

How to Create an Effective Government Video Series

Video Planning (Pre-Production) Checklist

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- Identify your audience
- Determine what's the story you're trying to tell
- Define what will make the video a success and how you will measure success (online viewers? viewer feedback? etc.)
- Choose where (and on what page) your video will be posted
- Create a timeline for completion
- If the entire project rests upon interviews that may be difficult to get, get parties to agree to the interviews as early as possible
- □ Clear video project with appropriate supervisor/office
- ☐ Create storyboard / script
 - Always create a storyboard before turning on the camera
- ☐ Get storyboard approval from appropriate parties
 - Ensure that everyone is in agreement about the goals and requirements of the project.
 - Consider running your idea by your Public Relations office. They may have helpful resources, including equipment.

□ Reserve the resources

- Reserve cameras and equipment, production staff
- Determine your budget for this video project
- Prepare interview guestions (if needed)
- Set up interviews (if needed)
- Prepare video release statements
- Check with your webmaster that you have a <u>508 compliant video player</u>

□ Finalize location

- Visit in person beforehand, if possible
- Find out what approvals you need to film there
- Show up around the same time of day you plan to do the video
- Take note of the lighting, ambient noise and other surroundings.
- Note anything special you will need to bring during the shoot
- Confirm that you are authorized to take video in the location you are considering
- Consider partnering with others if the video allows. Local schools may have kids that want to practice their video skills or a local TV station may have footage or equipment you could use.

☐ Check and pack your equipment.

- Do you have the appropriate audio and video cables? Are your camera batteries charged?
- Do you have enough hard drive space on your camera to hold all the video you will shoot?