

# Final Transcript

**Customer: TV One**  
**Call Title: *Ricky Smiley For Real***  
**Confirmation Number: 42495491**  
**Host: Candace Johnson**  
**Date: May 3, 2016**  
**Time/Time Zone: 1:25 pm Central Time**

## **SPEAKERS**

**Rickey Smiley**  
**Tosha Whitten Griggs**  
**Roger Bobb**  
**Lamar Chase**  
**D'Angela Proctor**  
**Da Brat**  
**Gary With Da Tea**

## **PRESENTATION**

**Operator:** Welcome to the *Ricky Smiley for Real* conference call. My name is Richard and I'll be your operator for today's call. At this time all participants are in a listen-only mode. Later we will conduct a question-and-answer session. Please note that this conference is being recorded.

I'll now turn the call over to Tosha Whitten Griggs. You may begin.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Good morning or good afternoon depending on where you are, so delighted that you could all join us today to hear more about the new season of *Rickey Smiley For Real*, the unscripted docu-series from TV One, featuring radio personality, actor and syndicated personality, Rickey Smiley. After the success of season one, the network has been thrilled to bring back Rickey and his cast of family and coworkers or extended radio family to give another look inside his world. And in season two you're going to see a lot more of Rickey, his work and family life and all that that entails.

So with that said, I want to first introduce our first speaker, the Head of Programming for TV One, D'Angela Proctor, who's going to speak a little bit about the network's perspective on this successful franchise. D'Angela?

**D'Angela Proctor:** Hello. So I just wanted to start with just pointing out that radio is in the DNA of our company, radio and music, so it is befitting for the network that we are in business with one of Radio One/Reach Media's top radio personality, Rickey Smiley, so it just made sense for us to pursue a reality series with him. When it was first brought to our attention, we were pretty excited about the fact that we could bring Rickey back on the network and to also be able to explore some of our branding elements for the network. So we're always looking to move forward by defying expectations, and part of that is in the representation of images. You don't see very many shows on television with a single dad raising young people these days, so we thought that was an incredible angle for this show to take.

And we also thought that the show was really unique in that it showed the dimensions of family. Not only do you see his family life in Alabama, but you also see his work family life in Atlanta at the radio station. And it also has a perfect combination of heart humor and conflict that you'll see throughout the season that Roger can better speak to. But we are really excited about the fact that we are defying expectations with this show and creating a new character archetype as opposed to retreading old images, so we're really excited about that.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thanks, D'Angela, very well said. And with that we're going to now hear from Lamar Chase, who's the Executive in Charge of Production at TV One and has worked very closely with Rickey, Roger and the entire cast and crew. Lamar, can you take a moment to give a brief overview of the series and a hint to what we can expect in season two?

**Lamar Chase:** Sure, thank you. Hi, everyone. Just as D'Angela said, one of the things we talk about when we do shows here at the network is showing what's at stake and also our talent showing warts and all. I think with this show you get not only the funny moments with the radio family, but you also get those heartfelt moments with Rickey and the kids, but then you also get to see Rickey as that father that has to have that delicate balance of tough love and also knowing when to let the guard down a little bit. And we really get to see his kids as they're older now, and they really have to make decisions that shape and alter their path. And we get to see Rickey really help guide them through these times, so I really, really feel excited—

**M:** Hello?

**Lamar Chase:** Hello?

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Hi, we've probably been joined by Gary With Da Tea. Gary we're just doing a quick overview, and Lamar Chase is speaking now and we'll definitely introduce you to the media we have collected on the line in just a moment. Go ahead and finish, Lamar.

**Lamar Chase:** Yes, so you really get to see Rickey working with the kids to really make decisions that shape and alter their paths in life, so you get a full, well-rounded show with this show. And I'll toss it over to Roger to really speak to the highlights of this season.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thanks, Lamar. Next we're going to hear from Roger Bobb, the Executive Producer and Head of Bobb Cat Films, who again has worked very closely with Rickey, the cast and crew on really developing the season. Roger, please continue.

**Roger Bobb:** Thank you very much. Good afternoon, good morning, everyone. So when Rickey and I conceived this show I thought his life was thoroughly entertaining and thought provoking, and I thought that a lot of people could learn lessons from somebody like him because I didn't realize that he's a single father to so many children and his hectic work life, so we wanted to basically showcase that.

The great thing about working with Rickey is that he is a comedian, so every scene ends of being hilarious, whether we want it to nor not. And so even the heartfelt scenes where he really touches on your heartstrings when he's dealing with whether it's disciplinary issues with his children or whether he's dealing with situations at work, he always enters each situation with a great degree of intelligence, a great degree of articulation and a great degree of comedy. And so we are happy that we have a have great balance this season.

We've raised the roof a little bit this season. Some of the highlights are he goes on vacation with his daughters to the Bimini in the Bahamas; and a lot of people don't realize is that Rickey is the captain of his own boat, so they literally sail over there. And Rickey is the captain and they have some great conversations while they're over there, they swim with the sharks, and they do a lot of interesting things that quite frankly you don't see a lot of black families doing, so we're really excited about that.

Rickey is on tour with Mike Epps this season, and so we see a little interaction with him and the members that he's on tour with, Tony Brock and Coco Brown as well as Mike Epps. He's collaborating with R&B icon Kelly Price on a gospel song, and he's also helping Gary With Da Tea work on his male under-thong line, which is hysterical, and he's working with Da Brat and Headkrack and expanding their music and acting careers. And at that same time, he's also being a dad. No one is perfect, Rickey's family is not perfect, and it's great to see the way he engages in conflict resolution and disciplinary action with his kids. And you'll get a chance to see all of that.

Malik is in military school, and it's a really proud moment when we saw him and he was doing his military exercises. He's almost a different child from last year. And Brandon, his oldest son, he's dealing with some legal issues that Rickey helps him with, and you'll see that throughout the season. D'Essence is having boyfriend issues, and you'll see a really heartfelt scene right in the first episode where she has to deal with a situation of infidelity with her boyfriend. Of course Rickey is there the whole time. Those are some of the highlights that we have for you and we have a great season and we're really excited about it.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank, Roger, really appreciate that. With all of the framework put in place, we want to hear now from the man of the hour, you know who we're all here to hear from and what this is all about, Mr. Rickey Smiley. Rickey, why don't you talk a little bit about what you hope viewers will take away from this season as well as the experience of unveiling yourself to your audience in this way.

**Rickey Smiley:** First of all, thank you everybody for being on this conference call. Good morning and good afternoon to everybody. I'm Rickey Smiley, syndicated radio show host/comedian. I should say comedian first because that's my first job. I'm really excited about the show this season. I love the teachable moments, and this is just one of those reality shows where parents get fired up about good parenting and tough parenting because we have love and then we have tough love. And you'll see a of love/tough love displayed in each and every episode. It put fathers in a good light, and I'm really excited about it.

I've been with my cast over ten years. You can see everything that we go through in the relationship that we have, and the cast are like aunts and uncles to the kids. I'm like an uncle to their kids as well, so it's like a big family. Da Brat and Gary With Da Tea, Headkrack, Rock-T, we're all like brothers and sisters because when you work in a room that small every single morning, every single week, every single month, every single year, you become family because you spend sometimes five and six hours in one room Monday through Friday, and we do a lot of events together on the weekend. So it's one big family

and as you know, families have their share of disagreements, conflicts and how you resolve these issues, we have a counselor on the show, Spirit. Spirit has been seeing a lot of news outlets giving commentary about different subjects.

I'm just really excited about this season. This season is a little bit more drama is involved, stuff going on with Craig, stuff going on with Brandon, and I have to tell you folks, the stuff the real. The stuff is not staged. It's really real. There were a lot of awkward personal moments that we've opened ourselves up and shared with the world, so I'm really excited about all of this. This is going to be a great, great season, a little bit more dramatic than the first season. It's still funny as you would see some of the comments in the green screens that I have you laughing just me being a mature man and the stuff that I have to deal with and how I handle it, and that old Alabama swag that I think everybody will fall in love with, just good in country, but at the same time a professional and a loving dad. I hope everybody get a kick out of it. It's positive, and I'm excited about this season.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you, Rickey, and I think you make an important point in communicating the positivity. Even though there's drama, even though there's something there to engage viewers, there's all kinds of unscripted programming on air right now, something for every taste. I think it's important to really demonstrate the range of black life and to truly represent all fathers, and I think this show really does an amazing job of showing a dad who's really serious about his responsibilities, who does it with humor and love and a lot of swag I have to say, Rickey, a lot of swag.

So let's move on and hear from, I believe we've been joined by cast member Gary With Da Tea. Gary, are you on? Gary and Da Brat are actually busy with one of their jobs with Dish Nation, and so I know they're going to join us late today. It sounds like we don't have Gary, so here's what we'll do next. We're going to open the lines for questions now from the media in attendance. I'd like to ask when you're directing your question, please direct it to one of our speakers specifically so everyone will know who

should respond. And when, operator, when we're joined by Gary and/or Da Brat, if you could kindly indicate when you'll allowing them into the conference. We'd appreciate that, so that we can make to call on them. We'll take our first question now.

**Operator:** Thank you. We will now begin the question-and-answer session. (Operator instructions.) Our first caller is from Eunice Moseley. Please go ahead.

**Eunice Moseley:** Hi, Eunice Moseley with the Pulse of Entertainment. Question is for Rickey. Rickey, I'm just wondering at the initial start of developing a docu-series, was it your idea or the network's? And as far as your family, did everyone agree, and if not, what were some of their concerns?

**Rickey Smiley:** There were no concerns. Roger Bobb and I sat down and had a conversation about the docu-series, and we thought it would be something, we took a real look at my life and my career and said hey, you're really busy. It's something that we can capture on film because single dad, you have kids, children that's adopted, and you have children that's biological. You have a pretty big family and you're juggling three and four jobs at one time. To be able to capture some of the stuff that goes along with everything that I do, so much content there, so we thought it was a great idea, and here we are.

**Eunice Moseley:** Thank you.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Awesome, thanks, Eunice. We'll take our next question.

**Operator:** We have Shandella Kensey [ph] from Fusion. Please go ahead.

**Shandella Kensey:** Hi, Rickey, this is Shandella with *Fusion* magazine and TV. I really want to applaud you for spending the top quality time with your children. Can you just tell me what it's like raising them and especially dealing with the different personalities?

**Rickey Smiley:** It's actually been a pleasure to raise—my daughters really, really go out of their way above and beyond the call of duty to make me proud, and I'm really proud of them. I'm so happy to have them in my life. It's been a challenge with the boys. Of course Malik had to go to military school and then Brandon being 26 and rebellious, that's definitely been a challenge. I think a lot of parents having to deal with their 20-year-old that's kind of rebellious and trying to figure it out, sometimes they listen to you, sometimes they don't. What was the question? Oh God.

**Shandella Kensey:** I was just asking about the challenges that you have to go through with the different personalities.

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, the personalities are definitely different. I have one daughter that will push me out there and one daughter pulling me back in, like, Dad, calm down, that's not cool. And one daughter is always turning it up, yes, Dad, that's right, tell me, let them know. And then the personalities, Craig is mild mannered, mild mannered and sneaky. Malik is respectful and temperamental. And Brandon, you just don't know what you're going to get. It just depends on what side of the bed that he wakes up on, so it's a lot of adjustments to get adjusted to those different personalities from outgoing, turned up, can dances real good to one that reads books and want to be a neurosurgeon to one that boxes and military. It's an adjustment.

**Shandella Kensey:** Okay, thank you.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thanks, Rickey. So let's take our next question.

**Operator:** Thank you. Our next question comes from Sophia Warner from *Hip Hop Weekly*. Please go ahead.

**Cynthia Warner:** Hi, Rickey. This is Cynthia Warner.

**Rickey Smiley:** Hi.

**Cynthia Warner:** Hi, yes, we've talked several times in the past, but anyway, Father's Day is coming up next month. Do you have any special traditions that your family gets involved with for Father's Day or can you share a couple of Father's Day memories, whichever is easier for you to answer?

**Rickey Smiley:** On Father's Day we surround my 90-year-old grandfather, who's also a cast member, now not a main cast member, but you will see my 90-year-old grandfather on this docu-series a lot because who's pretty much raised me. And so on Father's Day we go and give all our love and hugs and kisses to my granddad because my father is deceased, so we surround my granddad and all of my uncles are there, so he the boss. He's the big man in the family, so we surround him and prop him up because he's the king, so that's what we do on Father's Day. They love on me, too, but we just make sure especially with granddad being 90 that we surround ourselves and give our love and gratitude to him, so we get pretty excited about that.

And sometimes we'll maybe the day before Father's Day we'll go to the lake because my kids love to go the lake. We're river rats, and if you don't know what a river rat is, those are people that grew up in the South and on the water all the time doing tubing and skiing and stuff. We got a little boat. We love to go to the lake, so that's what I like to do on Father's Day. We all go to the lake and have hot dogs and grill out and do little fun stuff like that, because that's what the family likes to do. Between that and being

around my 90-year-old grandfather, Earnest Smiley, that's an awesome Father's Day tradition that I'm proud to be a part of.

**Cynthia Warner:** Wow, you gave a fantastic answer to the question. Do you fish also or do you just grill hot dogs?

**Rickey Smiley:** I used to fish. I kind of got bored with it. I really like just going on the water. We big soft rock fans, so we go on the water. My kids know all of the songs to Fleetwood Mac, the Eagles, 10 CC, Steeley Dan, Supertramp, Phil Collins, Genesis, Little River Band. We are huge, huge, huge soft rock fans. When I tell you we go to Lynyrd Skynyrd concerts, we probably the only black people there, and we've done stuff. We go to a Lynyrd Skynyrd concert and party with the Ku Klux Klan. They don't bother us, but we just speak and be nice and when they play "Sweet Home Alabama," we ball our fist and hold it up. The tears come down our eyes and we scream "Roll Tide" because that will keep you from getting beat up.

**Cynthia Warner:** Oh my God, you are funny. Thank you.

**Rickey Smiley:** You are so welcome.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you, Cynthia. Thank you, Rickey. Let's take the next question please.

**Operator:** Thank you. Our next question online comes from Bishop Samuel McGill from All Nations Radio. Please go ahead.

**Bishop Samuel McGill:** Thank you for the opportunity and certainly to Rickey and all that you have done over the years, thank you so much. I know we're used to seeing everything, but can you give us sneak peek on where Rickey's love life goes this season?

**Rickey Smiley:** Straight to hell, Bishop. Yes, straight to hell, Bishop, that's where it goes. It needs to be revived. I get so involved with the kids that that other situation it just is hard to maintain a relationship when you do what I do. You just don't have time, and when you're traveling from one city to the next city and trying to be a dad, it takes a special kind of patience to put up with that. So right now until Jesus himself walks up on my front porch and I want Jesus to come on my porch and say this is her. And he going to walk off, and I'd be like okay, just get your suitcase and come on in.

**Bishop Samuel McGill:** He might bring in a Honda or come in a Lincoln, one of the two.

**Rickey Smiley:** Right, she going to come in something, because when he knock on my door and I know Jesus going to have on his—I'll know him when I see him because these past ten years we've been dealing with the while Jesus, so I'll know him when I see him. And he texted me and told me that he was going to come through as soon as he finds somebody. I think we're waiting on somebody and to ahead and a divorce to go through, and I think I know who he's going to bring. He showed me in a dream. You understand what I'm saying?

**Bishop Samuel McGill:** It wasn't Sharon Shepard, was it?

**Rickey Smiley:** I mean, I only saw her from the back. I know she was sitting at the table with four other women and one of the women had dreads.

**Bishop Samuel McGill:** Rickey, thank you, man, so much. We appreciate you keeping the laughing, and also to D'Angela Proctor, and Lamar Chase and Roger Bobb and everybody in the cast. We thank you, and we're looking forward to a great season.

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, it's always good to do business with somebody with two first names. Anybody that has two first names, they can be trusted because I ain't never met a person with two first names that you just couldn't trust. Most people with two first names know how to also fix cars. We'll take the next question.

**Operator:** Excuse me, our next question comes from Janice Byrd [ph]. Please go ahead.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Go ahead with your question please.

**Operator:** Janice Byrd from *Constance* magazine.

**Janice Byrd:** Yes, *Constance* magazine. Sorry my name is Shanique Byrd [ph]. Hi, Rickey.

**Rickey Smiley:** Hi, how are you?

**Shanique Byrd:** I'm good. I have a great question for you. How are you talking to your children about exposing their life on such big stage and preparing them for the trolls, the negativity? You have to have tough skin when you're exposing yourself on TV at this point. What are you telling them before it all goes? You did this before, so what encouragement [audio disruption] stay strong while they're being exposed?

**Rickey Smiley:** One of the things I think I try to teach the girls how to be ladies. Just to give you an example, I'm glad you asked that question. I've been working with my daughters on etiquette, how to pose for a picture. And it's funny just to give you some inside conversation that I had my nieces, my daughters and one of my daughter's mother was there last weekend, and I asked the question, I said I need everybody to go in the Instagram or show me any picture in your phone with you standing there with your ankles posed with a picture with you posed with your ankles crossed. And could nobody produce a picture.

And so I proceeded to pull up pictures of the First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Michelle Obama, to show this to them and let them know I made them take down all of their pictures on Instagram and nothing that looked like first tramps and stuff like that and teaching them how to pose, how to properly pose for a picture and stuff. I've really been working with them on stuff—but the guys, the boys like it. They absolutely love it because I think that the feedback that they get is totally different from what the girls get, you know?

**Shanique Byrd:** Right, I see.

**Rickey Smiley:** So I definitely been working with them on how to speak and how to be in public, watch what they put on social media and how to handle adversity and stuff like that, so we've been working on it.

**Shanique Byrd:** Okay. I'm always curious because when you expose your family to those trolls online, you can't really protect them like you would if you could be there and you know who actually are attacking them or you know how that works. It's a free for all sometimes.

**Rickey Smiley:** Right. Right, but I've definitely been working with them, and they seem to enjoy it. They haven't had any problems so far. I have one in high school and one in college and they've been getting positive feedback from everybody, so I told them it's all about how you carry yourself, what happens in the episode. I don't think that they're doing anything in any of the episodes to draw that kind of drama. You know what I mean?

**Shanique Byrd:** Okay, yes, that's great. Congratulations on all your success. I'm really excited about the upcoming season.

**Rickey Smiley:** Thank you so much, and I really appreciate you and thank you for your support.

**Shanique Byrd:** No problem.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you. We'll take the next question please.

**Operator:** Our next question online comes from Marcus Francis from Our Generation TV. Please go ahead.

**Marcus Francis:** Hi, this question is for Rickey. Rickey, I was calling to ask you as far as you've been a single father raising children, what can single fathers that tune into the show learn from *Rickey Smiley for Real* season two?

**Rickey Smiley:** You know just how to be, how to be, how to manage situations with your kids and your teenagers and stuff. It's a lot of lessons. It's a lot of controversy in how you deal with stuff when the kids—my nephew skipped school and I'm going to have to have a conversation in a counseling session with my 26-year-old who's just pretty much angry about life. He just has all these different beliefs and all

of this kind of stuff. I know a lot of people that go through that stage where they're just confused about life and the patience and the understanding and his situation with his relationship and the advice that I give him on how to deal with his relationships and stuff like that. What was the question?

**Marcus Francis:** The question was as far as being single father and raising the children, what can the people that tune in, the single fathers that tune in to season two of *Rickey Smiley* expect from like different issues on how solve and work with their children as far as being a single father?

**Rickey Smiley:** Right, yes, yes, all of that stuff, even on how to handle yourself in court proceedings and making sure that you have proper paperwork on like we did last name change and meeting with the attorney and just how to handle yourself. There's a scene that I have with my daughter's mother and the conversation that we have about getting her last name changed and just how to handle that and the discipline, the structure. So it's definitely a lesson learned, and I think all single fathers would absolutely love this show.

**Marcus Francis:** Right. Great, thank you, Mr. Rickey.

**Rickey Smiley:** I appreciate you.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Awesome, thank you. We'll take the next question please.

**Operator:** (Operator instructions.)

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Okay, so while we wait to see if there are any final questions, I would like to circle back to our creative team on the line to see at this point just given all the dialogue that's taken

place, were there any additional thoughts you wanted to convey regarding this season and any special notes for the press that have joined us today?

**Roger Bob:** Rickey, do you want me to mention the reconciliation with Ebony?

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes.

**Roger Bob:** Okay, and we have other guest stars, which I didn't mention, Candy and Cynthia.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** From *Real Housewives*—

**Roger Bob:** Correct.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Great. Okay, so you want to just touch on the point that you were just making about the reconciliation?

**Roger Bob:** Yes.

**Rickey Smiley:** Are you talking about me or Roger Bob?

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Whoever was going to address it. I think I heard Roger, but Rickey, do you want to talk it?

**Rickey Smiley:** You know I think that's a good lesson involved. Can you hear me?

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** We can hear you.

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, I think there was a good lesson involved to be able to have a conversation with Ebony. Ebony used to be on my morning show. We had been friends since high school, and as a Christian, that was one of the things that we both talked about as Christians, we have to always be in the spirit of reconciliation. To have that conversation on the air on screen and trying to be there for her because she just lost her mother, and I thought it was a good, appropriate conversation and it was a great conversation.

There's going to be some more things with her that I'm excited about and showing how if anybody can get a lesson out of how to rebuild a friendship, this would really be good for viewers and something really, really positive. She was a big asset to our morning show. Sometimes people separate and go their separate ways, but just to show that we're united and that we're still friends I think the listeners/viewers would absolutely love to see that.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Awesome, thank you, Rickey, and thank you as well, Roger. If there are no further questions, operator, do you have anyone else in the queue waiting to get a question answered?

**Operator:** Yes, we have DeCurtis Randall [ph] online from Urban Broadcast. Please go ahead.

**DeCurtis Randall:** Yes, Rickey, good afternoon and thank you for this meeting. In your opinion who was harder to raise, your sons or your daughters?

**Rickey Smiley:** Man, that's an easy question. I can answer that for you in a five, four, three—the sons.

**DeCurtis Randall:** How so?

**Rickey Smiley:** Oh the fun, it's not even close. They're like night and day. As a matter of fact the girls, they don't give me any problems. It's the boys that just make all hell break loose.

**DeCurtis Randall:** Okay, what was the one piece of advice that your mentor and frat brother Steve Harvey gave you that you would share with others?

**Rickey Smiley:** I don't even know where to start with that because that's a lot. Definitely taught me a lot about business and about how to be and how to do stuff and how to handle situations and stuff like that. But Steve has definitely been a great mentor, and I am honored and proud to be his friend. The biggest piece of advice he gave me was you need to get on the radio, number one. That was a very smart piece of advice because I think that being on the radio opened up other opportunities to other things. So that's probably the best piece of advice that Steve gave me is just being on the radio and taking that job and taking it serious.

**DeCurtis Randall:** Do you recall an incident in your youth that your grandfather had to do with you similar to what your kids put you through?

**Rickey Smiley:** Say that one more time.

**DeCurtis Randall:** Do you recall an incident in your youth that your grandfather had to deal with you similar to what your kids put you through?

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, showing out at school, being the class clown. A couple of times I did talk back, but I didn't bring half of the drama these kids bringing now. I was just probably mainly just silly, but I didn't wild out like these kids do now.

**DeCurtis Randall:** All right, how is the sunglasses business going and how can we get—

**Rickey Smiley:** It's not sunglasses. It's the glasses at America's Best, and America's Best you have two pair of Rickey Smiley frames for \$69.95. That includes the free eye exam. If you're interested you can get on the phone and dial 1-800-twopair. That's 1-800-twopair to be connected to the store nearest you. America's Best contacts and eyeglasses, tell them Rickey Smiley sent you. Mother's Day is right around the corner. Make sure you get your eyes checked. Go into any America's Best store, get on the website and call right now 1-800-twopair, that's 1-800-twopair, to be connected to the store nearest you, America's Best contact and eyeglasses.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** [Audio disruption] Rickey. Okay, so if we have another question, operator, we'll take that and then we'll wrap up with final remarks.

**Operator:** Okay, we have a question online from Maciba Childs [ph]. Please go ahead.

**Maciba Childs:** Hello, Rickey Smiley, this is Maciba from [audio disruption].com. Thank you so much for speaking with us today.

**Rickey Smiley:** Hello, Maciba, how are you?

**Maciba Childs:** I'm great, thank you. Now, my question for you is you have your TV show, your radio show, your other business ventures, like you just mentioned. You're toggling between cities, and yet still you're very hands-on and play a very active role in your family and your household. Now, there are men out there who mainly have one full-time job or even two jobs and they use that to say I work a lot, so I can't really be there for my family like I would like to because when I get home, I'm tired or whatnot. So my question to you is first, what advice would you have for those fathers who in order for them to balance

their home life versus their career life? And second what would you want for that to get out your new show *Rickey Smiley For Real*, what takeaways would you like for them to have so that they can take what you're doing and apply it to their family life?

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, I would definitely hope that a lot of dads out there, whether you're single or whether you're married, understand the importance of fatherhood, how fathers give their daughters confidence and how important it is to have a man to teach your son how to be a man. I hope that we get some encouragement and show how you just don't have to be the strict father. You could be a father that has fun with the kids because we're boating, we're swimming, we're jumping off of golf carts, making my daughters laugh and talking about boy stuff, talking about the prom, this, that and the other.

It is just a really, really good positive look for fatherhood. I hope that somebody is inspired, and I hope that this show makes all fathers a better father. I hope it makes me a better father because I'm still learning and growing. I hope that somebody walk away from this with something positive and gets inspired to be the best dad that they could be for their kids.

What was the other question?

**Maciba Childs:** The second question is how do you balance everything? How do you balance your career and travel with your family life?

**Rickey Smiley:** What I actually do, I actually spread everything out. I work when the kids are in school. In the summer, I really don't work, so we spend a lot of time together in the summer. We eat breakfast. I have a studio built inside of my home, so I can do my morning show from the house. By the time I get off the air, which is 9 o'clock in the morning, the kids are pretty much still asleep, and so sometimes the kids come downstairs and I'm sitting there at the kitchen counter drinking coffee or making breakfast and

everybody load up, we jump in the truck and go to the lake because my daughters have to go there. It's an obsession with the lake, especially my youngest daughter. When she comes down, have her bathing suit on and some towels, I already know what time it is. I need to go hitch the boat up to the truck and get the life jackets, and we are on our way to the lake. We come back from the lake and grill out, and we swim in the pool. We use the chlorine to wash out all of the particles from the lake, because you don't know what's in that water, so we swim in the pool and use the chlorine to clean, so we don't have to take a bath. No, I'm just kidding.

But I definitely spread it out. I don't perform every single weekend. Some weekends I'm off. I have a great staff that will make sure that I'm off when the kids are off or set something up where I perform in Miami and get the kids to come to Miami where I perform. And I just do my one show and stay down there an extra few days, and we use that as a vacation. You have to have a really, really good team to make sure that all of the moving parts are in the right place and everything coordinates.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you, Rickey, and thank you so much for that question. I've just been informed that we've been joined by our other cast members who I mentioned were still working, so they were a bit delayed, but we couldn't be more thrilled to have them this morning. I wanted to give them an opportunity to comment and discuss this season of the show.

We're going to start with Da Brat. Brat, can you please speak to use briefly about the experience of being a part of this cast and Rickey's extended family and what excites you about season two of the show and being a part of it all? Hello? Okay, we may have lost Da Brat. Gary, I understand you're with us as well if we'll have you speak to that.

**Gary With Da Tea:** Yes, can you all hear me?

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Yes, we can hear you.

**Gary With Da Tea:** And Brat is on as well. I didn't hear her speaking, but I want to say hello and I apologize for us being early, but you know they have us doing another job, but speaking of the show, I'm excited about season two because season was off the chain, as the youngsters say, so season two is going to be even better. I'm excited about my thong line. I'm excited because I want all the men on the show and all those just listening to at least get a pair because I think every man should at least when a thong in the new millennium. Rickey?

**Rickey Smiley:** I think not. I think not.

**Gary With Da Tea:** I think so because it's liberated, it's free and I think every man should be liberated. And when you wear a thong, you are liberated, and it's a great look for your spouse. Every woman will love to see her man walking with a nice thong, a nice pair of you know boxers briefs. It's sexy to her, and I think more men should embrace it and get out of boxers.

**Rickey Smiley:** I don't think I'm going to have my testicles in a slingshot.

**Gary With Da Tea:** That's so sad. That is so bad. But I'm excited about everything and I'm excited about tomorrow night as well. I'm sure this show is going to be one of the best shows that TV One ever produced. It is one of the best shows, I should say, and it's going to be one of the best shows on TV, so I'm excited about it and I can't wait until tomorrow. And I can't wait until the 10<sup>th</sup> when the show airs.

**Rickey Smiley:** You've got to preach, Gary, you've got to preach.

**Gary With Da Tea:** Yes, yes. I've got to recognize.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you, Gary, and is Da Brat sitting physically with you?

**Gary With Da Tea:** Yes, let me hand her the phone, because she's on her phone. Let me hand her the phone. Hold on a second.

**Da Brat:** Hello.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Hello, Brat.

**Da Brat:** Hi.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** I just wanted to give you an opportunity to talk to the media with us today about being on the show this season and your thoughts about being a part of Rickey's family and any observations you have on him as a parent, quite frankly, from your vantage point.

**Da Brat:** As far as Rickey being a parent, I love his parenting skills. Like I wish my dad was like Rickey. Like I think those kids are very blessed and they should really appreciate the type of father he is and the type of attention he pays to them and the love and care that he has for them. I think it's amazing. Of course, kids don't like to be reprimanded and stuff, but that's how you learn and become a better person or a better man or a better woman especially, for the kids in this world today. They have no respect. They do what they want to do. They say what they want to say. I think it's very important.

I used to get my ass whooped when I was a kid. And when you get older, you appreciate that and you thank your parents and you're like oh my God I didn't turn out like my cousins, dead, or on drugs or in jail.

You know what I'm saying? So I commend how he handles his children. I really do. I love watching him with his kids.

And I love being a part of the show. Man, Rickey Smiley is like the biggest blessing of my life. I got in a little trouble myself and then when I came home, I was like Lord, I need something to do. I feel like I wasn't working enough or not doing enough stuff. And then along came Rickey Smiley. I did his radio morning show and they ended up liking me. I got the opportunity to come back and be a part of the family, and I just love it. Like he gives people opportunities. He's just a blessing, and I'm very humble and very grateful for every opportunity that I have. I love doing Dish Nation. Everything that I'm doing now is because Rickey gave me that one opportunity and he believed in me, and I'm just grateful for it and I will forever be grateful for it. And whatever he needs I'm going to be like his little sister for the rest of my life ,and I got his back no matter what. You dare not say nothing bad about Rickey Smiley to me.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** All right.

**Rickey Smiley:** I'm sitting up here about to cry.

**Da Brat:** Don't do that. Don't do that. Boy, you know I love you, man. We almost the same person. We was raised by grandmothers. We went to church. We played our instruments in church. Church was our outlet. You know, we think alike. We go through the same situations. We hate camera phones. You know it's a lot of stuff that we are very much alike at, you know? Like we want to cuss people out, but we pray before we do. We ask the Lord to help us because know it ain't right. We try to stay away from bad situations, and we don't put ourselves in bad predicaments that will make us uncomfortable because we realize that we are the most important factor in our lives, and we got people that look up to us and that we take care of, so we have to set examples.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** I'm really glad that you mentioned Rickey as a mentor and Rickey as a facilitator for other people to pursue their dreams or creating opportunities for people, because outside of his role as a dad, I think that it another really powerful inspiration for men and men of color specifically.

Does anyone else on the line want to address another aspect of Rickey's personality or something that you discovered I'm going to say to either Da Brat or Gary since you've just joined us? Along those lines, what did you not know about Rickey before beginning this journey with him on the radio show and with the Rickey Smiley show *Rickey Smiley for Real* that you've since discovered that was something that we wouldn't know?

**Da Brat:** I didn't know how giving he was. I didn't know how sensitive he was and how sweet he was. I was like wow, he does so much for so many people. When I first got here, there was this old stankin' dirty bum man that walked in the door with me when I first got here, and I was like you are in the wrong place, my friend. You are not supposed to be in here. Man, this man came off the street. He was a bum. For some reason I don't know why, but Rickey gave this man a job in this radio station and fed him, and clothed him, and got him shoes. And I was just like oh my God, and that really touched my heart, and I will never forget that, so to this day like, you never know.

Rickey told me that might have been an angel. His heart just guided him to do that, so it's things like that that leave me in awe with this man. Like he's amazing. He's a godsend in my life. Who would bring a bum into work and feed him and clothe him and try to give him a better opportunity? He is the man of opportunities, I'm telling you. He helps any and everybody. It's his heart. If he knows your heart is good, he's going to try to help you if he can. If he knows you're humble and you really want something and you've got that good spirit and the right spirit, he's going to help you if he can.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** All right. We really, really appreciate that insight. Gary, anything from you? And then, operator, I do want to see if there are any questions.

**Gary With Da Tea:** Anything from me? Hello?

**Rickey Smiley:** Yes, we hear you, Gary.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Can you instruct the callers we have on the line how to submit question or how to enter the queue for questions again please?

**Operator:** Yes. (Operator instructions.) We have a question online from Shanova. Please go ahead.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Go ahead with your question please.

**Shanova:** Okay, yes, so Gary, for you, hello? Gary, can you hear me?

**Gary With Da Tea:** Yes, now I do.

**Shanova:** Okay, Gary, can you just tell me what is it like for you working with Rickey and with Da Brat, you know, just with the whole team?

**Gary With Da Tea:** Okay, it's pure hell because Rickey is a damn character, but I worked for Rickey as his assistant like seven years before I started on—no, not on his show I'm sorry. I worked for Rickey initially as the assistant and then I started on his show. But it's really, it's a rollercoaster because—I'm diagnosed bipolar, and Rickey sometimes wonders if he is or not. I'm clinical, he's not. You know what you're going to get from me. I don't know what the hell I'm going to get from him, but whatever the

situation is, it's really a good situation honestly because the one thing I like about Rickey, he's truthful. He'll tell you the truth and he'll put it out there, and it's up to you to figure it out.

Working with Da Brat is nice. It's been almost a year that we worked together and stuff. Initially we have our ups and downs or whatever, but then once we learn one another we balance out, and it's been really a joy as old folks would say. So I really enjoy working with the whole cast to be honest with you, but they got to understand me, too, because sometimes I have my moments. If I don't take my lithium, it's like I'm just not there, and Rickey knows how to aggravate me and really pull that out and then to have me crying on the radio. I'll curse and [indiscernible] but at the end of the day we get along fine.

**Shanova:** And I have a question for Da Brat. What was it like for you to transition over into radio?

**Da Brat:** It wasn't that hard for me to transition into radio because I'm already naturally an entertainer, and I kill the stage when I perform. Like that is my thing, so I needed to learn a few things that Rickey has taught me, and I'm still learning. I'm always eager to learn and willing to learn whatever he has to show me because he's been doing it for so long, but I just get to be myself and I just got to be careful that I don't curse, but other than that, it's pretty easy. I'm grateful. It's super easy. I just need to learn like some more about the timing, which Rickey is teaching me and you don't have to keep cracking a joke or trying to crack a joke, and when the funny stops or when it's time, just the timing of it all and how to count backwards. After it's the bottom of the hour, you don't say it's 6:35, you say it's the bottom of the hour or something like that because we're on in so many different states. Yes, I'm still learning, but it's easy.

**Shanova:** Okay, thank you.

**Da Brat:** Thank you.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you. And so I know we're going just slightly long since we were joined by additional cast members; however, operator, can you tell me if there are other folks in queue and if so, how many, so I can gauge?

**Operator:** Yes. We actually have three other callers in queue.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** So we'll take these last three questions. I appreciate everybody who joined us today and all of our spokespeople. Rickey, I know you have a tight schedule, so if it's okay, we'll take these three and then we'll wrap up, so let's go with the next question please.

**Operator:** Okay, we have a question online from Fred Lewis [ph]. Please go ahead.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Go ahead with your question, Fred, please. Okay, Fred, we can't hear you. Okay, operator, we have some audio issues with Fred, so let's go with the next question please.

**Operator:** Sure, our next question online come from Cynthia Warner from *Hip Hop Weekly*. Please go ahead.

**Cynthia Warner:** My question is for Da Brat. Hi, Brat, are you still on the line? Okay, she must not be on the line. Okay—

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Gary has to hand her the phone, hold on. Gary, can you hand her the phone?

**Da Brat:** Okay, here I am, I'm sorry.

**Cynthia Warner:** Da Brat, it's Cynthia Warner.

**Da Brat:** Hello, Cynthia Warner, how are you?

**Cynthia Warner:** I'm fine. Okay, I just want to ask real quick because I know we have to go. What do you think, what have you gotten out of being on the series? I know you talked a lot about how you really love Rickey Smiley, but talk a little bit more about what it was like actually acting on the series.

**Da Brat:** Being on the series, we don't act. We just do what comes natural.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** It's a docu-series. This series is a docu, Cynthia.

**Da Brat:** Now if you want to talk about me acting on *Empire*, that's different. I had a script, but this *Rickey Smiley for Real* is really for real. Like nothing is staged. We deal with real issues, and we just say how we feel, so however it's edited—huh?

**Cynthia Warner:** So you didn't have any reservations about exposing your life on TV then?

**Da Brat:** No, I didn't, because I trust Rickey, and I'm not really worried about it. I know he got my back, and since he's executive producer, I'm not worried about anything. There's nothing to expose. It's just really showing Rickey's life, and I'm a part of Rickey's life. It shows the radio show, how we operate, and it's shows our endeavors and the things that we're trying to get accomplished in our careers and him supporting us and us supporting him. And it's just showing the family of the whole Rickey Smiley, everybody under the umbrella.

**Cynthia Warner:** Okay. Thank you.

**Da Brat:** Thank you, Cynthia, so good to hear your voice.

**Cynthia Warner:** Oh, yes. Bye.

**Da Brat:** Bye.

**Operator:** We have a question from Maciba Childs. Please go ahead.

**Maciba Childs:** Yes, my question is for Da Brat as well.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Okay, go ahead with your question and Gary, if you could hand her the phone again.

**Da Brat:** Hi, it's Brat. He handed me the phone back.

**Maciba Childs:** Hi Brat, this is Maciba from the [indiscernible].com. Thank you for speaking with us today.

**Da Brat:** Hi.

**Maciba Childs:** Hi. My question for you is I followed your whole career, your whole story is you are just highly commended for how you bounce back. My question for you is with your cameos, *Empire* and now the *Rickey Smiley for Real* show and radio, where do you see your career as a whole going from here and what advice do you have to others who may see themselves in a situation where they feel they can't bounce back? What advice do you have for them?

**Da Brat:** You know what, you have to have faith. You have to trust and believe in God and through God you can do all things. Like I said, I was raised in a sanctified church by my grandmother, so I know how to have faith and believe in God, but God also gives you common sense, but you have to work hard at it at the same time. I see myself being a mogul. I'm talking like in five years I plan to executive produce my own TV shows. Hell, I might have my own radio show if Rickey keeps helping me. Like that's all he does. Like he helps people to get to the next level, so I plan to be—everything I could possibly do, I'm trying to do or I'm going to do. Anybody that has a dream or a goal and you have setback or you get in trouble, you go to jail, you do something stupid, because a lot of us make mistakes, we do stupid things without thinking. I just feel like if you put your heart and soul into it, you can do anything, but you have to believe in God and you have to be aggressive. And you have to go after your dreams. It's not going to just fall in your lap. You have to chase what you want, and you have to work very hard, which means you may not get any sleep, but if you put forth every effort with every nook and cranny in your bones, you will get to where you need to get to if you don't slack.

**Maciba Childs:** Absolutely [audio disruption]—

**Rickey Smiley:** I want to answer that. That is my whole purpose is every single challenge in that morning show [audio disruption] bigger and better because as a matter of fact, I get into arguments with them about other businesses and what are they doing with themselves and taking advantage of this opportunity, because I'm one to just see people grow. I believe in growth. And I am very aggressively in their face, in their business about them expanding their careers to go to the next level.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Thank you, Rickey. Thank you so much, Rickey. Thank you, Maciba. So with that said, thank you everyone for taking the time today to join us. I know how busy you all are, both the members of the media here with us today to cover and support this show and our spokespeople. So what we're going to do is have one last final word from our participants, and then we'll leave you with some

information on tune in. Somebody needs to mute their line. I'm not sure. If you're not speaking, please mute your line.

So we'll hear first from Rickey and just to maybe kind of expand on what you've already shared with us today and kind of leave everyone with a final note, how could we support this endeavor and what is it that you want to leave everyone's audiences with related to this series?

**Rickey Smiley:** What I want to do is I just want to encourage people to watch the show because I know it's a lot reality shows and docu-series that's out here, but I want people to watch the show because I think it's really, really positive for fathers. It's a good look for dads, and dads out here, they're trying to raise some kids because all of us are not deadbeat dads. There are some good men out here just trying to do the right thing and have opened up our homes to other children that did not have anywhere else to go. As a matter of fact, you'll get an opportunity to see two nephews that I raised over the past ten years whose father who was my fraternity brother was murdered. And you'll get a chance to see a whole lot of stuff. I'm really just excited about positive family stuff, conflict resolution, talking about Christian values, respect, and there are a lot of lessons to be learned.

And you'll get a lot of laughter and joy out of my staff because they love Brat and Gary, Headkrack, Rock-T, Juicy on the radio, and as a matter of fact, Juicy is on the docu-series and Juicy is also, if I'm not mistaken, going to be part of another cast of *Little Women of Atlanta*, so she's been working being a part of two shows. And that's another talent that we kind of gave exposure that came through the radio show, so it's going to be real positive, exciting, funny, lessons learned.

And as a matter of fact, there's going to be some moments where you're going to cry, because when you see these two young men who are raised for the past ten years sitting inside of a mausoleum crying about their deceased father who was brutally murdered ten years ago, it's going to touch your heart. So

I'm telling you this docu-series is everything. I'm proud of it. Roger Bob has been a blessing from God. I thank God for him.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** All right, take your time.

**Rickey Smiley:** Because in this business, in this industry you rarely meet people that's very genuine. It's awesome to work with genuine, awesome, understanding, everything is not about ratings, everything is not about money that genuinely care about you and care about your family. Roger Bob has taken some of his personal money and some of his personal time and did some wonderful things for my son who's going through what he's going through. He's been an awesome provider. He's been an uncle. He's been a brother, and he's been a true friend.

I don't know if anybody heard my radio show this morning. I went on a rant on the radio, and it's on my Facebook page, when I had a conversation about true friendship and what it means and embracing all of the people that's positive in your life. This docu-series, I hope that people find joy in it and learn. I hope it makes people better because as black people, we have to love each other, and we go through stuff. I was blessed to have an opportunity to be reunited with Ebony. I met Ebony when she was 14 years old. Ebony was on her to high school when I met her. And to see her lose her mother and sit in the back of the church and watch a friend put her mother to rest, I had a real moment, a real moment for me.

So I'm just blessed. I'm excited. I appreciate Alfred Liggins for believing in me. We've been in business ten years, and Alfred Liggins gave me an opportunity to be on the radio. Steve said put Rickey Smiley on, and he did. He didn't have to. He didn't have to give me a sitcom opportunity. He didn't have to agree to do this docu-series, but you know, it wouldn't even be on if Alfred Liggins didn't believe in it. He believed in it and he believed in me, and I appreciate him for that. Alfred Liggins and Roger Bob will

always be some of the top people in my life to give me the opportunities that they have and to produce the things that we have produced.

We've done great things on the radio, and through everything that we've done we have the Rickey Smiley Foundation and through the blessings from Alfred and Roger Bob, we are able to feed kids that's hungry, clothe people that don't have clothes. We perform at the nursing home every month with the Rickey Smiley Foundation, and I'm excited. I'm proud. We're doing God's work. It feels good. We're not taking away from anybody. As a matter of fact, as soon as I get off this phone, we're going to go and shoot some more things today for the docu-series, and that's where Brat and Gary are headed.

So I want you to watch the show because it's real. It's not fake. It's not staged. It's real. And Roger Bob would tell you if it was not real, I don't want it. I don't care how ugly it is or whatever, we're not going do fake stuff and set-up stuff. Everything on this show is absolutely 100% real. I speak from my heart, and it's funny, some of it, but it's real. I just want everybody to watch and make sure, spread the word. It's positive, and we need to make this a big deal, because you got positive stuff and reality TV. So something to be excited about and again, thank you everybody for taking this call. I know everybody has a busy schedule, but thank you for making me a part of your life and giving me some of your time. I'm humbled, and I appreciate everything.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Rickey, so inspired and so well said, and thank you for sharing that piece of yourself with all of us. I'm going to next ask for a comment from D'Angela from a network perspective if you could just kindly summarize how we're feeling about the show and what we're hoping that we'll be able to accomplish with the help of everyone on the line today.

**Lamar Chase:** She had to step away.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Okay. Okay, so Lamar, if you just wanted to quickly provide a summary statement on behalf of the network, really appreciate that.

**Lamar Chase:** Yes. We're just really, really excited. I usually can't wait until the episodes drop in and to do notes and really see how the show is evolving and some of the great things that we're capturing out on the field. So I really think viewers and you guys all on the phone supporting the show, you guys will be really, really pleased if you take the time to tune in. From a network standpoint, we're very thankful for you guys, we're thankful for Rickey. We're thankful for Roger, and just enjoy the show.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** And Roger just to segue and elaborate on some of the comments made by Rickey today, this clearly is a very special relationship that you share as executive producers and show creators, but also friends and men of color and faith. Can you summarize the call today and leave us with any last final thoughts?

**Roger Bob:** Absolutely, I think everyone heard the passion and realness quite frankly in Rickey's closing comments. This show is about him. It's about his family. It's about his Christianity. It's about his work. You're really getting the full effect of what's it's like to be in Rickey Smiley's world, and why that's interesting is because it's a great world to be in. It's a funny environment. It's an environment where you talk about family issues, you talk about crime, you talk about dealing with the police, you talk about dealing with the opposite sex. I'm talking about the conversations he has with his children. You're dealing with stuff going on in the workplace. You're dealing with pursuing your dreams. You just run the gamut and it's done in a very authentic way. It's done in a very funny way, and it's done in a way in which we care about the images that we're putting out and the messages that we're putting out.

Everything is not going to be good, and everything is not going to be funny. You're going to have your dramatic moments. You're going to have your funny moments, but ultimately it's going to be a positive

lesson of one, how to be a father and two, how to achieve your goals, and that's something that Rickey's has done his entire life. I'm just proud and honored that he's given me the opportunity to showcase his life to the world. It's a great show. Everybody should watch it. You can watch it with your kids, and I guarantee you, you'll be happy with the result.

**Tosha Whitten Griggs:** Now, I do want to reiterate to everyone in terms of the members of the press you have been provided with the link to an electronic screener. We strongly encourage you and ask that you take some time to watch it because I think it will really inform your coverage. We definitely thank you for being with us here today and also ask that as you're working on your coverage, if there's anything that you need in terms of artwork, in terms of assets—this interview has been recorded, so in terms of pulling quotes and making sure that any quotes that you use are accurate, that will also be made available to you. Share this with your colleagues in the business. Encourage them as well to support this show.

Shows like Rickey's are so important to the overall television landscape and frankly to us as a community. People are constantly complaining about what they see as ratchet TV. This is the antithesis of that, but we won't have shows like Rickey's if they're not supported and if people don't tune in. And so I strongly encourage you in addition to sharing with your audiences, share with your social media networks and encourage everybody to take a look at this very, very important programming.

So with that said, I'll leave you with the tune-in information. The show is going to premiere on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Definitely make sure you join us. We'll also be hosting an event for those of you in Atlanta, a premiere screening event with a red carpet tomorrow evening, Wednesday, so if you have not received an invitation or need further information, please reach out to us. And I just want to once again thank you for participating today. If there are no further questions or comments, thank you for joining us and enjoy the rest of your day.

**Operator:** Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. This concludes today's conference. Thank you for participating. You may now disconnect.