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**Embargoed Until Friday, April 25, 2008**

**On-Location Filming in Los Angeles Plummets 23 Percent in First Quarter**  
*Production Losses Mount in Wake of WGA Strike*

**Los Angeles – April 25, 2008** – On-location feature film, television and commercial production in Los Angeles dropped steeply in the first quarter of 2008, according to data released today by FilmL.A. Officials at the nonprofit organization reported a 23 percent slump in overall production – the steepest year-to-year quarterly decline ever observed – and cited the recent strike by Hollywood writers as the trigger event for the loss.

FilmL.A. recorded a total of 7,547 permitted days of feature film, commercial, and television production for the period, compared to 10,414 days in the previous year, a difference of 28 percent. Filming in other\* categories fell 11 percent during this time, from a cumulative 4,264 days in 2007 to 3,810 days this year.

The majority of the overall decline came from lost days of television production, totaling 2,921 in all for a 45 percent drop. Strike-affected TV dramas, TV sitcoms and TV pilots were the categories hardest hit, with year-to-year losses of 68 percent, 72 percent and 77 percent, respectively. Reality television production also slipped 29 percent, despite rising to account for more than five out of every ten days of on-location television production for the period.

“Television is the primary production driver in Los Angeles,” commented FilmL.A. Vice President of Communications Todd Lindgren. “Though some scripted shows returned to film additional episodes after the strike ended, others did not. Every scripted episode not produced represents a loss of millions of dollars in production spending.”

Feature production, meanwhile, gained 11 percent to 2,065 days for the quarter, an increase that may be linked to concerns about further industry labor talks. Commercial producers, uninvolved in any of the recent or upcoming labor

discussions, filmed seven percent fewer days on-location, finishing at 1,925 for the quarter.

FilmL.A. also revealed that strike-related production losses continued to accrue weeks after the strike ended in mid-February. For the seven-week period after the industry returned to work, permit volume for television dramas was 35 percent below 2007 levels. FilmL.A. also coordinated 51 percent fewer sitcom permits during this time. Total permits for television pilots were off by 70 percent.

“We predicted it would take some time for television production to get back on its feet after the strike,” observed Lindgren. “Unfortunately, our predictions were accurate. By the end of March, seven weeks since the strike’s end, permit volumes had not returned to normal.”

\* Productions classified as “other” include music videos, still photography, documentaries, student films and miscellaneous production.

### **About this Report**

On-location production figures are based on permit applications for days of production in the jurisdictions served by FilmL.A. A production day is defined as one crew working on a single project at one location during a 24-hour period. The figures account for more than 80 percent of all on-location production in Los Angeles County, but do not include production that occurs on certified sound stages or on-location in non-client jurisdictions.

### **About FilmL.A.**

FilmL.A. is a private, nonprofit organization that coordinates and processes permits for on-location motion picture, television and commercial production under contract to the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, and the cities of Diamond Bar, Industry, Lancaster and South Gate. Non-municipal clients include the Angeles National Forest, the Los Angeles Unified School District and Burbank Unified School District.

Ongoing community relations is a key component of the service FilmL.A. provides. The organization works to strike a balance between the needs and interests of the entertainment industry and the neighborhoods affected by on-location production. In today’s highly competitive, global entertainment production market, FilmL.A.’s services help the Los Angeles region retain its status as the world’s entertainment production capital.

For more information about FilmL.A., please visit [www.filmlainc.com](http://www.filmlainc.com).



**Production Days by Type: 3 Mains / Other**  
Calendar Year 2007-2008

	FEATURES			COMMERCIAL			TV			OTHER			TOTAL: 3 Main Categories			TOTAL: All Filming		
	2007	2008	% Chg.	2007	2008	% Chg.	2007	2008	% Chg.	2007	2008	% Chg.	2007	2008	% Chg.	2007	2008	% Chg.
Quarter 1	1,860	2,065	11.0%	2,076	1,925	-7.3%	6,478	3,557	-45.1%	4,264	3,810	-10.6%	10,414	7,547	-27.5%	14,678	11,357	-22.6%
Quarter 2	2,514			1,633			5,387			4,234			9,534			13,768		
Quarter 3	1,897			1,434			5,950			3,791			9,281			13,072		
Quarter 4	1,976			1,587			5,500			4,290			9,063			13,353		
<b>TOTALS (YTD)</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>2,065</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>2,076</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>6,478</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>-45.1%</b>	<b>4,264</b>	<b>3,810</b>	<b>-10.6%</b>	<b>10,414</b>	<b>7,547</b>	<b>-27.5%</b>	<b>14,678</b>	<b>11,357</b>	<b>-22.6%</b>

**Top Television Sub-Category Breakdowns**  
Calendar Year 2007-2008

	TV Drama				TV Sitcom				TV Reality				TV Pilot			
	2007	2008	08 TV %	Change	2007	2008	08 TV %	Change	2007	2008	08 TV %	Change	2007	2008	08 TV %	Change
Quarter 1	1,661	534	15.0%	-67.9%	602	168	4.7%	-72.1%	2,840	2,019	56.8%	-28.9%	732	166	4.7%	-77.3%
Quarter 2	1,188				507				2,485				306			
Quarter 3	1,852				504				2,374				287			
Quarter 4	1,733				419				2,478				208			
<b>TOTALS (YTD)</b>	<b>1,661</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>-67.9%</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>-72.1%</b>	<b>2,840</b>	<b>2,019</b>	<b>56.8%</b>	<b>-28.9%</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>-77.3%</b>

Numbers represent permitted days of location filming coordinated by FilmL.A. in the City of Los Angeles and unincorporated Los Angeles County, the Cities of Diamond Bar, Industry, Lancaster, South Gate, and West Hollywood, the Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles Unified School District and Burbank Unified School District.

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