

# CITY OF FRESNO FILM PERMITTING POLICY, PERMIT AND APPLICATION FRESNO FILM & ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION – ADMINISTRATOR

## INTRODUCTION:

Thank you for choosing Fresno for your project. Following are the City of Fresno (COF) policies, application and permit pertaining to all commercial film, video and still photography production, requesting “on location” film activity in the City of Fresno. Policies are administered through the Fresno Film & Entertainment Commission (FFEC), a division of the City of Fresno Economic Development Department.

**CONTACT:** Fresno Film & Entertainment Commission  
City of Fresno - EDD  
2600 Fresno Street, Room 2156-02  
Fresno, CA 93721-3608  
559.621.8358 - Phone  
559.341.2660 - Cell  
559.457.1505 - Fax  
[ray.arthur@fresno.gov](mailto:ray.arthur@fresno.gov)  
<http://www.fresnofilm.com>

## FILM PERMIT:

A COF Film Permit is required for all film activity occurring within the Fresno city limits, with the exceptions of: News media coverage, Studio Filming and “incidental” filming/taping for private use. Permittee must have private property owner’s written permission for filming on any private property in the City of Fresno.

The COF Film Permit is two tiered and defined as follows:

**Minimal Impact (MI)** - low impact activities including driving scenes, dialogue scenes (walk & talk), may include minor sets and/or props, minor stunts, cast and crew of under 100, vehicles under 50, aircraft over 500 feet. **MI** activities may create zero to minor short term (a few minutes, hours, days) interference to citizens.

**MI** Film Permit will normally be completed within three working days.

**Beyond Minimal Impact (BMI)** - anything more than *Minimal Impact*. Activities could include large casts and extras, major set construction, major stunts, special effects, pyrotechnics and/or fire, water effects, exotic animals, aircraft under 500 feet. Aircraft operating under 500 feet must provide FFEC with their approved FAA flight plan. **BMI** could have a cast and crew of over 100, 50 or more vehicles, nudity, scenes that may create considerable and/or long term interference with citizens.

**BMI** permit approval time will be determined by its activity and the applicable departments’ ability to fulfill all required requests, but will normally be completed within 10 working days.

When required, permittee will be required to notify all neighborhood residents and businesses within a 200 foot radius of the proposed film location.

Permissible hours of filming will be: 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM. “Exception requests” will be required to obtain a minimal 60% signature sign-off.

The COF will review all types of commercial film and video production applications. It is, however, the intent of the COF to not consider requests that may reflect poorly on the City.

**FILM PERMITTING PROCESS:**

COF Film Permit Applications are available on the FFEC website, [www.fresnofilm.com](http://www.fresnofilm.com) via email, or hard copy. Permittee will obtain a printed version, complete and submit application to the FFEC:

Scanned, emailed copy to [Ray.Arthur@fresno.gov](mailto:Ray.Arthur@fresno.gov), or,

Faxed copy to FFEC at 559.457.1505

Permit will be issued only if:

All requirements are met.

Any and all fees are paid in advance.

All insurance documents are submitted, complete and correct.

Permittee is required to have a copy of an approved COF Film Permit “on location” during any activity, and permit is to be made available to City upon request.

**STUDENTS AND NON-PROFITS:**

Students filming on school property are exempt from COF Film Permits. Students filming on any non-school property in the COF require a COF Film Permit, a letter of authorization from the school, and will adhere to all applicable insurance requirements.

**SPECIAL EFFECTS:**

Any filming activity that requires the use of flammable materials, explosive devices, or open flames is considered a special effect. Production must obtain a special effects permit from the COF Fire Department. All special effects permits require a licensed special effects pyrotechnics operator. Special effects may require extensive notification to residents and businesses beyond the standard 200 ft. to ensure all those potentially affected by the activity are notified.

**FILM PERMIT PRICING:**

**\$450 – Film Permit application processing fee – WAIVED**

**\$250 – Daily Fee - WAIVED**

COF will not charge for permits, processing or usage of COF property.

COF will charge cost reimbursement for:

All services required

COF staff usage or displacement

Loss of staff time and/or productivity

Any and all COF fees and charges relating to Permittee’s application will be paid in advance.

**YOUR CATERING CARRYOVERS...**

Left-over catering food? Fresno’s homeless could use it!

The Poverello House is a private, nonprofit, nondenominational organization that has been serving the hungry and homeless of our community since 1973.

Please call Paul Stack at 559.498.6988 before your arrival

Drop your “on location” leftovers at 412 “F” Street.

**The undersigned acknowledges that he/she has read, fully understands, and agrees to adhere to these policies.**

PERMITTEE REP: _____	TITLE: _____
(UPM or HIGHER)	
PRINT NAME	DATE: _____
_____ SIGNATURE	

**CITY OF FRESNO FILM PERMIT APPLICATION  
FRESNO FILM & ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION  
2600 FRESNO ST. ROOM 2156-02, FRESNO, CA 93721  
559.621.8358 (Office) 557.341.2660 (Cell) 559.457.1505 (Fax)**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION(S): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DATES:

PREP: \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES \_\_\_\_\_

SHOOT: \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES \_\_\_\_\_

STRIKE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PERSONNEL: CAST \_\_\_\_\_ CREW \_\_\_\_\_ EXTRAS \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL VEHICLES: \_\_\_\_\_ CARS: \_\_\_\_\_ TRUCKS: \_\_\_\_\_ MH: \_\_\_\_\_ GEN: \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PRODUCT: FF \_\_\_\_\_ TV \_\_\_\_\_ COMM'L \_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ STILL \_\_\_\_\_ INTERNET \_\_\_\_\_ DOC \_\_\_\_\_ CORP \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

LOC. MGR/SCOUT: \_\_\_\_\_

PROD./UPM: \_\_\_\_\_

ADD'L CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUIREMENTS:

POLICE \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC WORKS \_\_\_\_\_

FIRE \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

P & R \_\_\_\_\_

G. SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_

ROADS: ITC \_\_\_\_\_ CLOSURE \_\_\_\_\_

SFX/PYRO \_\_\_\_\_ SQUIBS \_\_\_\_\_ EXPLOSION \_\_\_\_\_ GUNFIRE \_\_\_\_\_ AIRCRAFT \_\_\_\_\_ WATER \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

ANIMALS \_\_\_\_\_

GIVE DETAILS: \_\_\_\_\_





