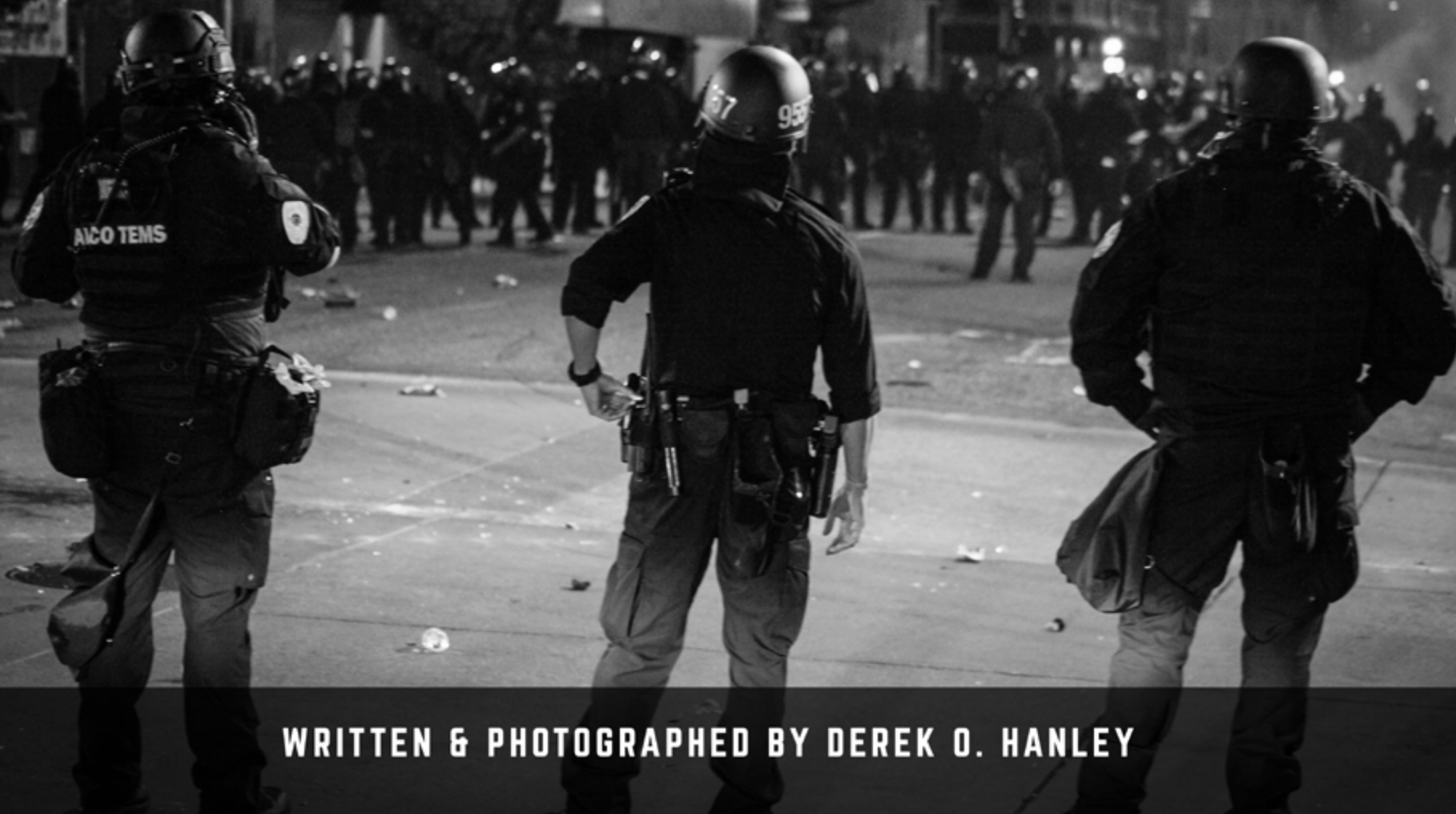


BEHIND THE SKIRMISH LINE

THE MEDICS TREATING THE COPS, PROTESTERS, AND LOOTERS ALIKE



WRITTEN & PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK O. HANLEY

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adimaanophotography.com

Special thanks to all the medics who agreed to be featured.
May you be honored and your courage not go unrecognized.

★★★★★

"Phenomenal photography capturing a challenging time in our history and demonstrating the bravery and service of the emergency medical services personnel.

Derek Hanley did an outstanding job bringing us to the front lines!"

NICK GLOMB, MD / PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN
& ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UC SAN FRANCISCO

★★★★★

"Essential, insider's view of the historic protests of summer 2020. The immersiveness that comes from the photographer being an active part of the events depicted and not just an observer cannot be overstated.

Highly recommend!"

ISAAC BAUMAN / DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

★★★★★

"Beautifully photographed and composed. This photo essay takes the viewer on a visual journey that is honest and gritty. Truly captures the spirit and tension of that night."

SUN LIN, MD / EMERGENCY MEDICINE & TACTICAL PHYSICIAN

★★★★★

"Extremely eye opening book that makes one feel as if they are behind the scenes right there alongside the TEMS team. The moments of chaos and raw emotions of the crew during this historical event are well captured on every page. It is easy to get lost in the book, and I appreciate it can be read in one sitting to fully absorb everything from beginning to end.

Highly recommend!"

MARY HAKE / CREDENTIALLED TEACHER

★★★★★

"Fascinating behind the scenes look at brave front line workers, that we so easily take for granted and whom know little about. Thank you, Derek Hanley, for a beautifully photographed and written, eye-opening book."

TOM CHUN, MD / PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN
& PROFESSOR, BROWN UNIVERSITY

★★★★★

Derek O. Hanley takes you deep behind the scenes of the urban battleground, during the George Floyd protests in Oakland CA, the night of May 29, 2020...telling the unsung story of the Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS)...paramedics entering the fray to deliver medical treatment in the field, to both first responders and protesters alike...the story of the TEMS heroes is crisply depicted through Hanley's keen eye for capturing the moment in dramatic black & white photography. This is a great photojournalist tribute to these front-line TEMS medics, presented in a way that no news report could ever come close to covering.

WILLIAM WEISGERBER / RETIRED FIRE CHEIF & PRESIDENT - WEISGERBER CONSULTING

★★★★★

"This is a sobering, unfiltered, and gritty look at the events of the civil unrest in Oakland. This book shows the volume and magnitude of the events the TEMS team face and their steadfast resolve.

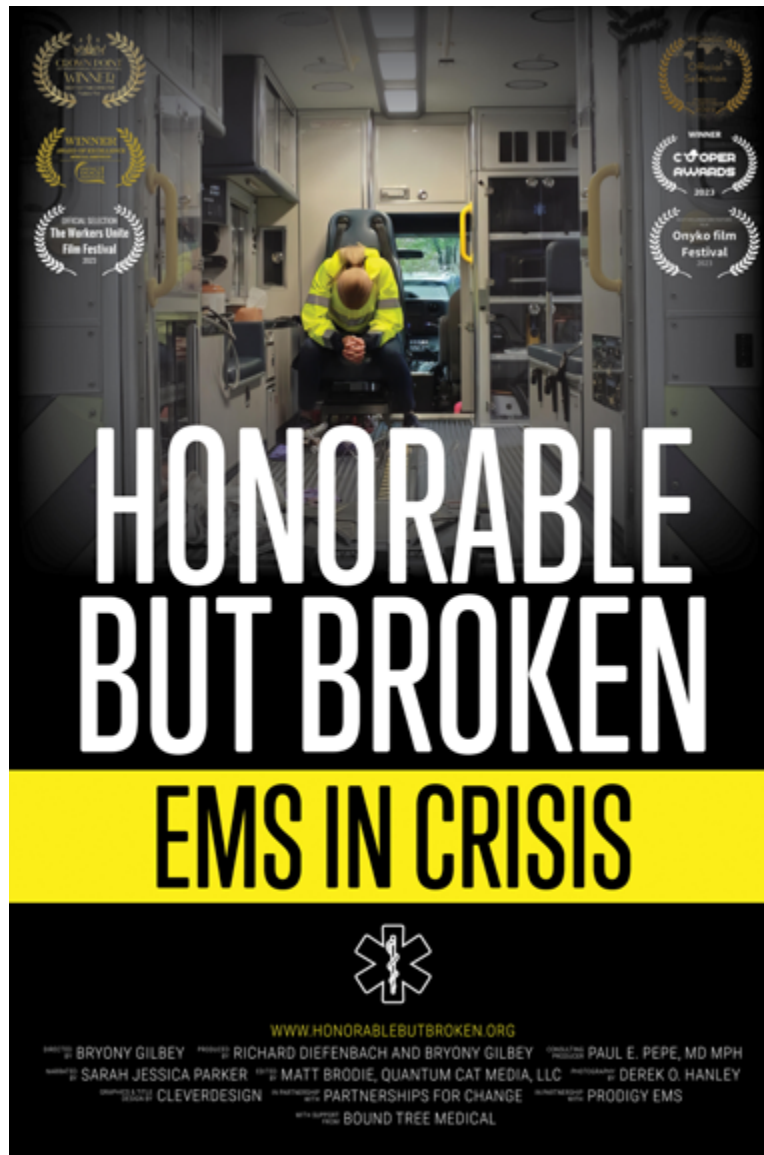
Fantastic book that I highly recommend."

DOMINIC CURCURUTO / ALAMEDA COUNTY PARAMEDIC & TACTICAL MEDIC

★★★★★

"Amazing photos! What a crazy night."

ERIC HALLSTEN / EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN



Images from Behind the Skirmish Line. The Medics Treating the Cops, Protesters, and Looters Alike are featured in the documentary film Honorable But Broken. EMS In Crisis narrated by six-time Golden Globe and two-time Primetime Emmy award winning actress Sarah Jessica Parker.

HonorableButBroken.org



Derek O. Hanley is a former military medic, paramedic, educator, and documentary photographer. His photography is rooted in firsthand experience working in the environments he documents.

Over the course of his career, Hanley has embedded with frontline healthcare providers, first responders, and public safety professionals to create an enduring visual record of their work. His images have been featured in books, films, news media, and public discussions surrounding emergency medicine and healthcare.

Intro from the photographer

The purpose of this book is not to discuss the political and social issues leading to the events of this evening but rather to shine a light on the medics who treated everybody, regardless of race or position, who was injured during the protest.

The photos in the book were taken on Friday, May 29th, 2020, in Oakland, CA, when a major protest occurred after the death of George Floyd. The photos show the progression of the evening's events from the perspective of the medics risking their lives to treat the wounded.

I had been on the front lines with Falck Alameda County Ambulance personnel taking photos nearly every week since just before the COVID-19 crisis began, and on this night, I was embedded with the Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) team leader from Falck Alameda County, Commander Heidi Nishimoto.

The Alameda County TEMS team is made up of paramedics and EMTs who are ordinarily on the streets treating patients or in command positions overseeing ambulance operations, and they assemble when requested for potentially hazardous operations in the county.

Their motto is "That Others May Live," an homage to the elite USAF Pararescue medics.



"Stop killing us."

When I arrived at the Oakland Police Department headquarters building that evening, these were the first few protesters.
By the end of the night, the crowd would swell to more than 7,500.



Gear up.

Staging under the 880N highway behind the police administration building, the medics prepare their medical supplies and protective equipment. In the center, paramedic Elliot assists EMT Dalton with his radio headset. Paramedic Chris, to the left, a Marine Corps veteran, is all too familiar with the gearing-up process. To the right, Dr. Lin, one of two emergency physicians on the streets with the TEMS team this evening, surveys his gear.



Group shot.

Knowing the team was bound to split up at some point soon,
I asked them to pose in front of the armored vehicle brought by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.
From the left: ACSO Technician Hall, paramedic Chris, Dr. Lin, EMT Richard, EMT Colleen, Commander Heidi, EMT Dalton.



Staged.

Paramedic Chris talks about how staging time is the most fun for him because he gets to catch up with people he hasn't seen in a while. We weren't really sure what the night was going to bring, how many people would be coming out, or whether or not things would get violent. Even at this point, the tension was palpable among everyone there, and jokes were a way to relieve the stress, albeit temporarily.



Ready for the worst.

After the sun went down, things became much more ominous. I was in the staging area with Commander Heidi, and most of the other members of the team were around the area. You could hear the crowd getting louder and explosions starting to go off, so I went around to the intersection of Broadway and 7th, where the police had set up the skirmish line.



In full swing.

By this time, the police had closed off both blocks. The TEMS team was up near the skirmish line, and the ambulance was to the rear, awaiting potential casualties. There were glass bottles and bricks landing all around us, and every few minutes a large explosion from fireworks would go off.



Broken glass and bricks.

An officer in riot gear looks on as the peace begins to unravel. The street looked like a sparkly iridescent nightmare of broken glass. Shortly after this picture was taken, a colossal fireworks explosion went off behind police lines—the kind that normally shoots in the air and produces a starburst, which showered everyone nearby with sparks. Several officers had already been brought off the line for injuries, and this was the last straw for OPD.



Gas Gas Gas!

OPD then declared the demonstration unlawful, and tear gas was subsequently deployed. Chaos ensued. Paramedic Chris, in the foreground, moves towards someone down.



Officers down.

I saw the TEMS team take off running down the street, but I didn't know why at the time. EMT Richard pulled the ambulance around and told me they had reports of two officers shot a few blocks away. I jumped on the sideboards of the ambulance, and they drove me down to where Commander Heidi was waiting in the command vehicle. I got in with her and we sped to the scene, which we had just been informed was deemed clear and safe for us to enter.



Evac.

A few blocks from where we were, two federal security officers were shot by someone who opened fire from a passing van. The first ambulance, which had Doc Lin and paramedic Chris, took the more critical case. Here, the second officer who was shot is evacuated from the scene to the ambulance by TEMS medics and nearby police officers.



Nicotine gum?

We were flagged down by police because there was a man down in the street. He had clearly just come from the CVS across the street, which had its windows smashed out and was in the process of being looted, and he had a box jammed full of nicotine gum. TEMS medics attend to the man, who was unresponsive and looked like he might be in cardiac arrest when we first got to him.

To medics everywhere,
thank you for your service.



If you enjoyed this book, please tell your friends, share on social media, and leave a review at Goodreads.com, Amazon.com, dohp.net/books (or use the above QR code) and/or the bookseller you purchased it from.

Behind the Skirmish Line follows medics from the Falck Alameda County Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) team on the night of May 29, 2020, when a major protest occurred in downtown Oakland, CA, following the death of George Floyd. Written and photographed by Derek O. Hanley, this visceral photo essay takes you behind police lines to witness the fallout when protests turn violent and demonstrations turn to looting.

Taking readers into areas restricted to the public, Behind the Skirmish Line starts your journey in the law enforcement staging zone, where the brave team of medics and doctors are readying their supplies and protective equipment. See the moments of concern, boredom, and levity that turned out to be the calm before the storm.

More than 7,500 people showed up to the demonstration. After the sun went down, things became increasingly violent, requiring the TEMS medics to intervene to help the wounded, including police officers, demonstrators, and even people who were looting. During the protest, two federal security officers were shot, pushing the TEMS team to their limits to try to save the officers' lives.

Behind the Skirmish Line takes you with these intrepid medics throughout that fateful night, giving you an intimate, moment-by-moment view of the challenges they faced and how they responded with courage, compassion, and extraordinary skill.

★★★★★

"Photos from the Front Lines and Behind the Skirmish Line provide a realism that brings the viewer into the world of EMS and the prehospital medicine experience like nothing else. TV and movies sensationalize the profession but these books tells a story and reality only like single photos are capable of delivering. Mr. Hanley's eye for detail and the beauty of the black and white photos (to me) brings back memories of experiences throughout my career as a paramedic."
- Dr. Edward "Ted" Lee, Editor-In-Chief, Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS)

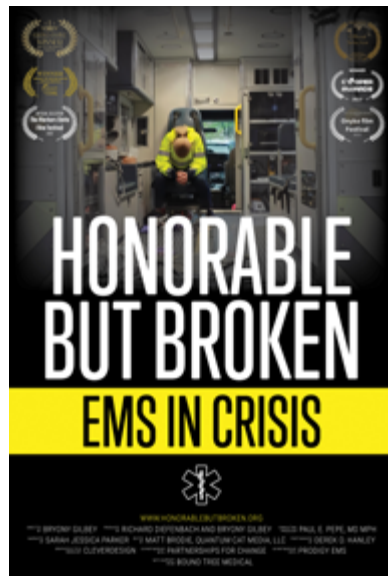
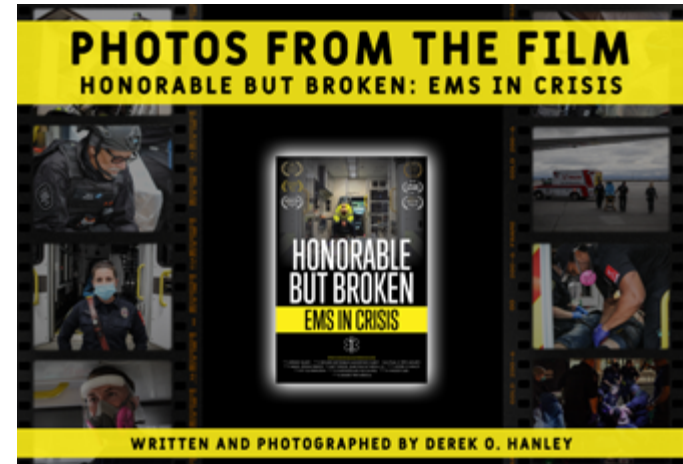
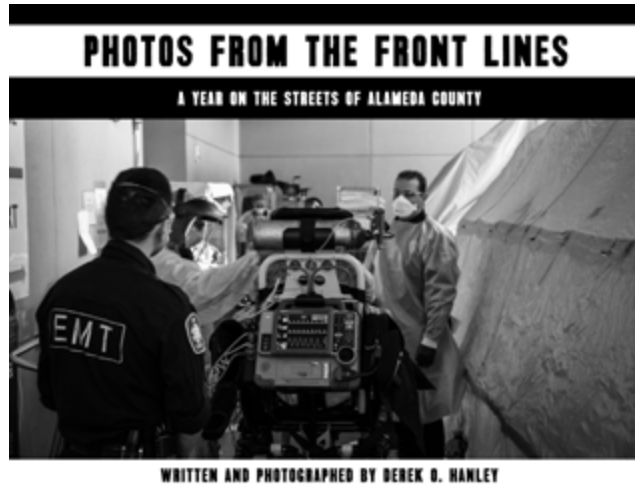
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