



Baton Rouge Fire Prevention Bureau
Baton Rouge Fire Department
8011 Merle Gustafson Dr
Baton Rouge, LA 70807
(225) 354-1431

Fire Contact
Lawless Henry Threaten
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Subj: Guidelines of Baton Rouge Fire Department for Film Productions in Baton Rouge

The entertainment industry occasionally depicts actions, situations, equipment installations, or construction violations of recommended standards and codes. However, it does not reflect actual entertainment industry safety practices. The Motion Picture and Television Industry Committee recognizes it is not practical to continually upgrade existing buildings or installations to comply with all the requirements of the referenced publications.

NFPA 1:1.7.17.1 "The AHJ shall have the authority to require standby fire personnel or an approved fire watch when potentially hazardous conditions or a reduction in a life safety feature exist due to the type of performance, display, exhibit, occupancy, contest, or activity; an impairment to a fire protection feature; or the number of persons present."

NFPA 1:1.7.17.2 "The owner, agent, or lessee shall employ one or more qualified persons, as required and approved, to be on duty."

NFPA 1:1.7.17.2.1 "The cost of standby fire personnel shall be at no cost to the AHJ."

NFPA 1:1.7.17.3* "Such standby fire personnel or fire watch personnel shall be subject to the AHJ's orders at all times and shall be identifiable and remain on duty during the times such places are open to the public, when such activity is being conducted, or as required by the AHJ."

NFPA 140:4.4.1 "Where required by the AHJ, a fire watch shall be provided for soundstages and approved production facilities where pyrotechnic special effects are used."

NFPA 140:4.4.2 Other Hazards. "Where required by the AHJ, a fire watch shall be provided for hazardous operations other than pyrotechnic special effects."

Some examples are: out of service fire protection systems (sprinkler, suppression, alarm), any impediments to egress (cabling, blocked exits), change of usage of occupancy (a school used for filming, etc.), pyrotechnics, flame effects, compressed air effects, smoke (haze), stunts, and other increased dangers associated with motion picture filming.

NFPA 140: 4.2 Permits. "Where required by the AHJ, a permit shall be obtained for any of the activities that follow:

- (1) Use of pyrotechnic special effects
- (2) Use of open flames
- (3) Welding
- (4) Use of ignitable (flammable or combustible) liquids or gases
- (5) Use of aircraft
- (6) Presence of motor vehicles within a building
- (7) Productions with live audiences
- (8)* Change of use or change of occupancy classification"

Each location and situation shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if and when standby personnel or an approved fire watch by BRFD personnel will be required. The above-listed activities will require a permit and be considered inclusive and not limited to the listed situations. The Fire Prevention Bureau must evaluate each location and activity. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

BRFD will evaluate only locations within the city limits of Baton Rouge to determine if the site and situation require personnel from BRFD. Other AHJs may have different or additional requirements as to when and if fire watch personnel are needed. Please contact the local AHJ to determine their requirements.

Referenced Publications:

NFPA 1 Fire Code (2024 Edition)

NFPA 140 Standard on Motion Picture and Television Production Studio Soundstages, Approved Production Facilities, and Production Locations (2024 Edition)



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Baton Rouge Fire Department Filming Application

By City Ordinance, applicants must complete this form to the best of their knowledge. The completed application must be reviewed by the Baton Rouge Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau. It must be accessible on location at all times. Place "TBD" in the blank associated with the unavailable information at the time of filing permits. Additionally, productions must schedule a pre-production meeting with the Fire Prevention Bureau. Contact our office at (225)354-1400.

Type of Production

- ☐ Feature
- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Documentary
- ☐ Music Video
- ☐ TV Series/ Pilot

- ☐ Student Film
- ☐ Short Film
- ☐ Online Video Content

	Primary Contact Information		Production Company Information
Name		Name	
Address		Address	
City		City	
State		State	
Zip		Zip	
Phone		Phone	
Fax		Fax	
Email		Email	

Prepared By:	Phone	Cell	Email
Name			
UPM			
Line producer			
Location Manager			
Unit Publicist			
Medical Unit			



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General Production Details

Pre-Production: _____ to _____ Production: _____ to _____

Title or Production: _____

Director: _____

Number of Personnel:

_____ Crew _____ Cast _____ Models _____ Extras

_____ Total (Personnel associated with production)

Special Effects or Stunts

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Smoke/Pyro/Fire | ☐ Squibs |
| ☐ Spark Producing Effects | ☐ Falling/Jumping from heights |
| ☐ Compressed Air | ☐ Wire Stunts |
| ☐ Vehicles (Inside Buildings) | ☐ Animals |
| ☐ Vehicles (Outside Buildings) | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Aircraft (including drones) | |
| ☐ Simulated Weapon Usage | |

List all locations and dates. List the addresses of all buildings used for production, construction, storage, and support units. The use of pyrotechnics requires a magazine. List the location of the magazines. Provide a 24-hour available contact number for all sites. (Use additional sheets if needed). Please include all locations, including those outside the city of Baton Rouge.

Use	Dates	Address	24 Hour Contact (Name and phone number)

Hold Harmless Agreement:

This applicant agrees to indemnify the city of Baton Rouge and to be solely and absolutely liable upon any and all claims, suits, and judgments against the city and/or the applicant for personal injuries and property damage arising out of or occurring during the activities of the applicant, his/hers (its) employees or otherwise. The applicant further agrees to comply with all provisions of Louisiana laws, rules, and regulations. This permit may be revoked at any time.

Applicant Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Chief of Fire Prevention

_____/_____/_____
Date

For additional information, contact Lawless Henry Threaten O. 225-354-1452 C. 985-969-7753 lthreton@brla.gov

Film Permit Fee: \$0.00