

For Immediate Release:

October 14, 2002

Contact:

Robyn Ritter Simon

Cell: 310.266.8286 Office: 213.580.7532

NEWS RELEASE

**LOS ANGELES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
JOINS ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY LEADERS
TO KEEP L.A. TOGETHER**

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce stands together today with leaders of the entertainment industry to voice its opposition to the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood seceding from Los Angeles.

The motion picture and television production industry is a key engine of the Los Angeles economy directly accounting for about 185,000 jobs and \$24 billion in output per year in Los Angeles County.

“The contributions made to our economy from this industry are extremely significant,” said Rusty Hammer, president & CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. “The city should be doing everything possible to embrace this industry, not work to discourage an industry that gives so much to our economy and culture.”

The uncertainty surrounding secession will impact all businesses including the production of film and television by creating less streamlined and efficient film permitting as well as increasing the cost of production. The Chamber joins with labor, entertainment and elected officials today to show solidarity for keeping LA together.

###

The LA Area Chamber is L.A. County's oldest and largest business organization, representing 1,300 businesses, which employ nearly 800,000 workers. By being a voice of business, helping its members grow and promoting collaboration, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce assures prosperity for the Los Angeles region.

