

FIGHTING THE FIRE

Film Review

ROGER GERARD COLE, CEO
Las Vegas Faith & Family Film Festival, Nevada

This film is going to do more than resonate with responders. I believe this film is capable of changing and saving lives, marriages and families.

An original faith driven drama, "Fighting the Fire", delves into the emotional turmoil experienced by first responders, offering an intimate exploration of resilience, love, and the profound impact of mental health challenges.

This 115 minute feature, written and directed by Bobby Lacer, invites audiences into the compelling narrative of Brian Cook, a seasoned firefighter portrayed by James Dickey. Through poignant storytelling and exceptional performances, "Fighting the Fire" immerses viewers in the behind-the-scenes world of firefighting, shedding light on the internal torment it can inflict on first responders.

Lacer addresses the reality of depression and the toll it takes on our first responders, while emphasizing the critical need for support and understanding. He effectively conveys the powerful message that even with the right help, some individuals may slip through the cracks if we do not answer the call to serve others with a faith centered compassion and empathy.

The pacing of the film is well-timed, allowing the dramatic dialogue to captivate the audience and forge a deep connection with each character's experience. The simple and effective structure provides a clear setup, middle, and resolution, guiding the viewers through a compelling narrative.

James Dickey (Brian Cook) delivers a complete, touching, genuine, and heartfelt performance, anchoring the emotional core of the movie with remarkable skill. The performances by up-and-coming supporting actors Brayden Lacer (Andrew "Drew" Cook), Kaitlyn Kemp (Maddie Cook), and James Museitif (Ali Hamad) are truly phenomenal, adding depth and authenticity to the film.

"Fighting the Fire" is a touching, emotional, and original faith based drama. Bobby Lacer powerfully portrays the resilience and challenges faced by first responders, offering a story of redemption and the transformative power of faith centered love and support.