

LOCAL RULES

April 2010

## TELEVISION PROPOSAL

WORKING TITLE

“LOCAL RULES”  
(The Council show)

GENRE: OBSERVATIONAL DOCUMENTARY

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### **Synopsis**

We propose the production of a half hour primetime show with the working title; LOCAL RULES.

Just like popular shows The Force, Border Security and RSPCA Animal Rescue, this new observational documentary follows ordinary Australians doing extraordinary work.

Across Australia, over five hundred and sixty councils work tirelessly with residents and local businesses to establish rules and regulations that keep our neighbourhoods safe, happy and healthy. This program aims to highlight the commitment that each council has to its community.

Our fly on the wall documentary will allow viewers an up close view of the gallant efforts the council puts in to keep our streets comfortable to live in. Our cameras will be right there on the frontline as the council handles a broad range of issues – mediating during building approval disputes, investigating tree poisoning, catching illegal dumpers in the act, helping resolve neighbour disputes over barking dogs and shutting down pubs breaching regulations.

Our experience in dealing with situations that have high security and operational considerations is invaluable. We have a proven record of producing high quality programs like THE FORCE and BORDER SECURITY which do not jeopardise the work of the agency involved.

### **Benefits for the Council**

- An increase in community understanding of the proactive nature of their local council.
- Increased internal motivation – encouraging a sense of unity and pride in the work of their council can only have positive benefits to the organisation.
- Promotion of council marketing campaigns. We are flexible and actively look for opportunities to promote campaigns related to the subject matter we are broadcasting.

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### **Veto**

The success of this project relies on access and the close co-operation between the producers of the program and the council. We are prepared to give the Mayor and his/her designated persons veto over stories where there are obvious concerns about things such as safety or breaches of protocol.

### **How the filming will work**

One film crew consisting of three representatives from the Network will follow various aspects of council work. A typical week could be as follows;

- Day One & Two – Planning and Building Compliance
- Day Three – attending a mediation session between warring neighbours.
- Days Four & Five - on a special illegal dumping operation.

The film crew will at all times ensure their presence does not affect operations, nor will it record sensitive information.

Our filming schedule will mostly follow the shift patterns of council workers unless special operations are done out of hours.

### **Length of project**

In the first instance a commitment to a pilot would **require a one to two week** filming period.

Then once approval is granted for a Series, we propose a 4-8 week production period which will enable us to gather enough stories to create up to 13 episodes.

### **Format and Schedule**

A 22 minute pilot then if approved 8 x half hour weekly shows to be broadcast in primetime.

*Thank you for considering this project - we look forward to working with you.  
We acknowledge that all legal and contractual arrangements will need to be in place before we begin.*