

# VICE MEDIA

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **VICE MEDIA LAUNCHES VIDEO PODCAST FEATURING SHANE SMITH PRODUCED WITH BILL MAHER'S CLUB RANDOM STUDIOS NETWORK**

#### **“VICE News: The Truth?” to Premiere This Summer, Reuniting Smith and Maher Ahead of Presidential Election**

**New York, NY and Los Angeles, Calif. (June 5, 2024)** – VICE Media and Club Random Studios today announced that Shane Smith, co-founder of VICE, will host a new video podcast in the Club Random Studios network. VICE News is a multi-award-winning long-form news content unit within VICE Media. In “VICE News: The Truth?” Smith will delve into the biggest memes and trending topics of today, analyzing their impacts on politics and culture at large – and getting to the truth. The video podcast will premiere this summer and will be co-produced by Club Random Studios and VICE News. The video podcast will also air on VICE TV, the company’s award-winning television network.

In addition, Smith will create content for VICE News’ social channels with nearly 22 million followers. He will also be a VICE News correspondent on news networks, commentating on the 2024 election cycle.

“This presidential election might just be the craziest yet – and that’s saying something,” said Smith. Working with Bill again as well as top political pundits, media personalities, and social stars, we will dissect what is real, what is fake, and what narrative is being pushed as social media explodes with ever more insane memes and theories. We hope to uncover the truth and sheer bull-goose lunacy of the main political events of the year. Wherever the story takes us, we will follow; however nuts it seems we will investigate; whatever the truth is, it promises to be the opposite of boring.”

“Producing the VICE show was a career highlight for me, and I’m thrilled to be getting the band back together with Shane for a podcast about examining something that we both care deeply about; the search for facts,” said Maher.

“In this election year, when the stakes are so high, Shane and Bill can have great impact in breaking through the chaos in pursuit of the truth,” said VICE Media CEO Bruce Dixon.

Smith is an acclaimed journalist and television host and was an executive producer for the Emmy winning news series “VICE” on HBO and Showtime. He has reported from the world’s most isolated and difficult places including North Korea, Iran, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Liberia, and Greenland. Smith has been awarded numerous journalism and media awards including Cannes Lions 2016 ‘Media Person of the Year;’ the 2014 Knight Innovation Award; the Environmental

Media Award and more than 20 Emmy Awards, two Peabody Awards, and several George Polk Awards. Smith launched VICE in 1994 as an alternative magazine.

For more than twenty years, Bill Maher has set the boundaries of where funny, political talk can go on American television. And, for the last fourteen years, Maher has hosted HBO's "Real Time," garnering him 40 Emmy nominations. Maher won his first Emmy in 2014 as executive producer for the HBO series, "VICE." "Real Time" was recently renewed by HBO through 2026. Maher's new book titled "What This Comedian Said Will Shock You," recently debuted at #1 on "The New York Times" nonfiction bestseller list.

### **About VICE Media**

VICE Media is a global media company focused on producing high-quality content on the edge of culture across film, television, news documentaries, digital, and advertising. The company has three divisions: VICE Studios Group, an international Academy Award nominated film, television, and documentary production group; VICE TV, a linear entertainment television network in partnership with A+E; and Virtue, a full-service advertising agency helping some of the largest brands dive deeper into new and emerging cultural communities. The company was founded 30 years ago as an alternative magazine.

### **About Club Random Studios**

Club Random Studios was founded by Bill Maher and co-collaborators Chris Case and Chuck LaBella as a place for independent voices to entertain audiences with their unique takes on the world today. Club Random Studios has launched the "Sage Steele Show" and has comedian Matt Friend on deck with his new show, "Friend in High Places," among others.

### **About VICE Studios Group**

VICE Studios is a globally focused, filmmaker-driven producer, within VICE Media, delivering premium documentary films and non-fiction series that cut through culture, with stories that spotlight the unexpected for audiences around the world. Credits include the triple Oscar nominated *FLEE*, the highly lauded docuseries *Pride RIDE* for FX, the breakout hit *FYRE: The Greatest Party That Never Happened* for Netflix, a two-part ESPN 30 for 30 special *American Gladiators, Bama Rush* – a major hit for MAX, the two-time Emmy nominated *Jim & Andy* for Netflix, and *Superpower* directed by Sean Penn.