



THE CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE DISTRIBUTORS ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES DISTRIBUTEURS DE FILMS

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALGARY POLICE MAKE ARREST UNDER CANADA'S ANTI-CAMCORDING LAW
Calgary resident charged for recording "Sweeney Todd"

CALGARY, AB – On December 21, 2007, a Calgary man was charged after camcording the new movie "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" at the Empire Studio 16 Country Hills, Calgary. Theatre management summoned Calgary Police Services after they noticed the suspect recording the film on opening day, and officers arrested the man. The Calgary resident has been charged under section 432 of the Criminal Code of Canada, which prohibits the recording of films in Canadian movie theatres. The suspect will make his first court appearance on February 1, 2008.

The Canadian Government enacted section 432 last June, with broad support from the Canadian film and business community, including actors, directors, producers and theatre operators and employees who urged the Government to help thwart the devastating impact of camcording on the domestic and international film industry. "Before the law was enacted, law enforcement would not respond even when individuals were caught repeatedly camcording in theatres. With the new law in place, local police can now help prevent films from being stolen right off the screen," said Mike Robinson, Director of Anti-Piracy Operations for North America. "We applaud the Calgary Police Services for its diligence in putting this movie thief out of business."

Camcording in Canada

Camcorder piracy represents the most significant threat facing film industries worldwide. A single camcord can lead to the production and distribution of millions of illegal copies and downloads around the world. Camcord thieves are often directly associated with highly organized criminal networks that profit handsomely from their activities. Camcorder pirates are often directly associated with so-called "release groups" who distribute illegal copies of movies, computer games and software over the Internet. A camcorded copy of a film can be used to produce unlimited numbers of DVDs, shipped around the world for distribution, and loaded onto the Internet triggering an avalanche of illegal downloads. Replication and distribution of illegal DVDs is highly lucrative and in many cases criminal networks use pirated DVD sales to support other kinds of criminal activity.

About The Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association

The CMPDA serves as the voice and advocate of the major studios of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) whose distribution divisions market feature films, pay TV, prime time entertainment programming for television and pre-recorded videos and DVDs in Canada. The CMPDA conducts investigations, assists with the criminal and civil litigation generated by such cases, and helps to teach movie fans about the harmful effects of piracy. Its members include: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, Paramount Pictures; Sony Pictures Entertainment.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLLP; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

About Movie Piracy

A comprehensive study aimed at producing a more accurate picture of the impact that piracy has on the film industry including, for the first time, losses due to internet piracy, recently calculated that the CMPDA related studios lost US\$6.1 billion to worldwide piracy in 2005. Piracy impacts a wide spectrum of artists, manufacturers, distributors, producers, retailers, theatre operators, employees, consumers and governments and is recognized as a serious and growing problem throughout the world.

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For further information on the CMPDA, see www.cmpda.org.

For further information on the MPAA and its global activities, see www.mpa.org.

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