



LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE CINEMA-TELEVISION DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION SAFETY GUIDELINES

Filmmaking can lead to a very real tragedy. We have all heard about serious injury during the production of a film. Although it is true that some of these occurrences are unavoidable accidents, most are the direct result of carelessness from one or a group of individuals who took unwise risks. No one can provide absolute guarantees of safety, but it is the responsibility of filmmakers to do everything possible to prevent accidents.

Everyone involved in a film project should be aware of safety issues and to actively participate in the implementation of a solid, common sense approach to safety on all productions. The student director of any film project is required to control any and all decisions regarding safety while filming. The director is in charge of all activity and planning of individual projects. In addition, crew personnel who knowingly participate in unsafe production procedures at the request of a director operating in an irresponsible manner will also be held responsible in the event of personal injury or death.

NOTE: LACC's liability insurance covers only location property and persons not directly connected with the production of the film. Actors and crew are not covered for personal injury if such occurs on the production.

THE STUDENT DIRECTOR MUST NOTIFY ANYONE WORKING ON A PRODUCTION THAT THEY ARE NOT COVERED BY OUR INSURANCE.

SPECIAL EFFECTS AND STUNTS

California State law requires the use of a LICENSED pyrotechnics expert to purchase or advise in the operation of firearms, explosives, fire, toxic or volatile chemicals (including all special effects equipment to simulate gunfire or explosions of any kind; blanks, squibs, air cannons, etc.) If the student must use any of these effects in the film, he/she will be required to hire or secure the services of a pyrotechnics expert to work on the project and supervise the use of such equipment. In addition, all local, state and federal requirements (whichever apply) for permits, notification of intent and security or safety supervisors must be met within the specified time required prior to filming.

IF YOUR SCRIPT CALLS FOR A GUN, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO USE A TOY GUN. AVOID USING EVEN THESE IN PUBLIC PLACES. Accidents have occurred from the public or police unknowingly entering a film production area without realizing that the activity they are observing is part of a film. Small production crews are most susceptible to this type of accident because they are not as visible as large productions.

STUNTS

We suggest that you do not have stunts in your student film. The instructor must approve stunts of any kind. A determination of whether or not the student director will be required to use professional stunt persons or experts in the type of activity he/she is going to portray will be made in conjunction with the department chairman if deemed necessary by the instructor. **Actors who wish to perform their own stunts must sign a waiver of liability form before you can allow them to perform even a minor stunt (falling down after a push from another actor, tripping over an object, riding a horse at running speed.)**

OVER

**LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE CINEMA-TELEVISION DEPARTMENT
PRODUCTION SAFETY GUIDELINES CONTNUED**

The main categories that require the use of stunt persons are:

1. Operation of any vehicle, including water or aircraft in any way that could be determined to be beyond this range of normal transportation or recreational use. Any actor who drives or pilots any type of vehicle must have the appropriate license and training. Any time that the required use of any vehicle would normal breach existing laws regarding the safe use of that vehicle (speeding, for example) a stunt person and paramedics are required
2. Fighting sequences that require falls or action that would normally be expected to cause injury, especially with knives, swords, spears, blackjacks, pipes, bottles, boards or any implement that could injure an actor if an accident occurred.
3. Athletic or thrill seeking endeavors that involve risk of serious injury or death. Many actors claim they have athletic abilities in order to secure work. Don't assume that just because an actor professes to have experience with a particular sport or activity that you are being given accurate information. Verify their expertise before you approve any portrayal of an activity that could seriously injure or kill an actor.

Stunt people are specially trained for this type of action and should be used, not only for safety reasons, but to do the most believable job for your film.

Never require your crew to take any risks that would potentially cause injury or death. Verify their qualifications for the activity.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE?

If you desire a safe shoot, make sure that no one "under the influence" is allowed to work on your production. The safety of all involved is a stake. Send them home until they can prove to be reliable under pressure. The risk is too great. Any tragedy that occurs from substance abuse can legally be defined as manslaughter.

I HAVE READ THESE SAFETY GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE CINEMA-TELEVISION DEPARTMENT. HAVING READ THIS I REALIZE THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES DURING THE COMPLETION OF ANY PROJECT WHILE I AM A STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE CINEMA-TELEVISION DEPARTMENT AT L.A.C.C. I DIRECTLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY ACCIDENT THAT OCCURS ON MY SHOOT AND ABSOLVE THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, FACULTY AND STAFF OF ANY FAULT.

Signature

Print Name _____ Date _____