



Director Jacqueline Elyse Rosenthal bringing Award Winning student short film inspired by a true story of a backlogged rape kit eventually hitting the Senate floor to **The Nevada Women's Film Festival**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2023 (Los Angeles, CA) - Director Jacqueline Elyse Rosenthal is heading to Las Vegas, Nevada this weekend with her student short film based on the true story of a collegiate female who tried to find justice for three years for her shelved rape kit-only to become the key witness in the Senate hearing to end the rape kit backlog. **BACKLOG** is screening this Sunday, June 25th in Block 19 (2:35 - 5:10PM) and Jacqueline will be available for in-person or zoom interviews.

Film Short Synopsis: In 2006, Valerie Neumann was brutally assaulted and date-raped on her 21st birthday. The next day, she underwent a painful scientific 4-6 hour medical examination to collect clinical evidence. But because of the bureaucracy of the justice system, the police shelved her evidence and evaded her for almost two years, claiming the case to be “unwinnable.” But Mallory continued to help survivors, working at a rape treatment crisis center, where she is asked to advocate to end the Rape Kit Backlogs.

The 18-minute short film just premiered last month at the Oscar-Qualifying Cleveland International Film Festival and won Best Short Student Short Audience, screened at Cannes International Film Festival Emerging Filmmaker Showcase, and is scheduled to screen following the showcase in the U.S. at LA Shorts, Indie Shorts Fest. [BACKLOG Trailer](#)

About the director:

Jacqueline Elyse Rosenthal is a dedicated writer and director, and recent alumni of the esteemed University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts Master Program. Her unique blend of acting and screenwriting experience has endowed her with a profound understanding of character development, allowing her to craft emotionally compelling and thought-provoking works. Jacqueline is driven to continue raising pressing questions about our society, through her films.

In her recent film, **BACKLOG**, Jacqueline committed so thoroughly to directing that she realized she was method directing, a phrase that has yet to be coined. She is able to begin living the films alongside the actors on set, and it allows her to understand the character's point-of-view. With a keen eye for storytelling and a strong devotion to her art, Jacqueline Elyse Rosenthal is undoubtedly an artist poised to make a lasting impact on the cinematic landscape.

BACKLOG will screen June 25 in Las Vegas, NV at UNLV during the Nevada Women's Film Festival. The entire Film Festival will run June 22 - 25.

We welcome interviews surrounding the festival in Cannes both remotely and in-person. All press assets are available upon request.

Press Contact:

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Film Website: <https://backlogfilm.org/>