

10-1788

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JOBS & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

MOTION

Currently, FilmL.A. coordinates and processes permits for on-location motion picture, television and commercial production under contract with the City of Los Angeles and other local jurisdictions. All permits are issued by the authority of and in accordance with the policies of the City of Los Angeles. Permits are required for all commercial film and still photo shoots.

The City requires that productions obtain film permits from FilmL.A. for a variety of reasons including: (1) establishing that a location is properly insured, available and safe for filming; (2) promoting public safety by working with City departments to properly close streets, sidewalks or other areas where filming takes place; (3) facilitating public awareness by educating neighbors of production locations, times and durations; (4) investigating filming locations to determine that a location is not over filmed and burdening local residents or businesses; and (5) maintaining a record of the amount and type of filming that is occurring in the City.

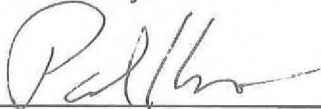
While every effort must be made by commercial film or still productions to obtain a legal film permit, there are instances where illegal, unpermitted production occurs. Under current law, production companies are liable for unpermitted filming, which is punishable as a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period of not more than six months, or by both a fine and imprisonment.

There are instances in which property owners habitually lease out their property to different productions for unpermitted filming. Legal measures directed solely toward a lessee are problematic because the lessee may be a one-time user, while the property owner may be allowing frequent and illegal use of the property, which is a long term problem.

Current law does not hold the property owner liable for unpermitted filming on their own property. In order to deter unpermitted filming and to prevent interference with the enjoyment and use of adjacent property, property owners who know or should know that illegal filming takes place on their property should be held to the same standards as production companies.

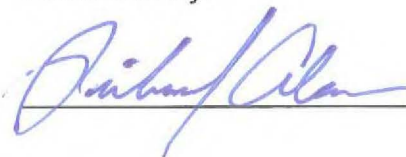
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, with input from the CLA and the LAPD film unit, draft an ordinance which would make unpermitted filming a misdemeanor so that that property owners would be as equally liable as production companies for unpermitted filming.

Presented by:



Paul Koretz,
Councilmember, Fifth District

Seconded By:



ORIGINAL

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