



'EvenHand'

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The streets of fictional San Lovisa are gritty in "EvenHand," and the cops who drive them face an endless stream of cranks, wife-beaters and junkies as they stay, at best, one step ahead of deadly violence. Screenwriter Mike Jones, who grew up in San Antonio, where filming took place in 2001, in the grand tradition of Joseph Wambaugh brings us police officers as compelling, fallible people who must make judgment calls at the spur of the moment. Two newly partnered officers hit the streets. One is going through a divorce and sees his job in idealistic terms. The other is a former high school quarterback whose cocky mask occasionally slips as he cuts the corners of proper procedure to get the job done. Around the corner in darkness, real danger is lurking, and the partners try their best to do the right thing before it envelops them. In the hands of two fine lead performers, Bill Dawes and Bill Sage, these men are flesh and blood and pain. "Evenhand" is a compelling film that only shows its low budget through the less-sure acting of some minor characters. Pardon the puns, but this is an arresting film worth staking out.

- Official 'EvenHand' Web Site