

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



BRIAN L. CUMMINGS
FIRE CHIEF

June 22, 2012

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 12-103

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Brian L. Cummings, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF FILM FIRE SAFETY OFFICER

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Recommendations: That the Board:

1. Establish the new classification of Film Fire Safety Officer at the current rate of \$64.00 per hour.
2. Direct the Board Executive Assistant to publish the required notice of public hearing on the proposed fee at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.
3. Direct the Board Executive Assistant to forward this report to the Office of the Mayor for consideration and approval.
4. Subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council, request the City Council to instruct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (L.A.M.C.), Chapter 5, Article 7, to establish the new classification of Film Fire Safety Officer.

Summary:

The purpose of this proposed ordinance is to establish the Film Fire Safety Officer (FFSO) for filming activities.

Findings:

Prior to filming in the City of Los Angeles, filming companies are required to obtain a film permit. The Fire Department Film Unit determines if a Spot-Check inspection or a uniform Fire Safety Officer will be required at the filming location. In order to differentiate the Fire Safety Officer (FSO) fees for filming activities, from the FSO fees for other non-film related activities. It is proposed that all FSO activities related to filming be assigned the identifier of FFSSO.

It is in the best interest of public safety that the Fire Department regulates activities involving film production when companies are working in areas where the nature of the activities and the number of persons involved could create a fire or live/safety hazard. A uniformed FSO is currently used for these locations. The FSO is responsible for enforcing the Fire Code and is required when pyrotechnic effects or other hazards may place members of the public in potential jeopardy by the filming process.

The Department seeks to establish the new classification of FFSO to differentiate them from other FSO who provide non-filming inspections.

A copy of this report has been forwarded to the Office of the City Administrative Officer for review.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact on the establishment of a new classification of FFSO.

Conclusion:

Separating the FFSO for filming activities from the current FSO fees for non-film related activities, will allow the City of Los Angeles to continue to be film-friendly, while also pursuing full cost recovery for FSO activities.

Board report prepared by Mark Stormes, Deputy Chief, and Rosemarie Barraza, Senior Management Analyst I, Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety.

Attachment

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Section 57.02.02, of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to add Film Fire Safety Officer as subsection C under the current subcategories of Fire Safety Officer.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS**

Section 1. Section 57.02.02 Fire Safety Officer is amended to read:

SEC. 57.02.02. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

Fire Safety Officer – A Uniformed or a Certified Fire Safety Officer as stated below:

- A. **Uniformed Fire Safety Officer** – A uniformed member of the Department assigned to the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety.
- B. **Certified Fire Safety Officer** – A person approved and assigned by the Chief to perform the duties of a Fire Safety Officer
- C. **Film Fire Safety Officer** – *a Fire Safety Officer, assigned to the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety, who inspects filming locations to ensure compliance with the Fire Code.*

Section 2. Section 57.04.12(c) is amended to add a new item, #39

- SEC. 57.04.12(c) Fee**
39. Assignment of a Film Fire Safety Officer (FFSO)
40. Spot Check inspections