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CHOICES Brings Faith, Suspense and the Consequences of Everyday Decisions to the Big Screen

South Carolina-filmed Christian suspense drama from Jeff Akers Motion Picture and Film Network will premiere October 17 in Columbia, bringing together award-winning filmmakers, established screen talent and emerging voices for a provocative story about relationships, redemption and the choices that can change everything.

Written, produced and co-directed by Jeff Akers and directed by award-winning filmmaker Dr. Brandon M. Glover, CHOICES approaches faith not as an accessory to the story, but as part of the moral terrain its characters must navigate. As relationships overlap, loyalties are tested and an investigation begins to expose deeper questions, seemingly ordinary decisions take on increasingly serious consequences.

What happens when the choices people make in private begin colliding in public—and when faith, desire, integrity and consequence all demand an answer?

CHOICES, premiering Saturday, October 17, 2026, at Spotlight Cinemas Capital 8 in Columbia, South Carolina. Filmed in South Carolina, the feature brings suspense and faith into a contemporary story of interconnected lives, complicated relationships, buried histories and decisions whose consequences reach far beyond the moment in which they are made.

At the center of the film is a deceptively simple idea: people are always making choices—even when they believe they are avoiding one.

“CHOICES was written out of a desire to encourage people to stop and think about the decisions they make every day, especially the decisions that may seem small in the moment but have the power to shape our future,” said Jeff Akers, writer, producer and co-director. “My hope is that audiences leave the film examining their own lives rather than simply judging the characters on the screen.”

For Akers, the story goes beyond a conventional morality tale. CHOICES examines relationships, temptation, accountability, discipleship, integrity, second chances and the tension between what people profess and how they actually live. The film repeatedly returns to the question of whether a person's past must dictate the future—and what happens when an opportunity to choose differently finally arrives.

A FAITH STORY TOLD THROUGH SUSPENSE

Rather than isolating faith inside a church setting, CHOICES places spiritual questions in the middle of recognizable human experiences: dating, friendship, attraction, disappointment, grief, temptation, mentorship and the consequences of broken judgment.

Two young men move through a complicated dating culture in which expectations, commitment and accountability are increasingly blurred. Around them, other stories of loss, investigation, temptation and redemption begin to intersect. The result is a film that asks audiences to look beyond labels—including the label “Christian”—and consider what a person's decisions reveal about the life he or she is actually living.

That complexity is intentional.

The film does not present its characters as flawless examples to imitate or simple villains to condemn. They are people making decisions under pressure—and living with what those decisions set in motion.

“Faith, responsibility and redemption are not subjects that belong only inside a church building,” Akers said. “There is always an opportunity to turn, grow, make a better decision, and choose a path that leads to repentance and salvation.”

AN EXPERIENCED SOUTH CAROLINA CREATIVE TEAM

Behind the camera, CHOICES brings together filmmakers whose work spans independent cinema, television, education, music, ministry and media production.

Dr. Brandon M. Glover, the film's director, is an award-winning filmmaker, educator and founder of Out Da Barnz Entertainment. His feature Son-of-a Preacher Man won Best Feature Film at the 2023 Charlotte Black Film Festival, while his professional background spans independent cinema, higher education, television production and church media. His broader production experience includes work connected to American Idol, Hoarders, On These Grounds and The Charlie Rymer Golf Show.

Glover brings to CHOICES the perspective of a filmmaker whose career intersects cinema, education and ministry—an intersection reflected in the film's approach to storytelling.

Jeff Akers brings decades of experience across film, documentary, television, music and broadcast production. He is the founder of Jeff Akers Films Network and A Legacy Records, and his creative work includes award winning films, documentaries and high quality productions that raise funding for nonprofits.

Beyond entertainment, Akers serves as a Suffragan Bishop, and as the President for the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World Inc. International Missions Department and is a pastor, author, and cofounder of Rhema Global TV Network.

The film's visual language was shaped by Director of Photography Alexander Hernandez also known as LexxDirector, who also contributed to the project's camera and post-production work.

The production itself became an extension of the filmmakers' faith. Prayer, Scripture, spiritual conversation and ministry were part of the environment surrounding the making of CHOICES, creating a set where many of the ideas being explored onscreen were also present behind the camera.

AN ENSEMBLE DRAWN FROM FILM, MUSIC, MEDIA AND COMMUNITY

The CHOICES ensemble includes Marquise LaShawn as Terrance, Jermaine Jackson as Calvin, Ulyssia Pleiss as Samantha, Desiree Artemus as Shandra, Rebecca Pearl as Reena, Nelson Tyshan Jones as Pastor Thomas, Ashley McHam as Detective Lewis and Merritt Vann as Detective Boyd, alongside a broader supporting cast.

The production brings together performers whose professional backgrounds span independent film, television, music, theatre, media, education, athletics, entrepreneurship and community leadership.

Several members of the cast and creative team have previously worked together within South Carolina and the Southeast's independent-film community, giving CHOICES roots in an existing creative network while also introducing new and emerging talent.

For Akers, however, the ultimate measure of the film will not simply be whether audiences enjoy its suspense.

It will be whether they continue talking after the credits roll.

“If CHOICES starts conversations about faith, relationships, responsibility and the direction of our lives,” Akers said, “then the film has accomplished something meaningful.”

CHOICES OFFICIAL MOVIE PREMIERE & RED CARPET

Saturday, October 17, 2026

Spotlight Cinemas Capital 8

Columbia, South Carolina

Tickets: \$25

5:00 PM — Arrival / Check-In

5:00 PM — Red Carpet

6:00 PM — Welcome / Premiere Program

6:15 PM — Film Begins

Cast & Film Recognition Following the Screening

9:00 PM — Close

Tickets and premiere information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/choices-official-movie-premiere-red-carpet-tickets-2000187318112>

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Jeff Akers Films Network is currently scheduling advance and premiere-related media interviews surrounding CHOICES.

Interview opportunities are available with:

Jeff Akers — Writer, Producer & Co-Director

Akers is available to discuss the inspiration behind CHOICES, faith and storytelling, relationships and modern dating dynamics, integrity, accountability, redemption, ministry behind the camera, the development of Jeff Akers Films Network, and the relationship between media and ministry.

Dr. Brandon M. Glover — Director

Glover is available to discuss directing CHOICES, creating the film's tone, developing performances, independent filmmaking, faith-centered cinema, South Carolina's filmmaking community, and his perspective as a filmmaker, educator and ministry leader.

Select cast members may also be available for interviews, television segments, radio appearances, podcasts, digital features and premiere coverage.

Media outlets interested in interviews, advance stories, filmmaker profiles, cast interviews, red-carpet coverage, premiere coverage, review consideration or additional press materials may contact:

admin@JeffAkers.net

ABOUT CHOICES

CHOICES is a Christian suspense drama from Jeff Akers Films Network exploring the collision of faith, relationships, temptation, integrity, accountability, redemption and consequence. Through interconnected characters whose decisions set unexpected events in motion, the film asks audiences to consider not merely what people say they believe, but what their choices reveal about who they are becoming. Filmed in South Carolina, CHOICES premieres October 17, 2026, in Columbia, South Carolina.

Official website:

<https://choicesthemovies.com/>

ABOUT JEFF AKERS FILMS NETWORK

An Indiana and South Carolina-based film and media company. Its work spans narrative film, documentary, television, music and strategic purpose-driven media, with an emphasis on stories that engage culture, faith, community and the human experience.

Learn more:

<https://www.JeffAkers.net/>

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