



D I G I T A L C I N E M A T O G R A P H Y
P R E S E N T S

F I L M I N G W I T H
**WEAPONS
AND PYRO**

A L I V E L E C T U R E
T H U R S 1 1 / 1 5
7 : 0 0 P M E S T





HELLO

Please have headphones/headset ready

Downloads available in GoTo Materials

Use Chat to ask questions or share experiences

RECORDING IN PROGRESS



YOUR HOST

Jennifer Miller

Digital Cinematography
Producing Instructor

Production Manager @ REBL HQ

Chairperson DCBS Tutoring Program

Set Safety Coordinator

Logistics Ninja

jemiller@fullsail.com

SPECIAL GUEST &
INDUSTRY EXPERT

Mal Boland

Owner of Boland Production Supply, Winter Haven

Weapons & Special Effects Choreographer and Supervisor

29 years experience in special effects

Developed a revolutionary approach to creating blanks

Has worked on well over 100 films

Sits in on new show research & development for effects

BOLANDFX.COM



PRE-PRODUCTION

& P L A N N I N G

01. The Script

- Motivated by story line
- Necessary to support Narrative Goals

ndow, clim...
ark warehouse.
he officer sprints down the alley with
gun drawn, and follows him through the warehouse.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

OFFICER
Police! Drop your weapon and
put your hands in the air!

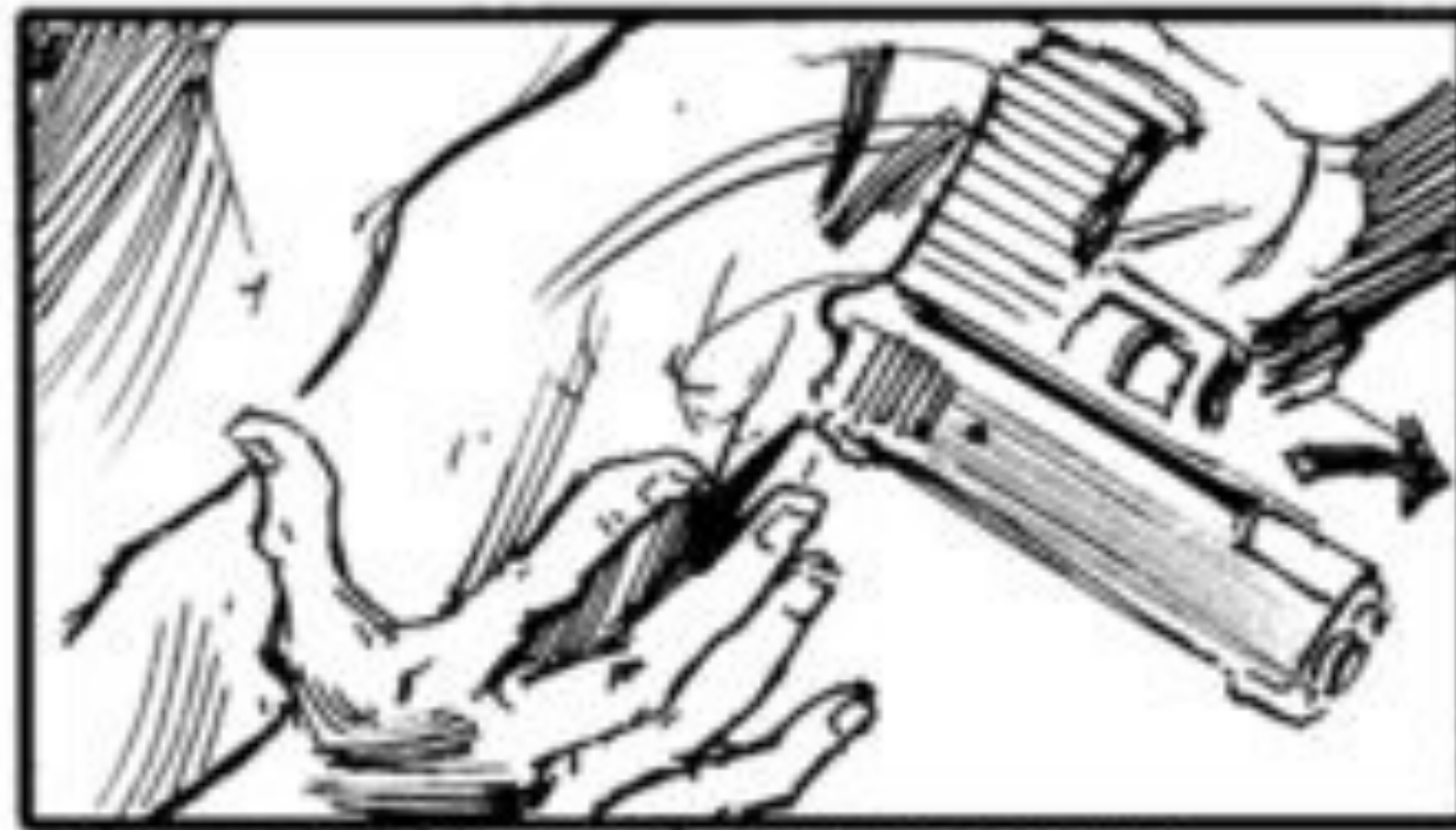
MAN IN BLACK
(Laughing) Do you really
think you're going to stop me?

OFFICER
Don't move, or I'll shoot!

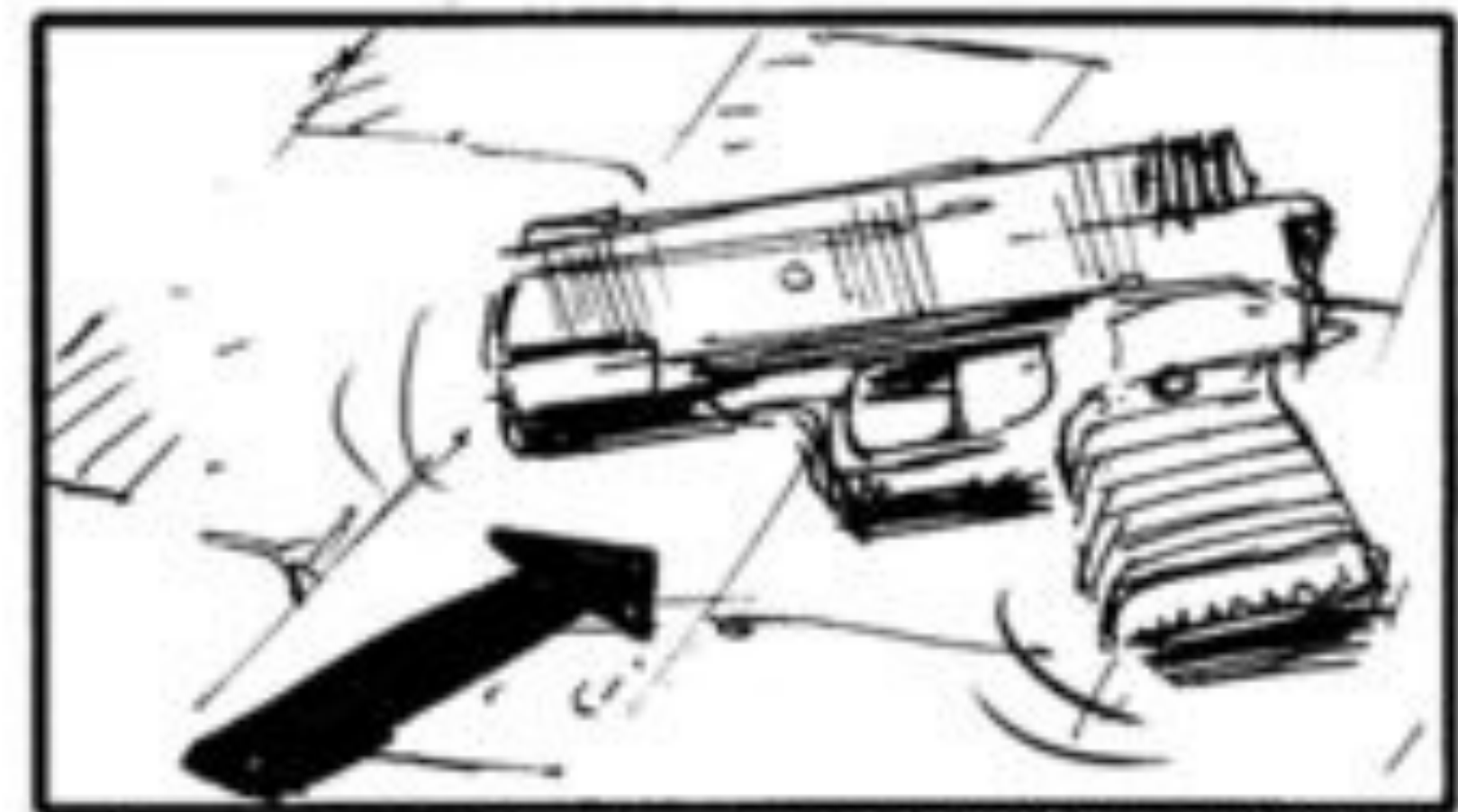
MAN IN BLACK
If you want me, come and get me.

disappears behind a tall row of st...
valve on one of them.

The man in black
cylinders and
pressurized ga...



MCU OF CONNOR LOSING HIS GUN



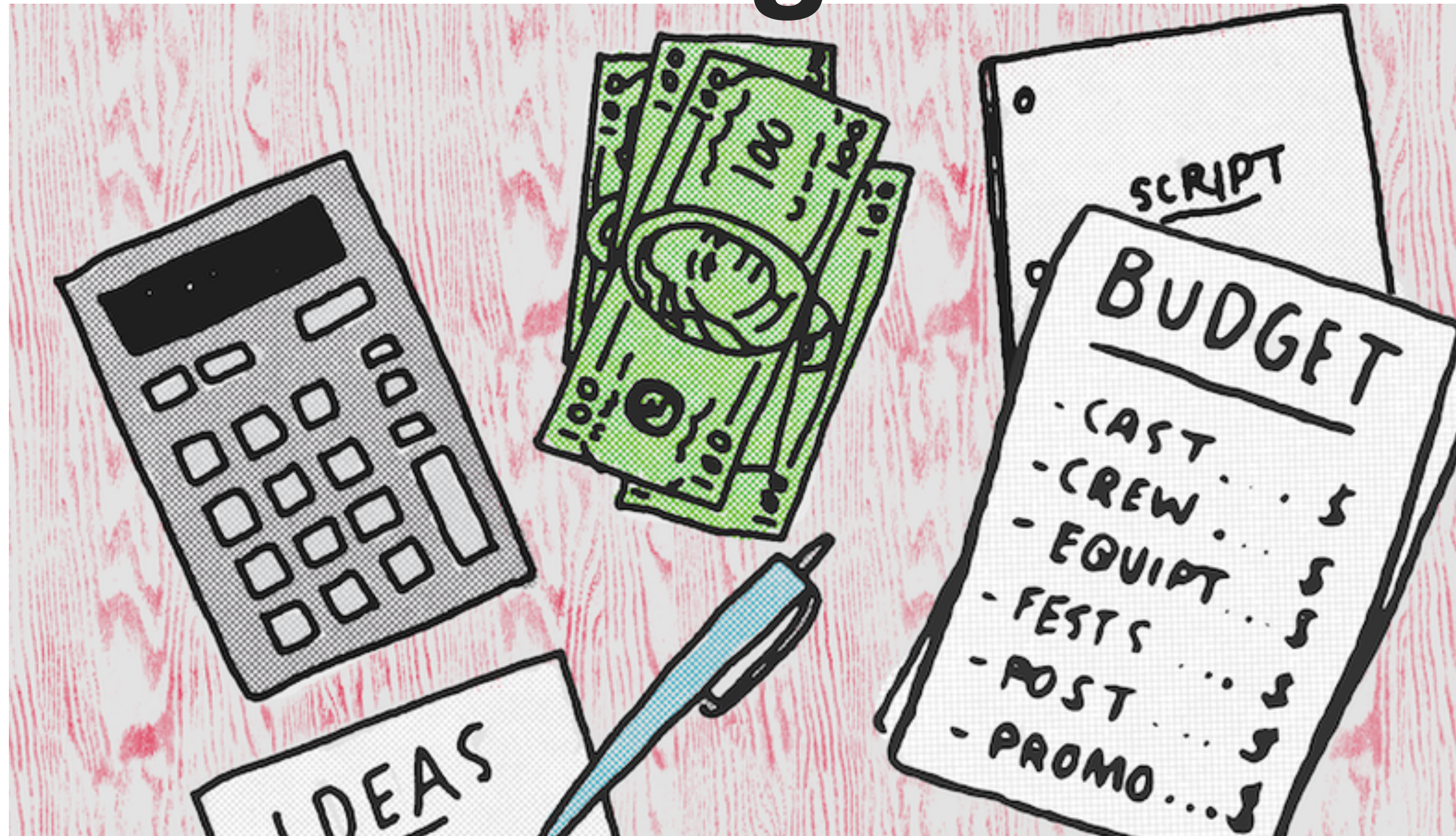
GUN SLIDES ALONG COBBLESTONE STREET

02. The Budget

Do you have the funds to
safely incorporate weapons
and special effects?

- Weapons Choreographer
- Weapons Master (Handler)
- Stunt Actors
- Rental Props
- Blanks & Squibs
- Permitting Fees
- **Insurance**

and more...



03. Hire A Professional



Game of Thrones Weapons Master Tommy Dunne



- Who is qualified to supervise weapons and special effects
- Services provided for a Film
- Federally Licensed
- How to find qualified professionals in your area

04. Permitting

- Always notify the Film Commission
- Obtain Permits if necessary
- Coordinate hiring off-duty Officers or Fire Dept Watch
- Plan for costs and processing time
- Stay organized and maintain records



FILMING PERMIT

Personal Information

Name (Last) _____

Address (Mailing Address) _____

(First) _____ (City) _____

(State) _____ (Zip) _____

(Middle Initial) _____ Home Telephone _____

Other Telephone _____

Image: thefilmfixer.com



New Human REBL HQ

- Shot on campus at Full Sail
- Prop Weapons: Guns firing blanks, knives
- Effects: **Squibs**, wall hits/breaks, smoke machine

*Watch our HOW TO:
Shoot A Fight Scene
Series on the Full Sail
You Tube Channel

<https://youtu.be/PDWR2Q150AA>



Request: utilize a body-pack squib in an indoor production facility, Orange Co FL (2017)

Required for OC Fire Permit:

- Detailed Floorplans, with and without shot blocking
- Federal Explosives License Permit (from our Pro!)
- Written request for Fire Watch on formal letterhead
- Resume and DL for special effects professional
- Safety Data Sheet with details regarding product suppliers, hazards, handling/storage, and more
- Permit description: written explanation of what a squib is and how it will be used
- Script excerpt matching the permit description
- Releases/approval from Location Owner
- Insurance COI (Requires 1M policy)



Costs*:

Fire Watch (4 hours)	\$197
Pyrotechnics Permit	\$277
Expedited Review	\$197
Special Events Permit	\$79
	<hr/>
	\$ 750
(2) Off Duty Officers	+ \$539

*For reference only, not an indication of current fees or costs required by counties or offices



PRODUCTION

MAL'S ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

On a Film Set



SUPERVISING

*Special Effects Team
Weapons Use
Special Effects*

...



EDUCATING

*Preparing Talent and Crew
For Safe Use of Weapons*

...



HANDLING GEAR

*Who handles the weapons
and pyrotechnics on set?*

Q. HOW DO YOU MAKE PROP WEAPONS
OR EFFECTS, LIKE SQUIBS, APPEAR
MORE REALISTIC ON SCREEN?



- let's take notes..



TIME TO TALK “PYRO”

Common types of effects used in Film that are classified as pyrotechnics

When do you need to notify the Fire Department

Coordinating with Stunt Performers / Stunt Choreographers

Additional TIME needed to shoot scenes including special effects



SAFETY



1. NOTIFY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (even if shooting on private property)



LAPD Officer Hal DeJong directing traffic on a film set

2. HAVE AN OFF DUTY OFFICER PRESENT

Also consider:
Fire Watch
On Set Medic





DON'T FORGET...

Have approved Permits on hand

Digital and hard copies

Each to find or access

If shooting in contained location, consider
posting the Permit at main entrance





WHAT IS A

SAFETY ACTION PLAN ?

Download a free Risk Assessment & Safety Action Plan Template under Materials



Send Safety Bulletins

These go out to cast & crew with your Call Sheets

Select the specific bulletins which apply to that day

Download for free at:

<https://csatf.org/bulletintro.shtml>

INDUSTRY WIDE LABOR-MANAGEMENT SAFETY COMMITTEE

SAFETY BULLETIN #1

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY WITH FIREARMS AND USE OF "BLANK AMMUNITION"

BLANKS CAN KILL. TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS THOUGH THEY ARE LOADED. "LIVE AMMUNITION" IS **NEVER** TO BE USED NOR BROUGHT ONTO ANY STUDIO LOT OR STAGE.

These guidelines are intended to give recommendations on the safe handling, use, and storage of firearms. Firearms include prop guns, rubber guns, plastic guns, non-guns, flintlock guns, pistols, machine guns, rifles, and shotguns that shoot "**Blank Ammunition.**"

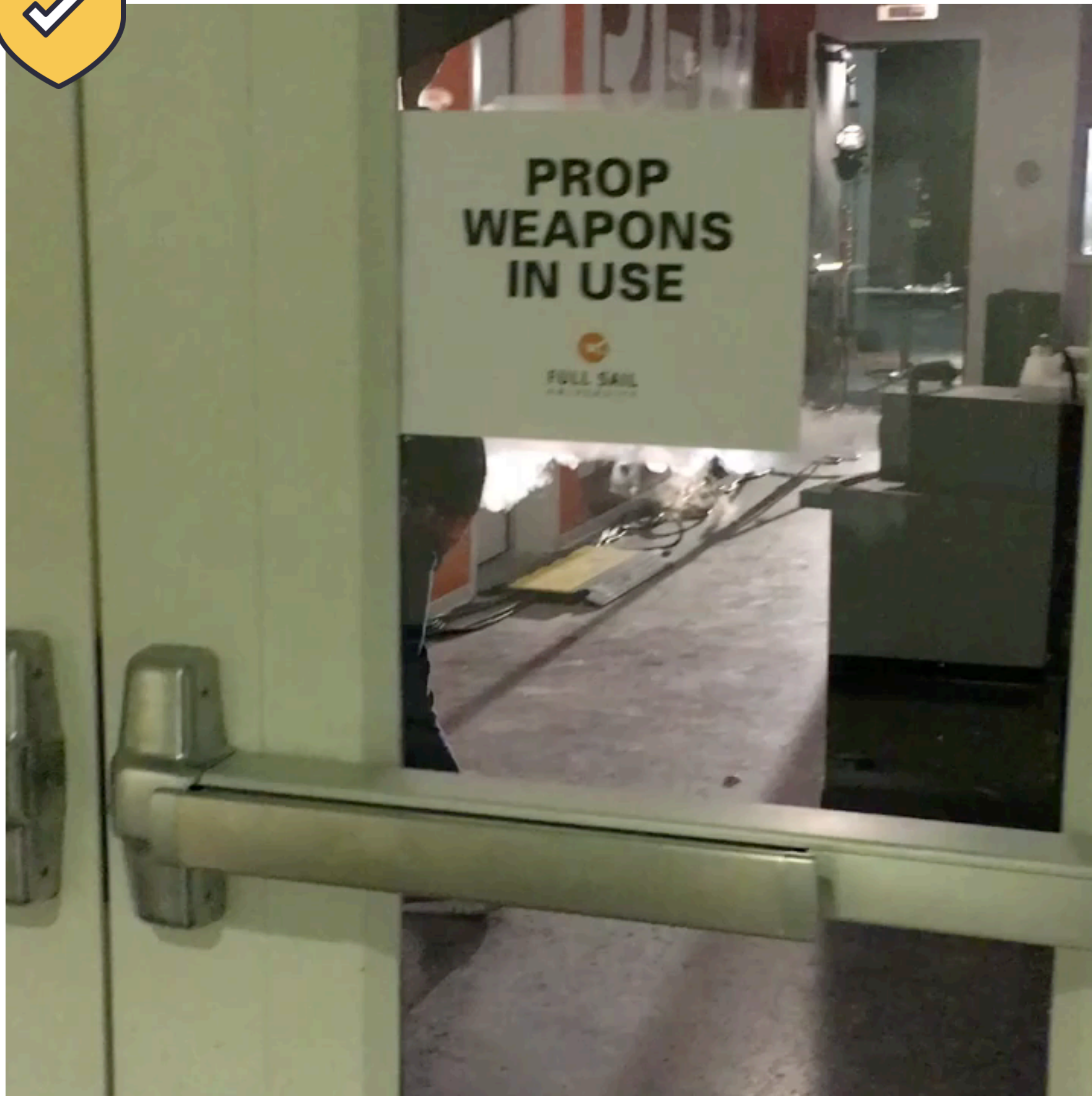
The Property Master (or, in his/her absence, the weapons handler and/or other appropriate personnel determined by the locality or the needs of the production) will be the individual acting in the interest of the Producer for obtaining, maintaining and handling all firearms for the production. He/she will work in conjunction with the production's designated Safety Representative to assure that the following standards are adhered to.

Before any use of a firearm in a rehearsal and/or on-camera sequence or off-camera use, all persons involved must be thoroughly briefed at an on-site SAFETY MEETING where the firearms will be used. This meeting shall include an "on-site walk through" and/or "dry-run" with the **Property Master (or, in his/her absence, the weapons handler and/or other appropriate personnel determined by the locality or the needs of the production)**, designated production representative, and anyone that will be using and/or handling a firearm. An understanding of the intended action, possible deviations, plans to abort, emergency procedures, and chain of command should be made clear.

No one shall be issued a firearm until he or she is trained in safe handling, safe use, the safety lock, and proper firing procedures. If there are any questions as to the competency of the person who will use the firearm, **the Property Master (or, in his/her absence, the weapons handler and/or other appropriate personnel determined by the locality or the needs of the production)** shall determine if additional training is required.

A **SAFETY MEETING** for the cast and crew shall be conducted. If there are any questions as to the safety of firearms being used in the sequence or if any changes are made from the original sequence, another **SAFETY MEETING** shall be held.

Additionally, this Bulletin should be attached to the call-sheet each day firearms will be used.



PUT UP SIGNS

“SHOOT IN PROGRESS”

“PROP WEAPONS IN USE”

Weapons Notice with brief description.

Place at all entrances and exits to location.

Download our free [Printables](#) under [Materials](#)
Replace with your Production Company's logo



Distribute a Producer's Letter to neighbors and nearby businesses in advance

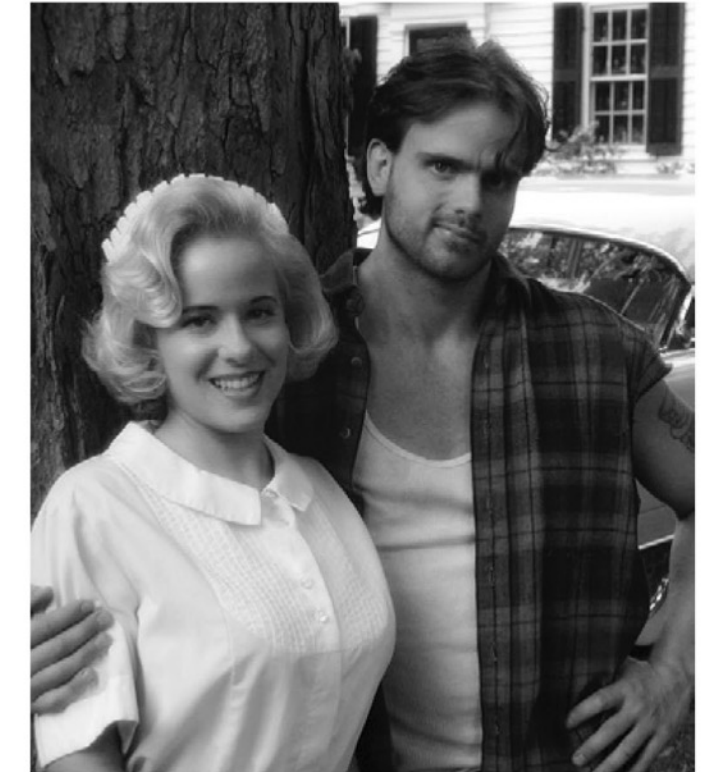
*Want to learn more?
Access Safari Books' Filmmaking eBook
by Jason Tomaric
<https://bit.ly/2FnQIM9>

Quantus Pictures^{Inc.} Motion Picture Production Company

Dear Chardon Square Tenant,

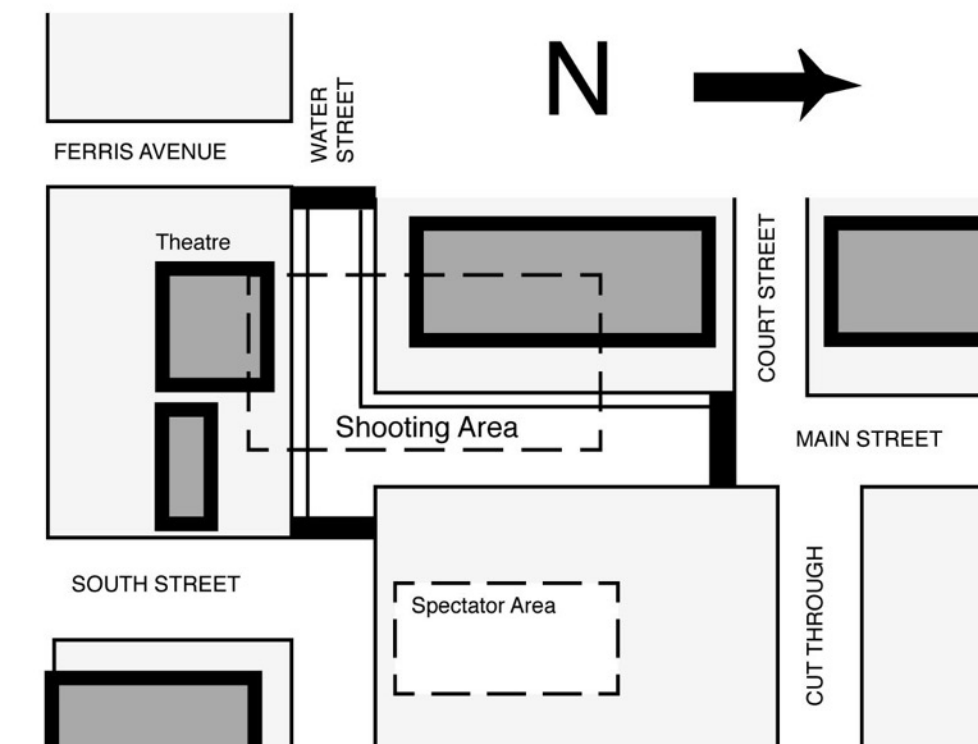
On Sunday, July 21, 2002, the southwest corner of Chardon Square will be closed for a film shoot from 6:00pm to 1:00am. South-bound Main Street traffic will be routed down Court Street, north-bound traffic on South Street will not be able to turn left onto Water Street but can turn right, and east-bound traffic on water street will be diverted down Ferris Avenue.

The film, tentatively titled "The Day Bobby Jones Came Home" is the story of convicted murderer Bobby Jones who has the chance to exonerate his name by jumping back ten years earlier to the day before he allegedly committed the murder that sentenced him to a lifetime in prison. Falling in love with the sexy diner waitress Awanda in his old home town, Bobby uncovers the true murderer, only to learn that Awanda is the victim. Framed by the very evidence he left during his relationship with Awanda, the police arrest and convict the innocent 15-year-old Bobby Jones, creating a paradox that will haunt Bobby Jones to his death.



Awanda and Bobby Jones

Sunday's shoot will take place in front of the western shops and the Geauga theatre on the square. Since the film takes place in 1958, we will have nearly 100 extras, all in period costumes, make-up and hairstyles, and dozens of vintage 1950's vehicles. Anyone interested in watching the shoot is welcome on the Chardon square lawn, allowing a terrific view without interfering with the production. We are requesting that all the stores on ground level from Cameo Jewelers due west to the theatre dress the windows with a patriotic theme and with any elements representative of the 1950's. The main character will be running down the strip, in front of each store, allowing us to showcase Chardon's classic look.



To the left is a diagram illustrating the closing. If you have any questions, please call our production offices at 216-299-1690. Thank you so much for your cooperation in making this shoot successful!



Hold a **SAFETY MEETING** before filming begins

Advised for any scenes using weapons or special effects.

Typically required if working with SAG Talent or Union Crew.

More info from SAG:
<https://bit.ly/2DppBxx>



IN CLOSING...

FINAL REMIN DERS.

DON'T DO IT ON YOUR OWN

COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR FILM OFFICE

DON'T USE REAL WEAPONS

SAFETY IS FIRST PRIORITY **ALWAYS**

LIVE Q & A



USE HEADPHONES &



RAISE YOUR HAND TO
SPEAK ON THE MIC



TYPE IN CHAT



ASK AWAY!

Coming Up Next:
- Intern Opportunity
-Door Prize Drawing

REBL HQ is a digital entertainment production studio based right here on Full Sail's campus in the back of 4D.

We are always looking for production assistants to help out with pre-pro, set construction, general PAs, and even media management in post.

If you're local and interested, please send your name, contact information, program and month to REBLHQ@gmail.com



**REBL
HQSM**

The logo features the text "REBL HQ" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The "H" and "Q" are stylized, with the "Q" containing a white play button icon. A small "SM" trademark symbol is located to the right of the "Q". The logo is set against a dark orange background that has a diagonal split, with a lighter orange section on the top right.



DOOR PRIZES !!!

Winners: Please email jemiller@fullsail.com with your mailing address!

One more chance to win by completing our GoTo Evaluation...



THANK YOU

Thanks for joining us!

This concludes tonight's live lecture event.

See you next time!

