

FIGHTING THE FIRE

Film Review

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Fighting the Fire is extremely well-developed and produced. As a former law enforcement officer, and someone who is still friends with a significant number of first responders, watching this film brought about numerous thoughts and memories surrounding the internal battles that arise, even when one is not on duty.

Having an extremely caring and emotionally supportive group around you is so important. I was fortunate enough to work as a Deputy with the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. Their department does an amazing job of supporting, not just their Deputies, but their entire staff. I can't begin to recall the number of times my Sergeants and Lieutenants checked in on my colleagues and me, just to insure our well-being. The training and communication we received just seemed to reassure everyone that you were never alone and that everything would be alright.

Additionally, having a supportive spouse/partner at home is very important. A strong family support system is crucial. When someone is hurting, losing that support, or having it taken from them, is never beneficial. I have friends and colleagues that have had both supportive and unsupportive spouses. It truly makes a difference.

Overall, I felt Fighting the Fire touched on so many critical issues that first responders are forced to deal with, day in and day out. James Dickey did an amazing job in portraying Brian Cook. The journey his character was forced to travel, kept my attention throughout the entirety of the film.