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CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald announced a $160,000 grant to the Greater Cleveland Film Commission, which helps bring in new motion picture production here in Northeast Ohio. Since the successful passage of the Ohio Film Tax Credit in July 2009, a total of seventeen projects have been approved to receive tax credit, thirteen of which will be produced in Cuyahoga County and the surrounding area.
With at least 4 scheduled films to be produced here in the next 6 months, and another 4 on deck, this announcement could not have come at a better time.

“In these tough economic times, we have to make strategic choices about what we are going to invest in,” said FitzGerald. “This funding support from the county is a smart investment in an industry that will create jobs right here in Cuyahoga County and will have direct economic impact on our region. These films have combined budgets in excess of $81 million and are expected to employ more than 1800 cast and crewmembers and thousands of paid extras.”

Also present at the announcement was Izzy Schachner from Cleveland Corporate Caterers, who purchased a movie specific catering truck to be use by films coming to Cleveland. He is an example of the diverse economic impact that the film industry has on a region. Productions that film in Cuyahoga County are investing thousands of dollars in local services and vendors, from our hotels, restaurants to film-related companies that provide industry-standard services. They are hiring local residents and investing in local facilities for shooting, production, office space and more.

“One of my priorities for the county is to streamline our processes to ensure we are an efficient and effective organization that is responsive to business opportunities for the region,” said FitzGerald. “THE AVENGERS is a prime example of public and private partners working together to recognize and seize such an opportunity.”

Ivan Schwarz, Executive Director of the Greater Cleveland Film Commission, said that people can go to their website to find updates about job opportunities for films that will be produced here. In addition, interested people can email their resumes for film crew positions for THE AVENGERS to: Cleveland@cupber.com . This address is for resume submissions only, and there will be no response to emails sent to this address. Please note that this is not for actor or extras resumes. Additional information will be posted on the Greater Cleveland Film Commission website: www.clevelandfilm.com .