

## ***Peace Officer* Premieres on *Independent Lens* Monday, May 9, 2016 on PBS**

### **TCA Panelists**



*Credit: Whitney Christopherson*

**Scott Christopherson (Director, Producer, Cinematographer)**, a native of York, Pennsylvania, worked as an undergraduate for Harvard University's Ross McElwee on the film *In Paraguay* (2008). McElwee then helped guide Christopherson's first film *Only the Pizza Man Knows*, which was broadcast internationally on the satellite cable network BYUtv. Christopherson subsequently worked as the documentary arts director/instructor for Spy Hop Productions and the Sundance Institute's youth documentary workshops. Films made by his students went on to win multiple awards locally and internationally. While attending graduate school in San Francisco, Christopherson shot, directed, and edited more than 20 short films for *Project Runway's* season six website. He

received his MFA in documentary cinema from San Francisco State University and also earned an MA degree in anthropology from UW-Madison. He was an assistant professor of documentary film at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, prior to relocating back to Provo, where he teaches non-fiction film at Brigham Young University.



*Credit: Susan Krueger-Barber*

**Brad Barber (Director, Producer, Cinematographer)**, who was named to *Variety's* "10 Documakers to Watch" list in 2015, is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker who works in multiple forms and genres. *Peace Officer*, his feature directing debut, won the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award at the 2015 South by Southwest Film Festival, the Human Rights Award at Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, and the David Carr Award for Truth in Non-Fiction Filmmaking at the Montclair Film Festival, among other festival honors. The film was recently announced as a recipient of the AFI Docs/NBC Universal Impact Grant for social outreach, and is a current Cinema Eye Honors nominee. In 2009 Barber was nominated for an Emmy for his work as an editor on the HBO documentary *Resolved*, for which he also served as an

associate producer and cinematographer, and he has won multiple regional Emmys for his public television documentary series *Beehive Stories*. Immediately after completing his undergraduate work in non-fiction film and journalism in 2001, Barber got his start professionally through a stroke of luck when he was asked to shoot a documentary across five continents. After returning to the states he attended USC, where he received an MFA in cinema-television production. He then worked in Los Angeles as an editor, cinematographer, and director/producer of documentary film and television with credits on Showtime, ESPN, Discovery Channel, and many others. His shorts and feature film work have been shown at film festivals and art museums around the world. Barber, who lives in Provo, Utah, currently works as an independent filmmaker and professor and is married to artist Susan



Krueger-Barber. Together they have two amazing sons. Barber was born in Walnut Creek, California, and raised in Knoxville, Tennessee.



*Credit: Courtesy of William Lawrence.*

**William J. "Dub" Lawrence (Subject)**, the oldest of seven children, was born in Guilford County, North Carolina. He grew up on a tobacco farm and started driving the family farm tractor when he was eight years old, and his own school bus at 16. He served a two-year church service mission in France and Switzerland in the early 1960s and then joined the Marine Corps, which stationed him during the Vietnam War in Okinawa, Japan. While in Okinawa, he met his wife Nancy, a native of Jackson Hole, WY; they are the parents of seven children.

Lawrence attended Brigham Young University as well as High Point College (a business management major), the University of Utah (POST certification), Weber State College (BS in police science) and the University of Southern California (NSI certificate, public administration). He worked at many jobs over the years, including being a rodeo clown and a milkman before becoming a police officer in Bountiful City, a small suburban community of about 40,000 a few miles north of Salt Lake City, Utah.

His commitment to turn around the systemic failings he saw as a young officer led to a successful bid to become sheriff of Davis County, Utah, in 1974. As a newly elected sheriff, Lawrence used his skills to help break the Ted Bundy case. Committed to the highest standards of peace officers serving the public good, he once wrote himself a parking ticket when a citizen called him out for his patrol car's violation. After years in public service, Lawrence now works in semi-retirement as a private investigator on projects fueled mostly by income from his water and sewage pump repair service. When he's not wading through raw sewage, his remaining free time is spent investigating the shooting death of his son-in-law Brian Wood, as well as many other cases.



*Credit: Tom Kubik*

**Lois Vossen (Founder and Executive Producer of *Independent Lens*)** is responsible for commissioning new work, curating the series, and working closely with ITVS and *Independent Lens*-funded filmmakers to provide creative feedback and editorial support related to broadcast standards. *Independent Lens* films have received 10 News & Documentary Emmy Awards, two Primetime Emmys, 15 George Foster Peabody Awards, five Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Journalism Awards, and seven Academy Award nominations, and the series is the 2015 winner of the IDA Award for Best Continuing Series — its third consecutive win. Previously, Vossen was associate managing director of the Sundance Film Festival and Sundance Labs. She serves on the Documentary Peer Panel for the

Television Academy, and has been a juror at SXSW, DOC New Zealand, Toronto International, New Orleans, and Palm Springs International film festivals, among others.