

Documentary on HB 1804 gains ground

Escrito por Joshua Hatfield

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Producer/director George Adams' new film aims to uncover the truth about Oklahoma's controversial immigration law. □



By Editorial Staff

Since the attacks of September 11, the nation is experiencing a huge anti immigrant surge that is definitely detrimental to the interests of Hispanics who make up the overwhelming majority of foreigners in the United States. In 2007 and 2008 dozens of counties in the state of Oklahoma, have adopted measures that give local authorities the power to demand immigration documents. Several groups agree with many of these measures; while others feel that it could be racially motivated. On November 1, 2007, Oklahoma enacted the HB 1804, one of the toughest immigration laws in U.S. history in order to expel aliens, prohibiting them the basic functions for their social development. With this law became a felony to transport, harbor, conceal and hire undocumented workers.

Currently Oklahoma film producer/director George Adams and his company Panic Productions, LLC, are working on producing a documentary about the impact that this law has had on the State of Oklahoma and its effects nationwide. A project that Adams himself undertook last year.

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“The subject of undocumented immigrants is volatile in the country and I wanted to document how people felt. As a filmmaker, I am curious and was looking for answers to these serious issues. In my opinion the issue of immigration is very important to the State, for us individually and for the whole nation as well,” said Adams. According to CONLAMIC, since the adoption of the statute of HB 1804, in April 2007, more than 30 thousand immigrants have left Oklahoma and move to other states or return to their homelands in fear of sanctions and restrictions imposed by this law. Also the corporate sector, especially the restaurant industry and services, has expressed their concerns to the Governor of Oklahoma, about the negative effects that derive from this law, including the shortage of manpower and the cost of it. Faced with so many nuances that the law has created among the citizens, Adams decided to research it and analyze it with an open and direct approach.

Such topics as national security, labor protection and workers’ concerns in addition to the economy will be explore in the documentary. Panic Productions will attempt to capture images in the thoughts, ideas and personal stories of those who created, promoted and adopted the law as well as ordinary people, business owners and professionals who have been affected by such laws. The owners of a farm and a construction company will talk about how the lack of manpower has affected their business. Anti immigrants groups will talk about how they are working to eliminate illegal aliens communities. Celebrities such as Esai Morales and singer Trini López both of Hispanic descent express their opinions and the creator of the law, Randy Terrill, Republican (Moore, Oklahoma) of the House of Representatives, will be a key source to the documentary.

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Adams said that so far the film has more than 50 hours of footage waiting to be edited. The full-length production still has at least 4 more interviews, some politicians and journalists of national importance. He expects to begin the editing process in March and have the documentary ready by summer, in time for the film festivals this fall. The production of this film requires substantial financial support and at this time, Panic Productions is asking for the community's support.

Those interested in helping the cause and making a donation have several options.

1. Contribute directly by visiting the PayPal website www.paypal.com/us/ making the

□□□□ donation on behalf of [panic.production @ yahoo.com](mailto:panic.production@yahoo.com)

2. You can also donate through the International Documentary Association (IDA) to receive tax

□□□ exemptions.

3. You can also make donations by check or cash sent to Panic Productions, LLC, 12101 North

□□□ MacArthur Blvd Suite A-401, in Oklahoma City.

4. Direct contributions are also accepted. For more information on the production of the

□□□ documentary or for donations visit Panicnationmovie.com

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