Colorado. The Company does not participate in the Colorado FAMILI program but instead, the Company contributes the required percentage of each employee's income and processes the same percentage withheld from each employee's pay to the administrator of the private plan. The private plan provides the same wage replacement and range of covered absence as the state's plan. The private plan is administered by the Company's third-party administrator.

The Company's Short-Term Disability (STD) benefit runs concurrently with Paid Family and Medical Leave ("PFML"). Employees are not entitled to duplicate PFML wage replacement benefits with the Company's STD benefit. In order to be eligible for the Company's STD benefit, employees should apply concurrently for both the PFML and the Company's STD benefit through the Company's third-party administrator. At no time will an employee receive more than 100% of their normal base pay. In the event that the employee does not apply for PFML, only any offset of what would have been paid under PFML and the wage replacement to be paid by the STD plan will be calculated and paid upon meeting eligibility requirements. Any accrued unpaid sick time may be used at the request of the employee to supplement the PFML or STD income replacement by "topping off" the partial income replacement up to the employee's average weekly base wage. Upon the employee's written request, accrued unpaid vacation may also be used to supplement pay during a period of approved disability. If an overpayment occurs for the same hours, the Company will remedy the overpayment with a reversal through payroll.

5. FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS:

(a) Medical and dependent care spending accounts will be made available and will be defined and administered as required by law.

(b) In addition, the Sec 132(f) tax-free Qualified Transportation Benefit for parking and/or transportation costs will also be made available and will be defined and administered as required by law.

(c) The benefits in Paragraphs (a) and (b) can be elected during the annual Open Enrollment period and are available to all employees regardless of whether they are eligible for other benefits in this Article. The Employer shall pay all administration costs of these plans.

6. OPEN ENROLLMENT: Employees shall have the right to change elections under the Employer's Health Plan and other benefits within specific Open Enrollment dates set each year by the Employer. Once an employee makes a selection, the employee must remain in the selected plan the remainder of the plan year unless the employee sustains a qualifying life event as defined by the Plan.

7. BENEFITS AT RETIREMENT:

(a) Early retirement between ages of 55-64:

1. Employees who elect early retirement from the Employer after January 1, 2008 shall have the option of continuing their medical coverage paid fully by the employee at the early-retiree group rate.

2. Employees who retired from the Employer prior to January 1, 2008 shall have the option of continuing their medical coverage paid fully by the employee at the active employee group rate.

(b) Normal retirement at age 65 or older:

1. Employees who retire from the Employer shall have the option of continuing their medical coverage paid fully by the employee at the post-65 retiree group rate.

2. Employees who are age 65 or older must have proof of their MediCare Part B coverage/award letter from the Social Security office at least 30 days prior to the date of retirement to be eligible to continue medical coverage on the group Medigap plan as required by current Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services regulations. Arrangements for payment of the full premiums by the employee shall be made with the Benefits Department prior to retirement.

(c) Employees not electing to continue medical coverage through the Employer's medical plans at the time of retirement will not be eligible to elect medical coverage at a later date.

(d) Continuation of other benefits for which retirees are eligible will be offered through COBRA.

8. WELLNESS PROGRAM: The Employer and the Union may participate in meetings with The Denver Post and the other Unions to jointly develop a Wellness Program for all employees. Any Wellness initiative must be mutually agreed to by both the Employer and the Union(s).

9. BENEFITS PLAN DESIGN:

(a) The Employer will select all benefit plans (medical, dental and other plans) and all benefits components provided in those plans (e.g., co-insurance amounts or percentages, as well as deductibles and out-of-pocket employee costs) that constitute the design of these plans. Any changes in plans or plan design will be reasonable.

1. "Reasonable" is defined as meaning that medical plan design components will be selected based on benchmarks (1) among employers of similar size (currently 500 or more employees) in Colorado and (2) in the national Printing and Publishing Sector. Benchmark data will include, but not be limited to, benefit components of plans, data comparing cost per employee per year, and the Employer's demographics compared to those of the benchmarks.

2. If the Employer's actual cost per employee per year is projected to be less than that of the demographically adjusted benchmark per employee per year costs, the Employer will not reduce medical plan design benefits provided for employees for the following year.

(b) The Employer will provide information to and receive comments from the Union in analyzing information received from the benefit providers before any decisions are made concerning benefit plans or plan components each year, but is not required to bargain such changes. If the Union believes the changes are unreasonable it may file a grievance under Article VI, Grievance Procedure.

(c) The Union will negotiate share of premium for benefits but will not negotiate the benefit providers selected or the benefit plan design or components.

10. PLAN DOCUMENT: The components of the Employer's Health Plan are contained in the Plan document, a copy of which may be obtained in the Benefits Department. The specific terms and conditions for each benefit will be governed by the insurance contract or other benefit program documents.

11. EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ("EAP"): The Employer will offer an Employee Assistance Program to provide assessment, referral, focused therapy and coaching for employees and household members in dealing with personal problems, such as substance abuse, stress or emotional issues or financial problems that may affect job performance. Employees who enter an acceptable rehabilitation program shall be given a reasonable opportunity to control the problem or disorder, but it is explicitly understood that submission to treatment alone shall not provide immunity from termination or other appropriate discipline.

12. ADOPTION ASSISTANCE: The Employer shall offer an Adoption Assistance benefit to full-time employees and part-time employees who work a minimum of 30 hours per week. Contact the Benefits Department for additional information.

13. TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

(a) The Employer shall pay tuition costs for an active employee attending university, college, trade school or other institution under the following conditions:

1. Employee must have a minimum of one year of full-time employment with the Employer and currently work in a full-time position.
2. Application for tuition assistance benefits must be approved before an employee begins course work.
3. Course(s) must be taken at an accredited college, university, trade school, or other institution, and be considered to be related to the employee's current job assignment or logical avenues of promotion.
4. Course(s) must be successfully completed, normally within 60 days of the estimated completion date. Successfully completed shall mean receipt of a grade A, B or C. No reimbursement will be made for a grade below a C.
5. Reimbursement is at the rate of 50% and applies only to tuition cost.
6. Employee's full-time status must be retained through course completion. Any change in this status shall disqualify reimbursement.
7. No reimbursement will be made that duplicates costs covered by governmental or other educational grants.
8. An employee who voluntarily terminates employment within six (6) months of receiving tuition assistance shall repay the Employer one-half of the total amount of tuition assistance received from the Employer during the immediate previous twelve (12) months of employment. An employee who voluntarily terminates employment within twelve (12) months of completing a course of study resulting in a degree or certification, shall repay the Employer one-half of the total amount of tuition assistance received from the Employer during the immediate previous twenty-four (24) months of employment.

ARTICLE XVII
Leaves of Absence

1. Upon request, the Employer shall grant leaves of absence for good and sufficient cause.
2. Employees may receive leaves of absence without prejudice to continuous service in determination of severance pay. (General increases will apply only for those employees on leave of absence for a period of six (6) months or less.) Upon request, leaves of absence shall be granted to delegates elected to The Newspaper Guild, CWA or AFL-CIO conventions, both national and local; to delegates elected to special meetings called by The Newspaper Guild; and to employees elected or appointed to local or national Guild, CWA or AFL-CIO office or position. An employee on such leave shall be reinstated in the same or comparable position upon expiration of such leave. No severance pay shall accrue during leaves of absence. Right to reinstatement shall terminate in the event an employee on leave engages in gainful employment other than that for which the leave was granted. The number of employees on leave to accept local or national Guild, CWA or AFL-CIO elective or appointive office shall be limited to one (1) at any time except by mutual consent of the Employer and the Union. Employees on leave to accept local or national Guild, CWA or AFL-CIO elective or appointive office may receive benefits of Article XVI, Health Plan and Other

Benefits, and Article IX, Pension, during such leave, provided prior arrangements for payment of necessary premium is made with the human resources department and contingent upon such payments being timely made.

3. An employee shall be granted up to four (4) consecutive scheduled working days of paid leave of absence in the event of the death of a spouse, child or domestic partner. In the event of the death of a parent, parent of spouse, brother, sister, grandparent, surrogate parent or nearest blood relative, the paid leave of absence shall be up to three (3) consecutive scheduled working days. Within seven (7) days of the death, the employee shall work with his/her supervisor to schedule the time off. Regular scheduled day(s) off and holidays shall not count against an employee's entitlement to paid leave under this section, but no leave shall be granted while an employee is on vacation, leave of absence or otherwise not working. The employee may extend the leave provided in this Article by a maximum of thirty (30) days through any combination of vacation and unpaid leave of absence if the request is made to the employee's supervisor or Human Resources Department before the end of the paid funeral leave period.

4. The Employer shall grant child-care leaves to full-time employees who are the primary caregivers up to twelve (12) months in length inclusive of any paid disability period. The Employer also shall grant unpaid spousal leave to full-time employees for the purpose of childcare for up to six (6) months. Adoptive parents shall receive the same benefit considerations with respect to childcare leave as natural parents.

By arrangement with the Employer, an unpaid leave for the purpose of child care shall be granted to part-time employees who are the primary caregivers who have worked for the Employer one (1) year or more and average twenty (20) or more hours of work per week. Such leave shall not exceed one hundred eighty (180) calendar days in duration, which may be extended by mutual agreement.

5. At the employee's discretion, an employee may take up to ten (10) days of unpaid leave per calendar-year, with manager approval, in addition to other leave provided for in the Article.

ARTICLE XVIII

Military Service

1. The Employer shall honor all requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, as amended (USERRA) as it applies to an employee who has been absent from work due to "service" in the U.S. uniformed services. "Service" under USERRA means the performance of duty on a voluntary or involuntary basis in a uniformed service, including active duty, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty for training, full-time National Guard duty, absence from work for an examination to determine a person's fitness for these duties, and funeral honors duty performed by National Guard or reserve members.

2. An employee engaged in uniformed services described above shall be considered an employee on leave of absence, and on release from such service shall resume their position or a comparable one with a salary no less than they were receiving at the time of entering such service. If the scale minimum of their experience classification should be higher on their return, they will then be entitled to that minimum.

3. An employee called to serve or who voluntarily enlists shall be paid in cash an amount equal to the amount of severance pay to which such employee would be entitled if he/she were laid off, in accordance with Article VIII-B, Severance Pay. Upon return to employment, the employee will begin accruing a new severance period beginning from the date the employee left employment to enter the service. If the employee is unable to return to work due to death or disability, additional severance will be paid from the point the employee left employment until the death or disability. Severance pay will be based on the rate of pay used to pay severance when the employee left employment to enter the service

4. Application for resumption of employment must be made within ninety (90) days after termination of such service, plus accepted travel time from separation center to place of employment.

5. 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. An 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 have already been engaged in such new classification.
6. An employee hired or promoted as replacement of an employee entering such service shall be given a written notice to that effect at the time of such employment or promotion, said notice to state which employee they are replacing, and a copy of such notice shall be sent to the Guild.
7. Employees in the active reserves of the Armed Forces or in the National Guard shall be granted leaves of absence without pay to attend required annual encampments or call to duty for emergency service. Such employee must inform the Employer of this reserve status and must give notice of encampment date immediately on notification of such dates.
8. All employees on the completion of military leave shall receive the following benefits: (1) credit of time spent in service in computing vacation seniority rights, (2) credit of time spent in service in computing length of continuous service with the Employer, (3) reinstatement in a group insurance plan without a waiting period of thirty (30) days.

ARTICLE XIX

Part-Time and Temporary Employees

1. A part-time employee is one who is hired to work less than forty (40) hours in a work week. A temporary employee is one employed on a special project for a period of no more than six (6) months, except in cases where a temporary employee is hired to replace an employee on leave, then temporary employment shall be for the duration of the leave. When temporary employees are hired, the Union shall be notified of the temporary or special projects that require such hiring and the anticipated duration of such projects.
 - (a) Except by mutual agreement, part-time employees will not be scheduled to work more than five (5) days in a work week.
 - (b) Part-time employees may decline work days outside of their posted schedule.
 - (c) The provisions of Article XII, Hours of Work and Overtime, with regard to overtime pay for work on a sixth (6th) or seventh (7th) day and work outside of posted schedules do not apply to part-time employees.
 - (d) Hours worked by a part-time employee in a week may increase to forty (40) or more hours or decrease based on business needs without changing the employee's part-time status, except as noted in Section 3 of this Article.
2. The Employer may use individuals from temporary agencies or other labor pools based upon the following conditions:
 - (a) If these individuals are used for more than two weeks, the Employer shall notify the Guild.
 - (b) The use of these individuals may not exceed six (6) weeks in duration without mutual consent of the Employer and Guild.
 - (c) These individuals may not be used to avoid the hiring of Guild-covered employees.
3. Part-time or temporary employees shall not be employed where, in effect, such employment would eliminate or displace a full-time employee. In cases where the duties of part-time employee(s) can be consolidated into a full-time position as described in Article XII, Hours of Work and Overtime, Sections 1 or 2, a full-time position shall be created, provided the part-time positions have met the definitions of Article XII, Hours of Work and Overtime, Sections 1 or 2 for at least the previous six (6) continuous months. With the mutual agreement of the Employer and

Union, full-time positions can be restructured to accommodate employee requests for flexible work schedules or job-sharing.

4. Part-time employees shall receive all the benefits and are covered by all provisions of this contract except as limited in this contract. Temporary employees shall receive all the benefits and are covered by all provisions of this contract, except those outlined in Article XVIII, Military Service.

5. Part-time employees will be paid an hourly wage rate specified for full-time classifications. Part-time employees shall move into the next higher wage step when the employee has worked the number of full-time equivalent hours for the next pay step.

6. Vacation credit for part-time and temporary employees shall accrue in proportion to total hours worked; however, part-time employees who terminate employment within the first six (6) months of their employment shall not receive payment for accrued vacation credits upon termination.

7. Part-time employees will be given preference ahead of new part-time or temporary employees for work on holiday or vacation relief assignments normally performed by full-time employees. At the conclusion of such relief assignments, they will be returned to their former position as part-time employees.

ARTICLE XX

Wages

1. All active full-time and regular part-time employees that are at the top or above their wage scale (i.e. not eligible for step progression) shall receive the following percentage increase on April 19, 2026, and April 18, 2027. Nothing in this Agreement will prevent employees from bargaining individually for pay increases, nor will anything in this Agreement prevent the Employer, in its discretion, from increasing the pay of individual employees.

- Year 1 – 3.0% wage increase to current hourly rate or salary
- Year 2 – on the first full pay period following the one-year anniversary of the ratification of the agreement, 3.0% wage increase to current hourly rate or salary

Prior to the second anniversary date of this Agreement, the Parties shall hold wage opener negotiations to establish minimum pay rates and pay adjustments for the third year of this Agreement.

Employees shall be compensated at not less than the following minimum rates for their respective classifications:

| Classification 8 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reporter, Photographer, Artist, Content Coordinator, Digital Strategist | | | | | | | |
| Date | 1st yr. | 2nd yr. | 3rd yr. | 4th yr. | 5th yr. | 6th yr. | 7th yr. |
| Ratification | 25.60 | 27.10 | 28.68 | 30.35 | 32.13 | 34.03 | 36.00 |

| Classification 12 | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Systems Editor, Online News Editor, Assistant Editor | | | | | | | |
| Date | 1st yr. | 2nd yr. | 3rd yr. | 4th yr. | 5th yr. | 6th yr. | 7th yr. |
| Ratification | 26.33 | 27.88 | 29.50 | 31.25 | 33.08 | 35.00 | 37.05 |

| Classification 13 | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sports Reporter, Sports Columnist (Salaried overtime exempt) | | | | | | | |
| Date | 1st yr. | 2nd yr. | 3rd yr. | 4th yr. | 5th yr. | 6th yr. | 7th yr. |
| Ratification | 58,448.00 | 61,568.00 | 64,854.40 | 68,328.00 | 72,030.40 | 75,982.40 | 80,080.00 |

Employees paid above the minimum for their experience rating and classification shall receive a general increase at least equal to the negotiated minimum wage increase appropriate to their experience rating and job classification.

2. A night differential of \$4.00 per shift shall be paid to all full-time employees whose work day begins before 7 a.m. or extends after 7 p.m. This differential will apply only to those part-time employees who work a full shift.

Any overtime extending into night hours shall not entitle the worker to the night differential. This differential shall be included in computation of vacation pay and sick leave pay for those who regularly receive night differential.

Any employee who has a scheduled work day starting at 3 p.m. or later prior to a single day off and starts a work day at 8 a.m. or earlier following a single day off where his time off period is thirty-two (32) hours or less will receive a \$4.00 bonus in addition to any night differential he might be entitled to under the provisions outlined above.

3. Interns are defined as students currently enrolled in a college or high school program or recent college graduates. Interns may be hired up to twenty (20) weeks for the purpose of gaining practical experience in the field of journalism as an adjunct to their educational training. Full-time interns will be paid not less than seventy (70) percent of the beginning scale in the classification in which they work or applicable minimum wage whichever is greater. Part-time interns will be paid not less than sixty (60) percent of the beginning scale in the classification in which they work or applicable minimum wage whichever is greater. Interns will not be used as clerks.

ARTICLE XXI General Wage Provisions

1. In the application of the schedules of minimums in Article XX, Wages, experience shall include all employment in comparable work. Employees shall be classified as to the job title and experience rating at the time of employment, transfer or promotion.

2. There shall be no reduction in salaries during the life of this agreement.

3. The minimum wage rates established herein are minimums only. Nothing herein shall be construed to alter or modify the right of employees to bargain for individual pay increases in their own behalf, but the Employer agrees not to bargain with any individual employee for, or to enter into any agreement providing for, a salary less than the minimum set up in this agreement or less than any salary established between the Employer and the Guild. Individual merit may be recognized by increases above the minimum.
4. Pay for the previous two-week pay period shall be available to employees by direct deposit no later than Friday morning. The Employer may change pay dates with thirty (30) days prior notice to employees and the Union. The Employer and the Guild will work out details of the transition plan.
5. (a) The job content of each classification set forth in Article XX, Wages, is contained in the job descriptions.
(b) No job content of classifications described in Section 5(a) above shall be altered except by mutual agreement of the parties on a new job description and applicable minimum salary. Should the Employer create a new job, he shall furnish the Union with the proposed job description and the parties shall negotiate a new minimum.
(c) The new minimum referred to in Section 5(b) above shall be retroactive to the date the new job content is agreed upon.
6. Any employee who works full time in a higher classification shall receive at least the minimum in the higher classification next higher than their regular salary while so working.

ARTICLE XXII

Expenses and Equipment

1. The Employer shall pay all authorized legitimate expenses incurred by the employee in the service of the Employer.
2. Employees making their personal automobiles available for use at the authorization of the Publisher shall be reimbursed for all business miles as follows:

Photographers, the IRS rate.
Reporters, IRS rate less 5 cents per mile.

(d) Each employee being reimbursed under Section 2 shall provide the minimum automobile liability, personal injury protection and uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage as required by the State of Colorado. The Denver Post shall receive in a timely manner proof of insurance coverage and shall be notified immediately by the employee if the employee becomes uninsured.
3. Necessary working equipment shall be provided by the Employer who shall be the sole judge of need for the equipment.
4. The Employer will reimburse up to \$50 per month for employees required by management to have a cell phone and an additional \$25 per month reimbursement for employees required to transmit data from their cell phone.
5. Where free parking is not made available by the Company, employees who are required by the Company to make their personal automobile available for use on assignment shall pay half of the monthly parking rate charged to other employees at such location.
6. The Employer shall provide a Denver Post online subscription to each newsroom employee at no cost to the employee.

ARTICLE XXIII
Miscellaneous

1. (a) An employee's byline shall not be used over their protest.
(b) In editing of bylined reviews and assessments of public entertainment, affairs and events, the writer's opinions - as distinct from their choice of words, style and structure - shall not be changed without their consent, unless their byline is removed.
(c) If a question arises as to the accuracy of a printed news story, no correction or retraction of that story shall be printed until the Employer has made every reasonable effort to consult with the reporter.
2. (a) The Employer agrees to provide bulletin boards suitably placed for the exclusive use of the Guild. Maintenance of locks shall be the responsibility of and at the expense of the Guild.
(b) Except as provided in this agreement, members and/or administrative agents of the Guild shall not conduct union business with employees on company time where such business interferes with the timely completion of work.
3. No employee to whom this contract is applicable shall be required to take over the duties of any employee in another department of the Employer or any other newspaper in the event of a labor dispute in such other department or newspaper.
4. The employees of the Employer shall be free to engage in any activities outside of working hours, provided such activities do not consist of services performed for media in direct competition with the Employer and provided further that without permission no employee shall exploit their connection with the Employer in the course of such activities. The employee must consult with a senior editor prior to performing any work for other media.
5. When the product of an employee's work is sold by the Employer to any enterprise other than the one in which they are employed or the Employer already is under contract with, the Employer shall compensate said employee for such other use at a rate to be mutually agreed between the Employer and the employee. Photographs and news stories are the property of the Employer. If a photograph or news story is sold, the Employer will pay the photographer or reporter half of the proceeds up to \$2,000 per transaction. If the sale price of the photograph or news story is more than \$2,000, the amount exceeding \$2,000 will be shared according to a percentage mutually agreed between the Employer and the photographer or reporter.
6. An employee called to a jury panel shall so notify their supervisor in advance and will be excused from their work to report for this duty. If not selected as a juror, the employee shall return to work without delay and will be paid for time absent. If the employee is selected as a juror, they shall call their department head as soon as possible and inform the supervisor of their being selected a juror. Full wages shall be paid to the employee when so engaged as a juror. All monies received by the employee for their services as a panel member or juror shall be turned over to the Employer with full endorsement.
An employee regularly scheduled nights, provided the employee notifies their department head prior to the posting of the work schedule, shall be scheduled for day work and the above-mentioned provisions will apply.
The above provisions shall also apply to any employee who is subpoenaed to testify in any court or administrative proceeding provided the employee is not a defendant in such proceedings, unless they are a defendant in an action that is job-related.
7. The Employer shall provide each present employee within the bargaining unit and all employees hired within the unit after the signing of this contract with a copy of this contract and a copy of the Post-Guild Pension Plan.
8. The Employer agrees to furnish at all times a healthful, sufficiently ventilated, properly heated, properly lighted, reasonably quiet, clean and uncrowded area that meets safety requirements established by law for the performance of all work. The employee shall assist in maintaining clean and healthful rooms in which to perform all duties. Three Guild representatives and three Employer representatives shall be appointed as a safety committee to meet monthly or on call of any two members to discuss safety matters or implementation of this section. The

Employer shall review all recommendations of the safety committee. The Employer reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to transition bargaining unit positions that can be performed remotely to a fully remote work arrangement. Should the Employer elect to implement such a transition, the Employer shall provide written notice to the Union and the affected employees no less than sixty (60) days prior to the effective date of the transition. Those bargaining unit employees transitioned to a remote work arrangement, the Employer shall allow the employee to take home an office chair and/or other office equipment, if available, on a first come first serve basis, as administered by the Employer. The Employer shall continue to provide all necessary working equipment as provided in Article XXII, Expenses.

9. No employee shall be assigned to any aircraft flight over their objection. For those employees who are assigned to aircraft flights, the Employer shall provide not less than \$100,000 accidental death insurance protection.

10. The Employer shall furnish to the employee and the Guild (unless the employee requests that a copy not go to the Guild) a copy of any criticism or commendation when such document is retained by a department head or supervisor or the human resources department. Supervisors shall be responsible for notifying the employee any time such statements or notes are placed in their file. The employee shall be allowed to place a reply to any such statement or documents in their file. An employee shall have the right to examine their file or files at reasonable times. Statements of department policies shall be in writing and posted on department bulletin boards.

11. The Employer and the Union agree to the creation of committees for the purpose of communication or resolution of issues of mutual interest. The parties understand such committees will be advisory and consultative in character and shall not be used for discussion of contract interpretation or alleged violations of the contract nor as grievance committees. Each party shall appoint a reasonable number of members to the committee. Either party may request a meeting in writing, specifying the subject(s) desired to be discussed. Such committees shall be dissolved by mutual agreement upon the conclusion of discussions on each issue.

12. Seniority in choice of shifts shall prevail according to past practice, and seniority shall be given serious consideration in all other cases. Assignment to night shifts shall not be made for the purpose of whim or harassment.

13. It is agreed that the rights management has exercised in the past under Section 1 of Article VII-B, Employee Security, extend also and apply to Section 4 of Article VI, Grievance Procedure.

14. The Employer and the Guild shall maintain a joint human rights committee consisting of four (4) members representing the Employer and four (4) members representing the Guild. Its purpose shall be to give guidance in establishing programs to recruit, train, hire and promote those who may have been or who are now being denied work opportunities in the newspaper industry. It will meet at reasonable times and places by mutual agreement, but not less frequently than quarterly, shall pick its own officers and organize itself.

15. The Employer recognizes the need for and the value of providing training that will allow equal opportunity for transfer or promotion to employees after completion of such training.

The Employer shall accept requests for training from among employees who are interested in finding job opportunities in other job titles.

Training shall be considered by the Employer that will provide means for present employees to find job opportunities in other job titles when openings exist.

16. The Employer agrees to adopt the following practices in regard to use of computers in the workplace:

(a) The Employer and Union shall establish an Ergonomics Committee that will meet regularly to:

- (1) Review injury/illness statistics while maintaining confidentiality.
- (2) Review workstation and work practice standards to make recommendations to management.
- (3) Evaluate the effectiveness of interventions in reducing the prevalence of repetitive motion injuries.
- (4) Set up and monitor mechanisms that give employees opportunity to report repetitive motion injuries.

(b) The Employer shall provide appropriate auxiliary equipment in regard to worksite design and lighting. The Ergonomics Committee will determine appropriate action when employees operating computers request such equipment as footrests, wrist rests, glare screens, copy holders and task lighting.

(c) Employees who continuously operate such computer equipment are entitled to a 15-minute break during both the first and second parts of their shifts in addition to their allotted lunch break period. No such rest breaks shall lengthen the employees' work day or lunch hour or alter the starting or ending times of their shifts.

17. The Employer may continue to engage freelance writers and photographers, and contract writers without restriction, provided such individuals shall not be supplied with or given access to Company work space, materials or supplies; however, in exceptional circumstances it shall not be a violation of this agreement for these non-staff newsmen to use the Employer's equipment on or off premises for creating, editing or entering material into the Employer's computer system. It is agreed freelance photographers are permitted to enter digital photos or film into the Employer's computer systems or to use the Employer's computer systems for entering caption information. No non-staff newsmen shall function as an employee.

18. The parties agree to form a joint Employer-Union task force to explore mutually acceptable options for improved access to parking and reduced parking costs.

19. Artificial Intelligence.

(a). Bargaining Unit members shall be covered by the company's AI Policy and Guidelines. The Company shall have the right to modify its Policy, making it more restrictive on the use of AI as needed. If the Company intends to modify its Policy, making it less restrictive regarding the use of AI, or a modification requiring bargaining unit employees to utilize AI, the Company will provide the employees and the Guild with notice of such proposed changes. Upon request by the Union, the Parties shall negotiate the effects of such change to the Policy. However, one week after such negotiations commence, the Company may implement the change to the AI policy without agreement from the union.

(b). Human review of content produced with AI assistance is required to ensure anything we publish is accurate and meets professional standards. Auto publishing without review is prohibited.

(c). When AI is used to generate content, that use must be appropriately disclosed to readers.

(d) Any published writing appearing under an author's byline must be their own work. While staff members may use AI to assist in their research, backed by proper fact checking, any use of AI to create text for publication must be approved by a supervisor and disclosed to readers.

(e) Use of AI to generate graphics or illustrations must be approved by a supervisor. Using AI to generate photorealistic images (aka deep fakes) or to manipulate actual news photos is not allowed.

(f) The Company agrees that, for one (1) year following the date of ratification of this Agreement, it will not lay off a bargaining unit member as a result of replacing a bargaining unit job in its entirety with AI technology. This section six (6) shall have no force or effect after one (1) year.

ARTICLE XXIV Hazardous Conditions

1. No employee shall be required to work at the unusual risk of injury, disease or death.

2. An employee assigned to work involving unusual risk shall be provided with all protection and protective devices the Employer deems essential to the assignment.

3. Employees assigned to work within areas of riot or civil commotion shall be covered with \$100,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance protection. Benefits shall be payable only in cases caused by riot or civil commotion.
4. Employees assigned to work within areas of riot or civil commotion shall be reimbursed for loss or damage to personal property. It is understood there shall be no duplication of benefits under this clause.

ARTICLE XXV
Privilege Against Disclosure and Authentication

1. An employee may refuse to submit to outside sources, without penalty or prejudice, information, notes, records, documents, films, photographs or tapes or the source thereof, which relate to news, commentary, advertising or the establishment and maintenance of their sources, in connection with their employment. An employee also may refuse, without penalty or prejudice, to authenticate any material to outside sources. The Employer shall not give up custody of or disclose any of the above without first consulting the employee. All employees recognize their obligation to submit to management any or all of the foregoing upon request.
2. The Employer shall notify the employee concerned of any demand on the Employer for such surrender or disclosure or authentication. Likewise, the employee shall notify the Employer of any demand on the employee for such surrender or disclosure or authentication.
3. If the employee is proceeded against under law on account of their refusal to surrender or disclose or authenticate, the Employer shall move to join as a party to such proceeding, provided the Employer and employee agree on the position taken, shall meet all expenses incurred by the employee, including fees and expenses of legal counsel retained by the employee, and shall indemnify such employee against any monetary loss including but not limited to fines, damages or loss of pay. Should the employee disagree with the position taken by the Employer as to surrender, disclosure or authentication and choose not to follow the Employer's recommendation in the matter, the employee then shall assume all liability as to expenses incurred.
4. An employee shall suffer no loss of wages, employee status or benefits under this contract as a result of their refusal to surrender or disclose or authenticate. Should the employee disagree with the position taken by the Employer as to surrender, disclosure or authentication and choose not to follow the Employer's recommendation in the matter, the employee then shall assume all liability as to expenses incurred.

ARTICLE XXVI
Drug and Alcohol Policy

1. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, sale, possession or use of a controlled substance during company time, on company premises, in company vehicles or at other work sites where employees may be assigned is prohibited.
The following is a partial list of controlled substances: (1) narcotics (heroin, morphine, etc.); (2) cannabis (marijuana, hashish); (3) stimulants (cocaine, etc.); (4) hallucinogens (PCP, LSD, designer drugs, etc.).
2. The possession, dispensation, distribution, sale or use of alcoholic beverages or marijuana during company time, on company premises, in company vehicles or at other work sites where employees may be assigned also is prohibited. A first offense of use or possession for use is not just cause for discipline greater than a first-stage written disciplinary warning. Except for use, an employee determined to be in violation of Sections 1 or 2 is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.
3. For the first offense of the use or being under the influence of illegal drugs, marijuana or alcoholic beverages on company premises, vehicles or work sites the employee will be required to undergo an evaluation by the

Employer's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and to complete in its entirety whatever course of action the EAP shall direct, which may include random testing by a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP), at the direction of the EAP for no longer than one (1) year. The employee agrees to release information to the Employer and Union about compliance. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the Employer from disciplining an employee for cause up to and including discharge.

4. Employees undergoing prescribed medical treatment with a drug that may affect performance are urged to report this treatment to Employee Health Services. The use of these drugs as part of a prescribed treatment program is not a violation of this policy, but such use of a drug by an employee while performing company business or while in any company facility is prohibited if such use or influence may affect the safety of co-workers or members of the public, the employee's job performance or the safe or efficient operation of the Company. The employee may be required to use sick leave, take a leave of absence or comply with other appropriate action determined by a physician.

5. Any employee who is convicted under a criminal drug statute for a violation of law occurring in the workplace or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to such charges must notify the Company within five (5) days of such conviction or plea. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action, including discharge. Employees convicted or who plead guilty or nolo contendere to such drug-related violations are subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge and/or mandatory attendance and successful completion of a drug abuse assistance or similar program as a condition of continued employment.

6. The Company will make available information about community resources or assessment and treatment. In addition, the Company will provide supervisors training to assist in identifying and addressing controlled substance use by employees.

7. Under its benefits program, the Company will provide confidential counseling and health care programs for employees and their families who seek treatment of problems related to drugs or alcohol. Employees receiving help from the EAP or other recognized professional treatment sources may do so without jeopardizing their employment. Participation in treatment programs will not restrict enforcement of this policy or any employee's obligation to comply with it. Employees who use the EAP of their own volition may do so with complete confidentiality. Information on contacting the EAP is available from the Human Resources Department, Employee Health Services or the Union.

8. To ensure the safety of the work place and the work force, the Company will take the following steps:

(a) Whenever there is probable cause to believe that use of illegal drugs is adversely affecting fitness for duty, the Company will require an employee to submit to a test for determining use of illegal drugs.

(b) Whenever there is probable cause to believe that use of alcohol or marijuana is adversely affecting fitness for duty, the Company may require an employee to submit to a test for determining the use of alcohol or marijuana.

(c) "Probable cause" shall include the facts and circumstances of any incident or observation, including, but not limited to, behavioral indicators of possible alcohol or drug use affecting fitness for duty and may also include employee involvement in an accident, if the accident results in the following:

- 1) A fatality;
- 2) A bodily injury to a person, who as a result of the injury immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or
- 3) Property damage that results in significant financial loss to the Employer.

In such situations, the Employer will require the employee to immediately submit to drug and/or alcohol testing and to agree to grant permission to any medical treatment provider and any hospital or other medical treatment facility to perform such testing if the employee receives immediate medical treatment away from the scene of the accident.

(d) No employee may be requested to submit to such testing without the prior authorization of one vice president of the Company based on the information provided by the supervisor or manager. Authorization will not be given without probable cause.

(e) Refusal to submit to a test will be handled in the same manner as a positive test.

(f) Employees required to test for use of drugs and/or alcohol will be dismissed for the remainder of the shift. If the test proves to be negative, the employee shall be compensated by a full day's or night's pay.

(g) The first-time positive results of testing indicating use of a controlled substance or alcohol shall be used to encourage appropriate rehabilitative measures. The Company will require the employee to consult with the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Disciplinary steps may be taken or discharge may result from further positive testing. Nothing herein prevents the Company from disciplining employees for just cause.

(h) Reasonable accommodation for rehabilitation and return to work will be made unless the employee would be in imminent danger of injury.

(i) Employees may use available vacation or floating holidays while awaiting release to work from the EAP.

ARTICLE XXVII

No Strikes

The Union and employees agrees they will not authorize, ratify, or condone any work stoppage, including strikes, sympathy strikes, wildcat strikes or sit-downs during the term of this Agreement. In the event of any work stoppage described herein, the Union will immediately use its authority and best efforts to cause prompt resumption of work. The Publisher agrees not to lock out the Union and employees during the term of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XXVIII

Management Rights

Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Employer is vested with the management of the business, the operation of departments covered by the collective bargaining agreement and the authority to execute all the various duties, functions and responsibilities incident thereto. The Employer reserves and retains solely and exclusively all of its normal, inherent and common-law rights to manage the business.

ARTICLE XXIX

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

MediaNews Group Social Media Policy

Social media plays an essential role in our work as journalists, allowing our publications to reach new audiences and increase loyalty. For those reasons, journalists at MediaNews Group publications should use social platforms as part of their jobs.

These guidelines are meant to provide MediaNews Group journalists and community-facing employees with a code of conduct and best practices for engaging on these public and sometimes tricky platforms.

If these guidelines could be boiled down to a few words, they would be: Use common sense, and think before you post on a social network.

This policy applies to any journalist or community-facing employee at MediaNews Group publications, including executive leadership, editors, reporters, photographers, videographers, graphic artists, producers, and sales, marketing and communications representatives.

This policy covers all conduct and activity of social networks used by our journalists and community-facing employees. We reserve the right to take action for violations of this policy, up to and including termination.

We believe that social media can be a force for good reporting and engagement with our audiences. This policy is an attempt to balance that need with the need of protecting our publications and our company. How you practice journalism offline should fundamentally be the same as how you practice it online with respect to ethics, professionalism, accuracy, impartiality and fairness. If you have questions or concerns about something, consult with a supervisor. Social media platforms are constantly shifting and changing, and we expect that this policy will be updated again when new issues arise.

1. In all you do, be professional.

What you engage with on social networks is likely already public. Even if you filter content with privacy settings, assume anything you communicate on these platforms could become public. The private messages, emails and direct messages of MediaNews Group employees have been screenshot and shared publicly in the past, often without prior consent, in an effort to do the employee and company harm.

Having a “professional” social media account and a “personal” one still necessitates adhering to these standards. It’s our recommendation that you have one account per platform. Some exceptions exist: Facebook allows personal profiles and professional pages, which you may choose to create.

You own social media accounts with your name. If you leave the company, you are free to take those accounts with you. If you contribute to or post on a social media account bearing a brand name of a MediaNews Group publication, that account stays with the company.

2. Do not post partisan opinions or anything that would hurt our credibility

Avoid publishing content on social media that would call into question your commitment to fairness, accuracy and impartiality. Journalists and other community-facing employees must not promote partisan political views or endorse candidates.

When expressing a viewpoint on issues such as the First Amendment, open records and press freedom — issues we as an industry support — remain professional in your approach. This is important because social media posts can easily be interpreted as statements made on behalf of our organizations.

What you post should be similar to what you would say on your publication’s platforms. While the tone may be more casual, does it still sound professional? If you’ve sought to be comedic, does it actually come across properly? Would your message lead someone to believe that you favor one side of the issue? Could your post hamper the work of another journalist at the organization?

Journalists with job descriptions that require providing commentary, including news and sports columnists or editorial writers, are free to provide opinions in their area of expertise on social media platforms that the company would generally deem fit for publication.

Do not post confidential or proprietary information about your publication or the company.

3. How to Engage with Followers, Friends and Commenters

Under no circumstances should you seek to hide your identity or intentions when using a platform to perform work related to your job. You are not required to have your publication’s name in your handle, but it should be somewhere accessible, such as the platform’s biography section.

It is appropriate to follow or friend sources on social media for reporting purposes. You should not purchase social media followers through third-party companies. Publications are permitted to try to grow their following through paid promotion on the platforms themselves.

Responding to feedback and comments deepens our relationship with readers. It's smart to answer questions or clarify points, but avoid toxic commenters and arguments. Do not post disparaging remarks about a person or subject.

If the conversation becomes too toxic or offensive, block or mute the person. We urge you not to take this step over valid criticism of your work. If you feel threatened, consult with a supervisor or your human resources representative.

Avoid commenting on stories by your publication, except to answer questions or offer a clarification. Be aware that "liking" or "favoriting" a social media post can be perceived as endorsing a viewpoint.

We urge you not to use your social media profiles to file customer service complaints. Even if your complaint is valid, you could receive special treatment because of your position as a journalist or public-facing employee for your publication.

Even when assigned to interact with our social media audiences, you are not authorized to represent yourself as a spokesperson for the company.

Supervisors should not submit Facebook friend requests to people they supervise, though it is OK for employees to submit those requests to their bosses or other managers.

4. Joining groups and liking or following fan pages

Avoid joining partisan groups on Facebook or other platforms unless doing so is part of the reporting process. If you cover politics, be sure to like and follow the pages of those on multiple sides of an issue or multiple parties or candidates. When possible, monitor groups without joining them.

5. Verifying Information and Sourcing

Accuracy remains essential to our jobs and ensures our audience trusts our work. Be particularly wary during breaking news situations, where unverified claims, hoaxes, photos, articles, and other forms of misinformation are commonly mixed in social streams.

If you've posted about something on a social media platform and an important update comes, either edit your original post or add an update (see corrections below).

If something seems too good to be true, check the account that published the information. If the account is not verified — usually marked by a blue checkmark — use caution because it could be a fake account.

We are not free to use content from social accounts without either embedding a post directly (i.e., a tweet, Instagram or Facebook post) or seeking permission from the source. Simply crediting "Facebook" is not enough to save us from copyright infringement. Always consider the social network's terms of service when gathering material for use.

When asking for users to submit content through social networks, we must ensure that users know they are allowing us to publish on our platforms everywhere. We also must not encourage people and contributors to put themselves in harm's way in order to obtain video or images.

6. Handling social coverage vs. our own digital platforms

We strongly urge our journalists to break news on our own digital platforms — website and mobile apps — instead of social media. That includes text, photos, video, audio and/or graphics and illustrations. Posting first on our own platforms allows us to serve our readers who value and pay for our journalism.

In some cases, this isn't reasonable. Public press conferences in which multiple media outlets are present is one example.

There are rare cases when we will decide to release exclusive information on social platforms. For example, a sports reporter might get a tip about a trade or roster move only moments before it's released more broadly, so posting on our own digital platforms can't be done before the scoop is lost. But posting exclusive information to social platforms first only because, for instance, it's easier than filing a story is not acceptable.

If you must break a story first on a social platform, quickly follow up with a story and either edit the original post or thread a comment connected to the original post to ensure your audience sees a link to the full story.

Observe our company's copyrights. Posting photos and videos for breaking or live news situations is OK, but uploading a full gallery of edited photos from a high school football game to your personal Facebook page or uploading a fully edited and produced video is not appropriate. Link back to our platforms instead.

Be sure to discuss approaches with your supervisor when in doubt.

7. Linking to Stories and the Work of Other Organizations

Journalists' social media feeds should be a wealth of information, reflecting their coverage areas and other personal interests. We encourage you to link to your own work and the work of your colleagues. We also encourage you to link to the work of those outside your publication, especially if it's valuable for our audience — even if it's a competitor.

However, be careful about linking to stories that have not been verified by your own organization or another reputable news outlet. Read stories before you share them to ensure the content is something you want attached to your name.

When retweeting or sharing posts without comment or context, be aware it can be construed as an endorsement. Saying in your profile that "retweets do not equal endorsements" or "all opinions are my own" is not a safeguard. Sharing highly opinionated material — i.e., "RT @MooreSenate: Common Core must be eliminated!" — is fine, so long as you're making clear it's being done for reporting, usually by providing some text ahead of a retweet (a quote tweet) or share, like this: "Moore weighing in on education policy. RT @MooreSenate: Common Core must be eliminated!"

8. When you make a mistake, correct it and be transparent

In the course of reporting, we will make mistakes. We will be transparent about mistakes of fact and other errors and work diligently to correct them. Never hide a mistake by simply deleting a social media post. If you publish something erroneous, delete or edit the post and acknowledge the deletion or edit, being sure you share corrected information. Do not repeat the error. If you are unclear about the best approach for making a correction, check with a supervisor.

9. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting any rights employees are granted under Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act.

ARTICLE XXX SEVERABILITY

In the event that any clause(s) shall be finally determined to be in violation of law, then such clause(s) only, to the extent only that any may be so in violation, shall be deemed of no force and unenforceable without impairing the validity and enforceability of the rest of the Agreement, including any and all

provisions in the remainder of the clause, sentence, or paragraph in which the offending language may appear.

**ARTICLE XXXI
Duration and Renewal**

1. This Agreement shall commence on April 19, 2026, and expire three (3) years after the effective date. , This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding on the successors and assigns of the Employer. At any time within nine (9) months immediately prior to the expiration date of this agreement, the Employer or Guild may initiate negotiations for a new agreement. The terms and conditions of this agreement shall remain in effect during such negotiations.

2. If the Employer decides for any reason that it will cease operations it shall notify the Union at least 60 days prior to the effective date of such closure.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

For The Denver Post:

Marshall Anstandig 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed

Signature Date Signed

Signature Date Signed

Signature Date Signed

Signature Date Signed

For the Guild:

Elise Schmelzer 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed

Noelle Phillips 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed

Elizabeth Hernandez 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed

Isabel Aries 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed

Tony Mulligan 4/24/2026
Signature Date Signed