

ASSIGNMENT 21: RAISING CASH

HANNIBAL LAWRENCE

BUDGET PROPOSAL

“Cold Case” is a film budgeted to be produced at the lump sum of \$700,000. The film genre is Suspense, which also features child abduction, violence and gore, chain smoking and illicit drug use.

The appointed Director (yeah, not me) will be specifically told that he/she may have only a maximum of 3 takes. Too many times, projects/films have gone way off schedule due to the director trying too hard to be more “artistic” or “creative.” That certainly will not do for a film with a small budget and a limited amount of days to shoot. The Director should be able to shoot fast and should be able to provoke a beautiful performance from the Talent that are on point.

The film will be produced with professional quality equipment; for example, such as the Sony Handycam FDR-AX1 18.9 AP Ultra Camcorder, Sennheiser Boom Mic kit, Zoom Recorder, etc. The film will be shot and edited solely by the Director.

Also, it is to be noted a Kit Fee shall be required and that is calculated by the day and the varying cost depending on the specific type of gear, since some departments or crew members bring their own equipment; ones they are more accustomed to or that come in the package of hiring them.

Schedules, script, locations, and Talent will be locked; and the crew and camera will be given a day to prepare since other departments need more time as determined by the project. Clear and proper communication along with complete accessibility will be made available to all Crew members and Talent. It is imperative that all questions are to be answered and any change of plans, no matter how small, should be spread to the entire production line.

A permitted amount of Overtime hours will be considered in the budget; since overtime costs are much cheaper than adding an extra day to shoot. Hence, pushing through well into the day

will be more cost-efficient. The allowance, if it remains unused, will be dispensed to other departments.

Apropos to the statement above; pick-up days should be heeded, claiming a certain percentage of the budget just in case there were shots missed during principal photography. Since this is a feature film with a production duration between 50 to 75 days (a week of pre-production, 7 weeks of production, and 2 weeks of post-production), a total of 4 days' worth will be taken from the budget. For simple or straightforward shots, a skeleton crew will suffice.

A 10% Contingency plan shall be set specifically aside to handle unexpected or unlikely issues. Many things can go wrong with so many people working and quite a number of departments that need managing, so one should always expect the worse. It's best to rather have it and not need it, than need it but not have it. The Universe works in mysterious ways; mostly to the detriment of all that lives and breathes.

Additionally, a budget for Loss and Damages shall also be included, since it covers equipment that has been lost, broken, and/or stolen. This is where the Production Insurance Policy comes in handy.

Aside from being at the ready when the need to cover Loss and Damages arise, Production Insurance also aids in acquiring secure permits, location, and rent gear. There is also the Workers' Compensation Policy that will help in covering any damages or injuries suffered by the Crew whilst on set. All that matters is that everyone and everything is covered.

Lastly, the budget allocated to the software that will be used for editing the footage. Avid Media Composer and Lightworks are frequently used for feature films. But it has come to the attention of many that Final Cut PRO 7 is already enough to do the job, since most of the feature films have been cut using said software.