

FIRE DEPARTMENT  
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## **Filming and Performance Regulations**

### **Purpose:**

To establish minimum requirements that will provide a reasonable degree of safety from fire, panic and explosion in production studios, sound stages, approved production facilities and production locations used by the entertainment industry for the purpose of motion picture, television and commercial production.

### **General Requirements:**

In preparation for set construction and production, please contact Culver City Fire Department (CCFD) to determine any special requirements during the construction phase. Please provide (3) sets of blueprints for CCFD review and approval. Upon approval, a CCFD stamped plan or set of plans shall remain on site for review if necessary. A production schedule complete with all contact information, lighting, rigging, audience coordinator, payroll, accounting, transportation, etc... shall be submitted at this time. Daily call sheets shall be faxed to the Fire Prevention Office. CCFD

### **Right of Entry:**

CCFD representatives shall be permitted to inspect at any time for the purposes stated in this document.

**Smoking:**

The smoking or carrying of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette or any other type of smoking device is prohibited. When approved by CCFD open flame devices used in conjunction with theatrical performances are allowed to be used when adequate safety precautions have been taken. An open flame permit must be obtained thru CCFD.

**Housekeeping:**

Proper housekeeping must be maintained at all times. Sound stages must remain free from any condition that would create a fire hazard, or contribute to the rapid spread of fire in accordance with Chapter 10 and 46 of the 2007 California Fire Code (CFC).

**Aisles:**

A minimum four-foot perimeter fire lane must be maintained within the production facility. These lanes shall also have a clear unobstructed height of seven feet. No storage will be allowed in the fire lane even on a temporary basis. All electrical cords, air and water lines that cross the fire lane, shall be matted or ramped.

**Exits:**

All exit doors shall remain unobstructed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 46, Section 4604 of the (CFC) California Fire Code. The maximum travel distance to any exit within the sound stage or approved production facility shall be 150 feet. Illuminated exit signs shall be provided in accordance with the California Building Code. In the event of power failure, exit path illumination shall be automatically provided by an approved emergency backup system.

**Special Permits:**

A special permit shall be required for:

- Open Flame
- Use of Pyrotechnics/Special Effects
- Hot work (welding, grinding or cutting)
- Vehicles on Motion Picture Set
- Catering
- Fuel Truck
- FSO's involved in production where potentially dangerous circumstances exist.

**Open Flame:**

No flammable or combustible liquids or gases allowed in the area.

Combustible materials shall be kept at a safe distance.

Control all other possible sources of ignition.

Coordinate with other departments to insure no use of flammable or combustible materials on stage.

Fire extinguishers, both class A (water) and multi-purpose (ABC) shall be readily available in the event of a fire emergency.

A 30 minute fire watch is needed after any use of open flame.

No Smoking in building.

All permits are subject to revocation at the discretion of CCFD.

### **Pyrotechnic/Special Effects:**

Proper (SFM) State Fire Marshal credentials are to be held and in possession at all times by the pyrotechnic operator.

No flammable or combustible liquids or gasses are to be in the area.

Control all possible ignition sources on sound stage or location.

Coordinate with other departments to insure no use of flammable or combustible materials are on or near stage.

Fire extinguishers must be readily available. Additional fire protection may be required by CCFD.

Proper pyrotechnic storage magazines will be kept in a safe, secure area.

Minimum personnel, limited to the production or effect, will be allowed in the area.

Absolutely **NO SMOKING**.

All pyrotechnic permits are subject to revocation at the discretion of CCFD.

### **Welding, Cutting, Hot Work:**

No flammable liquids or gasses, combustible material will be allowed in the area, except those necessary for the welding process.

Use proper shielding, welding curtains when necessary.

Provide a minimum 1 hour fire watch after the completion of any hot work.

Compressed gas bottles are to be properly secured.

All permits are subject to revocation at discretion of CCFD.

### **Vehicles on Motion Picture Set:**

The vehicle shall be equipped with proper sealing gas cap.

The battery shall be disconnected or removed.

The vehicle shall have no more than ¼ tank of fuel.

Multiple vehicles are to be parked no closer than 20 feet to each other and no closer than 30 feet from the building structure.

No vehicle is to be left unattended, overnight or when production is not in progress, unless approved by CCFD.

No motor homes or catering trucks are allowed on stage anytime.

Production trailers on stage must be approved by CCFD. Propane fuel tanks must be empty or removed.

**Absolutely** no fueling of vehicles on set.

### **Catering:**

All cooking equipment must be in proper working order.

The caterer shall provide an adequate number of (SFM) State Fire Marshal approved fire extinguishers.

All extinguishers shall have current (SFM) service tag affixed.

Use of open flame, (i.e. sterno) requires an open flame permit from CCFD.

All cooking equipment must be located at least 5 feet from any combustibles (sets, walls etc.) and at least 10 feet from any exit. Cooking equipment shall not block means of egress.

### **Fuel Truck: (locations)**

Permit shall remain with the fuel truck assigned to the permit.

Fuel pumps shall be (UL) Underwriters Laboratory approved.

Bonded fuel delivery hose with a hand actuated nozzle and no lock open device is required.

An approved metal to metal grounding device must be used when dispensing flammable or combustible liquids.

A fire extinguisher of minimum, 20BC rating shall be provided and immediately available to the operator in the event of fire.

Dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids is not allowed from fuel drums.

Emergency push-pull type shut-off switch shall be located on the front of the fuel truck.

Proper D.O.T. placards and warning are required on vehicle, e.g., "**Flammable No Smoking Within 100 ft.**"

### **Set Construction:**

All solid ceiling sets over 600 square feet in area, shall be protected by automatic fire sprinklers. Automatic fire sprinklers shall protect platforms over 600 square feet in area and which exceed 3 feet in height. This is in accordance with Chapter 46, Section 4611.14 of the California Fire Code.

### **Exception:**

An approved and listed heat detector system is installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and or the manufacturer's recommendation. Detectors shall be connected to an approved and listed central, proprietary or remote station service or a local alarm, which will give an audible signal at a constantly attended location.

Raised set shall be wrapped by (chicken wire) to prevent accumulation of combustibles of flammable materials from being stored underneath.

The ceiling is designed to be lifted or "flown" after filming has been completed for the day. Heat detectors may be removed during actual shooting but must be installed after the daily shooting is finished.

A Culver City Fire Department, Fire Safety Officer may be required.

### **Live Audience Sets:**

A Culver City Fire Department, Fire Safety Officer is required for all live audience sets.

Absolutely no storage will be allowed under audience seating unless approved by CCFD.

Additional illuminated signage will be required in accordance with Chapter 10, of the California Fire Code.

### **Mechanical and Electrical Equipment:**

All electrical equipment including lighting, cabling, and temporary power shall be maintained in Good working order and comply with the provisions of the California Electrical Code. Such equipment shall not block exits, means of egress, fire protection equipment or fire department access.

Portable, mobile, or stationary power generating equipment may be used to supplement building electrical power for temporary wiring.

A minimum 3 foot clearance must be maintained around all electrical equipment.

### **Paint, Flammable Liquids and Gasses:**

Non-flammable paints and solvents should be used whenever possible.

All flammable liquids must be stored in approved safety cans with a maximum of 5-gallons, and stored in an approved flammable liquids cabinet.

No more than 3 flammable liquids cabinets will be allowed on the stage.

Cabinets shall not be located near exits, or in areas which would impede egress out of the building.

All liquids shall be clearly labeled and MSDS sheets must be available for immediate review.

### **Exterior Fire Lane:**

Designated fire lanes throughout studio lots shall remain clear for fire department access in case of a fire or medical emergency.

Unless specifically permitted by CCFD, production vehicles, golf carts, or production equipment, shall not obstruct fire lanes, fire equipment, or building exits.

Drivers shall remain with the vehicle when stopping in a roadway or fire lane.

Violators will be cited and risk being towed at owner's expense.