



DEKALB COUNTY FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Darnell D. Fullum Director/Fire Chief
Fire Marshal Division-Chief Joseph Cox, Fire Marshal
330 West Ponce De Leon Avenue, Decatur, Georgia 30030
Phone: 404-371-2776 Fax: 404-687-2430



Fire Safety Officers / Fire Standby Personnel / Policy

The FSO will oversee safety operations, develop fire safety procedures/plans, and will review the plans with all occupants before and during the shoot.

DUTIES

The duty of the FSO is to prevent and abate fire and life hazards. If pyrotechnic special effects, stunts or other hazardous activities are planned by the production company. The FSO will be in contact with key production personnel for briefing on the day of the activity. Depending on the size of the production and degree of fire and life safety services involved, a pre-production safety meeting may be required to become oriented with the proposed activity.

The FSO will conduct an initial inspection of the set. Following the inspection, the FSO will monitor mandatory fire and life safety requirements throughout the day.

The FSO will make certain he/she has access to the film production liaison at all times. The FSO should also have direct communication with radio command centers to report and dispatch emergency equipment if the need arises. The FSO's will be familiar with the area and know the location of nearby hospitals, fire stations, telephones, escape routes, fire hydrants and other fire protection equipment and services.

FSO RATES

There shall be a charge of \$50 per hour with a 4-hour minimum for each Fire Department Event Staff assigned to the event. Fire Department staffing shall be determined by the Fire Marshal, FMO Supervisor, and/or other assigned FMO staff. Any event lasting over four hours shall be charged an additional fee of \$50 per hour.

If there is no notice of cancellation within 8 hours, Fire Safety Officer (FSO) will be paid based on the minimum time requested \$200. Any requests made within 8-hours of the shoot time will be assessed at double the normal hourly rate, which will be \$100 per hour.

The payment shall be done directly to the assigned FSO at the end of the shift. Please have start packets available to the assigned FSO upon their arrival.

Applicable Code References

- 2018 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.
- 2018 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.



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Production Locations Policy

The DeKalb County FMO requires any of the below applicable special hazards to be declared in accordance with NFPA 140. Further approvals and/or permitting may be required. Additional safeguards may be required if opinion of the Fire Marshal or designee, it is necessary for the preservation of life or property, due to the hazardous nature of an event, production or, operation.

If it is determined that an FSO is needed approved personnel will be assigned. Specifics on the FSO will be forwarded to the location representative.

1. Use of pyrotechnic special effects (inside or outside of facility)
2. Use of open flames
3. Welding
4. Use of 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 – this includes high occupant loads 250 plus persons.
9. Disabling of fire protection features (sprinkler and/or fire alarm)
10. Stunt work
11. Drone use

All production locations and basecamps will be inspected for compliance with NFPA 140. See code references below. Other code references could be applicable as determined by Fire Inspector.

Applicable Code References

- *2018 NFPA 140 – 1.1.1* This standard shall address fire protection, property protection, and life safety in motion picture and television industry soundstages, approved production facilities, and production locations.*
- *2018 NFPA 140 - 1.4 **Equivalency.** Nothing in this standard shall be intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety as alternatives to those prescribed by this standard, provided that technical documentation is submitted to the authority having jurisdiction to demonstrate equivalency, and the system, method, or device is approved for the intended purpose.*
- *2018 NFPA 140 - 3.3.5 **Production Location.** Any site other than a soundstage or approved production facility used for the purpose of motion picture, television, or commercial production.*



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Approved Production / Studio Facilities - Policy

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If it is determined that an FSO is needed approved personnel will be assigned. Specifics on the FSO will be forwarded to the location representative.

1. Use of pyrotechnic special effects (inside or outside of facility)
2. Use of open flames
3. Welding
4. Use of 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 – this includes high occupant loads 250 plus persons.
9. Disabling of fire protection features (sprinkler and/or fire alarm)
10. Stunt work
11. Drone use

Applicable Code References

- *2018 NFPA 140 - 3.3.1 Approved Production Facility. An existing building, portion of a building, or group of buildings renovated, modified, or reconstructed for use by the entertainment industry and approved by the authority having jurisdiction for the purposes of motion picture, television, or commercial production.*
- *2018 NFPA 140 - 3.3.6 Production Studio. A building, a portion of a building, or a group of buildings designed and constructed for use by the entertainment industry for the purpose of motion picture, television, or commercial productions, or broadcasting television programs utilizing a soundstage.*
- *2018 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.*
- *2018 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.*
- *2018 NFPA 140 - 1.4 Equivalency. Nothing in this standard shall be intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety as alternatives to those prescribed by this standard, provided that technical documentation is submitted to the authority having jurisdiction to demonstrate equivalency, and the system, method, or device is approved for the intended purpose.*
- *2018 NFPA 140 - 1.1.1* This standard shall address fire protection, property protection, and life safety in motion picture and television industry soundstages, approved production facilities, and production locations.*