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COEN BROTHERS "A SERIOUS MAN" SET TO SHOOT IN MINNESOTA

(St. Paul, MN, May 22, 2008) The Minnesota Film and TV Board is pleased to announce that the Coen Brothers film "A Serious Man" will be shot in and around the Twin Cities area beginning on September 8 of this year. The film will be released by Working Title Films and Focus Features.

"The Minnesota Film and TV Board, its Executive Director Lucinda Winter, and many local industry advocates have worked hard to find creative solutions making it possible to bring this film to Minnesota in the face of increasing economic competition from other nearby states," said Coen Brothers producer Robert Graf.

"We are really pleased that our effort was successful. It means jobs for Minnesota crew and all the other economic benefits of having a world-class production team shooting a studio feature here," Winter added.

The film revolves around a family in a Minneapolis suburb in 1967, and both the Coens and producer Graf (all Minnesota natives) are very happy to be returning to the Twin Cities and excited about all the ways, both obvious and subtle, that the people and places of Minnesota will contribute to the production.

"We are very grateful for the efforts of the Film and TV Board and for the support of the Governor and the many key legislators who helped bring the film to Minnesota," said Graf. "My mother will be happy to have me around for a while."

Joel and Ethan Coen's most recent film, "No Country for Old Men," won four Academy Awards including Best Picture. Their next release will be "Burn After Reading," a comedy starring George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Frances McDormand, John Malkovich and Tilda Swinton to be released by Working Title and Focus Features in September. "A Serious Man" marks the Coens' first professional return to Minnesota since "Fargo" in 1995.