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Statement of Gloria Allred

Today we filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court on the behalf of our client, Mamie Mitchell, against actor, producer Alec Baldwin and numerous other producers of the movie, “Rust”. In our lawsuit, we allege that on October 21st, 2021 Alexander Baldwin (“Alec Baldwin”) fired a loaded gun killing Halyna Hutchins, injuring Joel Souza, and causing physical and emotional injuries to Mamie Mitchell the script supervisor, standing in the line of fire when the gun went off.

Days before the shooting there were warning signs that there were dangerous conditions related to guns on the set. A camera operator had reported two-gun discharges during a rehearsal in a cabin. “This is super unsafe”, the camera operator wrote in a text message to the production manager.

On the day of the shooting, union camera operators and their assistants had walked off the job to protest working conditions including safety issues.

Important industry safety protocols designed to ensure that firearms would be safely used were ignored, and actions were taken that were against all industry norms. Industry safety protocols are contained in the Industry Wide Labor Management Safety Committee bulletins.

Here are some examples of failure to follow industry safety protocols:

- 1.) Live ammunition was allowed onto the set despite the fact that that live ammunition is never to be used nor brought onto any studio lot or stage.
- 2.) The gun was handed to Alec Baldwin by the Assistant Director. Guns are never to be handled by anyone other than the Prop Master or Armorer. Mr. Baldwin, an industry veteran, knew that the gun in question should never have been given to him by the Assistant Director and that he could not rely upon any statement by the Assistant Director as to whether or not the gun was safe to use.
- 3.) The industry wide safety bulletin for use of firearms requires that all firearms are to be treated as though they are loaded. Mr. Baldwin should have assumed that the gun in question was loaded unless and until it was demonstrated to him that it was not or checked by him that it was not loaded. Even if the Assistant Director made an alleged statement to Mr. Baldwin that the gun he was handing to Mr. Baldwin was a “cold gun”. Mr. Baldwin should not have relied on such a statement.
- 4.) The industry norm is that the Armorer hands the gun to the Actor and demonstrates to the Actor, in this case Mr. Baldwin, that the gun chamber is empty. Mr. Baldwin knew that this was the norm and that it was not followed, and he did not check the gun himself. Further, the industry norm and safety bulletin requires that no one shall be issued a

firearm until he or she is trained in safe handling, safe use, the safety lock and proper firing procedures. Mr. Baldwin knew, or should have known, that this was the safety protocol and chose to ignore it.

5.) All guns and ammunition are supposed to be secured throughout the production. The armorer is required to keep all guns and ammunitions locked up, or to stay with the guns until they are used. Instead, the Armorer is alleged to have allowed guns and ammunition to be left unattended on a rolling cart outside the Church at midday on Thursday during the lunch break.

6). Safety Bulletins published by the Industry Wide Labor Management Safety Committee are expected to be sent to everyone that gets the call sheet for the day. This was not done as required. This is just one of the many safety protocols that were not followed that day.

We allege in our lawsuit that the events that led to the shooting by Mr. Baldwin of a loaded gun do not constitute simple negligence on Alec Baldwin's part or the Producers of "Rust". Instead, in our opinion, Mr. Baldwin chose to play Russian Roulette when he fired a gun without checking it and without having the Armorer do so in his presence. His behavior and that of the Producers on "Rust" was reckless. The fact that live ammunition was allowed on a movie set, that guns and ammunition were left unattended on a cart and allowed to be handled by those who had no business handling them, the fact that safety bulletins were not promulgated or ignored makes this a case where injury or death was much more than just a possibility; it was a likely result.

That is why we filed our lawsuit today and are alleging assault, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and deliberate infliction of harm.

That is also why we are seeking compensatory and punitive damages for Mamie, who was shocked, traumatized and who suffered physical and emotional harm because of what she saw, heard and experienced when she was in the line of fire when Alec Baldwin's gun discharged a live bullet on that day.

We look forward to proving our case in a court of law and winning justice for Mamie Mitchell.

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Representing Mamie Mitchell
November 17, 2021