



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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### **Governor Richardson Announces New Mexico's "Summer on the Screen"**

*Santa Fe* - Governor Bill Richardson today highlighted New Mexico's "Summer on the Screen," with three New Mexico-produced film and television products holding top positions in their respective categories: Paramount Pictures' "The Longest Yard," Steven Spielberg's mini-series "Into the West" on TNT, and the recently premiered Lions Gate/ABC Family series "Wildfire."

"With these productions New Mexico now has, simultaneously, a major motion picture, an epic television mini-series, and a hit prime time weekly television series shown to viewers across the nation and around the world, all summer long," said Richardson. "This is fantastic for our film and television industry and for our state. It's unprecedented exposure for New Mexico on a global scale."

Paramount Pictures' "**The Longest Yard**," shot here in New Mexico, opened in theaters nationwide in May and has currently grossed nearly \$150 million at the box office. In addition to this major motion picture, New Mexico is also featured prominently in an epic television mini-series -- Steven Spielberg's "**Into the West**". And not to be outdone, the Land of Enchantment is the scene for a prime time network television series -- the weekly Lions Gate/ABC Family series "**Wildfire**", which was delivered the highest series premiere in the history of the channel.

Under the Richardson Administration, film and television production has grown from a cumulative \$8 million in the year prior to his administration, to almost \$400 million in his first 30 months alone.

“Hundreds of jobs created, tens of millions of dollars spent in our communities from Clovis to Silver City, Las Vegas to Las Cruces. These are some of the main reasons I've pushed so hard to build this industry: It's just good business for us on so many levels,” said Richardson. “Equally exciting are the benefits of the exhibition of those productions.” For months to come, New Mexico will be exhibited to captive audiences of millions of people around the world.

Richardson noted that the exposure for New Mexico will only expand as more and more productions are released, and into different markets. “We haven't even gotten into life after initial release – DVD for ‘The Longest Yard’ and ‘Into the West,’ syndication for ‘Wildfire’ – which essentially goes on forever,” he said.

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