

3.4 Pay Duty Guidelines for Police Explosive Technicians (ETF)

Location personnel may make arrangements for ETF pay duty officers by going directly to the ETF to file a pay duty request or fax a request to the Toronto Police Service Film Liaison at fax number 416-808-5052.

For further information or to obtain a Pay Duty Request form call Toronto Police Services at 416-808-5048.

Only officers who are qualified police explosives technicians shall do film industry pay duties involving the supervision of explosives or the use of firearms.

In certain circumstances, rather than requiring a bomb technician, officers commonly known as P.E.T.A.'s (Police Explosive Technician Assistant) might attend certain film sites where benzyl peroxide is not being used. P.E.T.A.'s are officers who have not been fully trained as bomb technicians however are trained in proving firearms safe and using small squib devices. Under no circumstances shall a P.E.T.A. do a pay duty involving the use of high explosives including detonation "det" cord.

It is the responsibility of the Production Company to indicate at the time they make a pay duty request for ETF personnel what type of equipment is being used.

Rates are standard for all pay duty officers.

When arriving on set, it is the responsibility of the pay duty officer to ensure a valid permit has been issued and the production is operating within the permit parameters.

When arriving on set it is the responsibility of the pay duty officer to ensure that all pyrotechnicians have the appropriate licensing for the effect(s) to be performed.

If a pyrotechnic plan has been submitted it is the responsibility of the pay duty officer to ensure that the plan is adhered to.

The pay duty officer must ensure that all explosives on set are properly stored and appropriate safety measures are used.

All set up and rigging of SPFX must be thoroughly checked by the pay duty officer. Any safety concerns must be brought to the attention of the SPFX pyrotechnician. Appropriate safety equipment and safe distances must be maintained during rigging of the effect. Use of portable radios near electric initiation devices must be closely monitored and prevented if it becomes a safety issue.

If a safety issue arises and the SPFX pyrotechnician refuses to address your concerns he/she should be cautioned regarding the repercussions of both criminal and civil liability. Further your concerns should be brought to the attention of the 1st A.D. and the on set safety officer or union rep.

The pay duty officer must be satisfied that the gun handler has all the appropriate permits and licences for any weapons he/she brings on set. All firearms and ammunition must be checked by the pay duty officer before being used on set. Improper use of weapons on set must be addressed immediately by the pay duty officer.

When a firearm is being used, cast and crew must use all necessary protective equipment.

Prior to gunfire or explosions going off, the police radio room must be notified. In the case of an explosion Toronto Fire Services must also be notified.

The pay duty officer must ensure that adequate safety equipment and/or personnel are on set to handle any emergency situation arising from the use of firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics on set.

If an accident occurs on set the pay duty officer shall ensure that prompt medical attention is provided.

If there is personal injury or property damage resulting from the use of firearms, pyrotechnics or explosives the scene should be treated as a crime scene. The on-call explosive technician must be notified and will attend if the circumstances dictate. For all serious injury or fatality the O.I.C. (Officer in Charge) of the explosive section must be notified.

If criminal charges are warranted the divisional C.I.B. (Criminal Investigation Branch) should be contacted and requested to attend the scene.

A full TPS 649 (Toronto Police Services) must be completed in addition to any other reports outlining the details of the occurrence and submitted to the Unit Commander ETF. An Incident report must be submitted and the appropriate agencies notified for any on set accident.

It is strongly recommended that when on set Pay Duty Officers are readily recognisable as a police officer.

If there is a problem with the ETF attending or not attending the set, then the location manager should deal directly with ETF.