

STOP RESISTING

A person wearing a blue balaclava and a grey tank top is kneeling on a paved street with their arms raised in a fist. The background is a hazy protest scene with many people, some holding signs. One sign in the background says "Justice" and another says "No Police!". A red bicycle is lying on the ground to the right of the person. The overall atmosphere is one of a large-scale public demonstration.

A documentary film from donnie l. betts

No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or
STOP RESISTING
any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to
any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.



The criminal justice system needs to change...

OVERVIEW

"Until the killing of black men, black mothers' sons, becomes as important to the rest of the country as the killing of a white mother's sons, we who believe in freedom cannot rest until this happens"

— Ella Baker

One in 1,000 Black men in America can expect to be killed by a police officer. donnie, grandfather to three young Black boys, thinks about the entire generations that have been taken away from their futures, never to sit at a holiday dinner nor go on to raise their own children. "Stop Resisting" is a film produced by No Credits Productions LLC and award-winning director donnie I. betts. donnie focuses on policing in America with an emphasis on the Aurora, Colorado Police Department as a starting point. "Stop Resisting" examines policing practices and policies, city and court policies, as well as the communal and individual impact of police brutality.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Policing practices in America are inherently a controversial and inflammatory subject. It is important to this team that we respect and honor our victims and their families above all else. The intent to capture stories from our families and from our policing forces may present some resistance. I am diligent about obtaining proper consent and telling a full picture story which gives every interviewee the space and encouragement to engage to their comfort level. Several interviews have already been conducted with appropriate consent and all interviewees have signed a release form. As an artist, I have dedicated my life to sharing the stories, struggles, and triumphs of people who are often overlooked, unheard and unseen. I use film, audio, stage, and whatever form that I feel will help share an authentic story. I feel that this film is a continuation of my life's work to reveal the truth as I see it through the lens of the people that are impacted. I face the challenges of going up against a system that really does not want to see real change just enough to appease the bad press. One of the activists that I have interviewed puts it this way- "The system protects the system. Success would be to see continued policy change, hearts changed and families on all sides see healing. However that healing feels and looks like to them."

donnie i. betts

Producer/Director

betts is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, theater director and podcast host. His documentary *Music is My Life, My Politics, My Mistress: The Story of Oscar Brown Jr.* won 11 Best Film or Audience Choice awards, aired on PBS Plus stations nationwide. *Music is My Life Politics My Mistress* was featured in IDA Doc Magazine and is part of the Black Film Archives at Indiana University now streaming on kwelity. His film *Dearfield: The Road Less Traveled*, about the all-black Colorado town was nominated for an Emmy. He won an Emmy for his film *My Voice* on hip hop artist and activist Jeff Campbell. betts was the youngest winning of the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. donnie was part of the producing team for the launch of BET's *Starz in Black*. donnie has created content for John Sayles. He has written and directed multiple theater plays including *The Mountain Top*, which received a Henry Award for Best Director. He is a founding member of two theater companies in Denver, City Stage Ensemble and Denver Black Arts Company. His audio drama podcast series *Destination Freedom Black Radio Days* heard on Broadway Podcast Network and all platforms has won numerous awards. betts is a producer on the Award-winning film *The Holly* a film that looks at police corruption. His production company No Credits Productions, LLC is at work on *Stop Resisting*, a look at the use of force in America by law enforcement and others. He attended Yale School of Drama.



TEAM BIOS

Tamara Banks

Consulting Producer

Emmy Award-winning journalist Tamara Banks lives by her motto: “One Person Can Make a Difference.”

Banks is a freelance TV news correspondent/producer, talk show host, and documentary filmmaker, focusing on social justice, and dedicated to creating transformative social change through excellence in journalism.

Her areas of expertise include social justice and political issues across the U.S. and internationally, particularly in South Sudan and Darfur. She also shines light on other parts of the globe where there is little or no news coverage about crimes against humanity and genocide. Banks is currently the host of “From Moment to Movement: with Tamara Banks.” The show is a platform for Black voices to be heard, uncensored and unfiltered and features tools and action plans to shift this moment into a movement.

Banks is currently based in Atlanta, GA, where she continues to be on the frontlines of some of the most important stories across the country and around the world.

Britta Erickson

Producer

Britta Erickson is a producing partner at Denver-based, Listen Productions. She has made it her life’s work to connect storytellers with audiences. After founding a performing arts center – Acoma Center, and its resident theater company, Curious Theater in 1996, she then spent the next two decades in top leadership positions at Denver Film. Britta helped grow the organization’s annual film festival and the ever-popular Film on the Rocks outdoor film and music program. Along the way, Britta championed filmmaker support programs and consulted on hundreds of film projects. Her producing credits include *Convention*, *Rolling Papers*, *Actor Martinez* and *The Holly*, all of which premiered at major film festivals and were sold for distribution. Additionally, she has served as a juror, panelist and moderator at numerous film festivals, including SXSW.

TIMELINE

Pre- Production and research- 2023

Production- ongoing through end of 2023

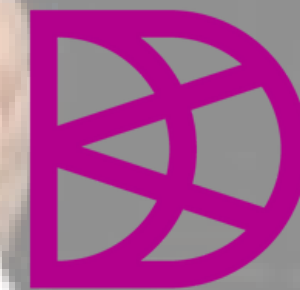
Postproduction- early 2024

BUDGET

Gross Budget: \$394,700

Budget Gap to Date: \$344,700

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP



Denver Film



Thank you

donnie.betts@gmail.com