

# DOC DASH NEWS

NO.6

NOVEMBER 2024

## Practice *Gratitude*





## A NOTE FROM THE INVENTRESS

In the wake of the election, I want to reach out to each of you with a sincere acknowledgment of the heightened division and fear many of us feel. It's a challenging time, and as we all process the outcome, we at DOC DASH believe it's crucial to affirm our commitment to unity. There is no place in our communities for bullying, divisive rhetoric, or actions that set us against each other. We stand firmly against such behavior, and our goal remains to build bridges and create spaces where all voices are valued.

DOC DASH was created from a deep-seated need for connection and respect in difficult situations, particularly between citizens and law enforcement. The guiding principles of DOC DASH—communication, mutual respect, and safety—are even more essential now. We continue to work towards a society where everyone is treated with humanity, and we invite you to join us in this pursuit of justice and inclusivity. Let's remember that every interaction matters and that each of us has the power to foster understanding and healing.

As we move forward together, DOC DASH remains dedicated to this mission. Our vision is a safer, more just world where unity and respect drive every conversation. We're honored to be part of this journey with our partners and you our readers and we are grateful for the demonstrated support of DOC DASH.

Together, let's work towards a future where respect, inclusion, and justice prevail.

*Kimberly St. Clair*

The Inventress





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Contact: [info@mydocdash.com](mailto:info@mydocdash.com)  
Website: [www.mydocdash.com](http://www.mydocdash.com)

Editor-in-Chief : St.Clair  
Art Director : St.Clair  
Publisher: St. Clair  
Writer : St. Clair

Connect on Social Media @mydocdash



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# Oteka Solutions Honored by St. Louis Celebrity Seniors with Grant for Community Impact

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In a celebration of leadership and commitment to community safety, Oteka Solutions was one of four community organizations, recently recognized by St. Louis Celebrity Seniors, for its tireless efforts in fostering safer communities and empowering youth through education. The recognition came with a generous \$1,000 grant to support Oteka Solutions' groundbreaking work, including its DOC DASH Protocols to Police Engagement workshops.

The award highlights Oteka's unwavering dedication to creating a safer future for children and communities by providing critical tools for communication, conflict resolution, and smart decision-making. Through programs like DOC DASH, Oteka Solutions continues to bridge the gap between law enforcement and community members, ensuring that safety, understanding, and respect remain at the forefront of engagement.

Founder Kimberly St. Clair expressed her gratitude, stating, "This recognition reaffirms our mission and strengthens our resolve to invest in our youth and their future. We're honored to receive this grant and will continue working to make a lasting impact." The \$1,000 grant will directly support DOC DASH workshops, which focus on high school juniors and seniors, teaching safe driving strategies, decision-making skills, and healthy boundaries. With support from organizations like St. Louis Celebrity Seniors, Oteka Solutions is well-positioned to expand its reach and empower even more young people to navigate their lives confidently and safely. To learn more about Oteka Solutions and the DOC DASH program, or to schedule a workshop, visit [www.mydocdash.com](http://www.mydocdash.com). Together, we're building safer communities and brighter futures.



All four awardees

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# DOC DASH JOINS MODOT SAFETY PLANNING COMMITTEE: A TRANSFORMATIVE STEP TOWARD SAFER ROADS IN MISSOURI

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In a critical step toward addressing Missouri's persistent road safety challenges, DOC DASH has officially joined the MoDOT Safety Planning Committee for 2025-2030. This partnership marks a significant opportunity to tackle the state's troubling safety statistics while positioning DOC DASH as a leader in behavioral change and safer driving education.

## A State in Need of Change

Missouri faces an uphill battle when it comes to highway safety. Despite advancements in vehicle technology and infrastructure, changing human behavior remains the greatest opportunity for improvement. A staggering 2017 report by the National Safety Council gave Missouri an "F" grade for road safety, ranking it 49th out of 51 states. The report cited critical shortcomings in:

- Seat belt use
- Child passenger safety
- Distracted driving
- Speeding
- Teen driver education
- Protection for vulnerable road users

The findings underscore a cultural resistance to adopting safer driving practices—an issue that DOC DASH is uniquely equipped to address.

## The DOC DASH Difference

DOC DASH's Protocols to Police Engagement workshops are already making waves in schools, communities, and law enforcement agencies. With a focus on safe driving strategies, smart decision-making, and boundary-setting, DOC DASH is creating a culture of safety that begins with young drivers and expands to families and communities. "Behavioral change doesn't happen overnight, but it starts with education and awareness," says Kimberly St. Clair, DOC DASH Founder. "We're excited to bring our expertise to MoDOT's Safety Planning Committee to ensure that human behavior is at the forefront of Missouri's strategy to save lives on the road."





## Positioned to Win

DOC DASH's alignment with MoDOT's goals places it at the intersection of prevention, education, and cultural change. By focusing on young drivers—a group often overrepresented in accident statistics—DOC DASH delivers proactive solutions that can reduce crashes, fatalities, and injuries.

- Workshops for high school juniors and seniors provide hands-on, engaging lessons on safe driving and decision-making.
- Partnerships with law enforcement foster mutual respect and de-escalation strategies during traffic stops.
- Community-based initiatives promote widespread adoption of safe driving habits.

## Future Impact

The inclusion of DOC DASH on MoDOT's Safety Planning Committee signals a long-term commitment to reversing Missouri's troubling safety trends. Over the next five years, DOC DASH will help shape policies, implement programs, and measure outcomes to ensure Missouri transitions from "off-track" to a model for road safety.

This collaboration is more than just a plan—it's a promise to Missouri's youth, families, and communities: safer roads are possible, and DOC DASH is ready to lead the way.

## Want DOC DASH in Your School or Community?

Visit [www.mydocdash.com](http://www.mydocdash.com) to learn how you can bring DOC DASH workshops to your high school and support Missouri's commitment to safer, smarter driving.



# SPOTLIGHT

## Spotlight on MARVIN STEELE

### A Hidden Treasure Honored for Anchoring the St. Louis Community



The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) has proudly recognized Marvin Steele, President of the St. Louis Heartland Chamber of Commerce, as one of St. Louis' "Hidden Treasures" for his unwavering commitment to community empowerment, economic growth, and advocacy for minority businesses. This well-deserved honor celebrates Steele's decades-long dedication to strengthening the St. Louis community through leadership, mentorship, and innovative economic initiatives.

Marvin Steele's work continues to inspire and uplift, as he remains committed to creating a brighter, more equitable future for St. Louis. His recognition as a "Hidden Treasure" serves as a powerful reminder of the impact one leader can have on an entire community.

The DOC DASH team congratulates Marvin Steele on this incredible honor and looks forward to witnessing the continued growth and success he brings to the St. Louis region.



STL Heartland Black Chamber Executive team from left to right: Gerald Grier, Denale Powell, Marvin Steele, Lynda Anderson, Kimberly St. Clair

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# DOC DASH: A Key Contributor at MoDOT's Coalition Meeting

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In an exciting development for highway safety in Missouri, DOC DASH proudly participated as a key contributor at the recent MoDOT Coalition Meeting. This gathering brought together safety leaders, policymakers, and advocates to address Missouri's most pressing transportation challenges and collaboratively strategize for a safer future. DOC DASH's inclusion at the table signifies growing recognition of its innovative approach to improving driver behavior and fostering positive community-police engagement.

## The DOC DASH Impact

DOC DASH is uniquely positioned to influence Missouri's safety planning efforts by:

- **Focusing on Youth:** Workshops tailored for high school juniors and seniors equip young drivers with the tools to make smart, safe decisions behind the wheel.
- **Promoting Prevention:** By addressing conflict resolution and fostering mutual respect during police engagements, DOC DASH reduces tensions and encourages responsible driving habits.
- **Shaping Policy:** As a coalition contributor, DOC DASH will help guide future strategies, ensuring that behavioral change remains a cornerstone of Missouri's safety initiatives.



## A Seat at the Table

Contributing to the MoDOT coalition is not just a milestone for DOC DASH—it's a testament to its growing impact and leadership in the safety space. By collaborating with MoDOT and other key stakeholders, DOC DASH is poised to play a critical role in reversing Missouri's troubling safety trends and fostering a culture of accountability and respect on the roads.

With DOC DASH's expertise now integrated into Missouri's safety planning discussions, the path toward safer roads becomes clearer. This partnership underscores a shared commitment to innovation, education, and prevention—ensuring a safer future for all Missourians.



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# DOC DASH RETURNS TO VIKING TERRITORY

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The DOC DASH team is thrilled to announce its return to Normandy High School, bringing the Protocols to Police Engagement Workshops back to Viking territory! This exciting initiative focuses on equipping juniors and seniors with essential tools for safe driving, smart decision-making, and positive police engagement—all critical skills as students prepare for a successful and independent future.



From left to right: Dr. Nave (Principal)  
Kimberly StClair and Mr. Carr (Department Chair)

DOC DASH's workshops offer an interactive and empowering experience tailored to the needs of young drivers. Participants will gain valuable insights into conflict resolution, de-escalation strategies, and practical steps for ensuring safe and respectful interactions during traffic stops. At the end of the program, each scholar will receive their own DOC DASH unit—a tangible resource to help them navigate the road with confidence.

In an effort to make this program as impactful as possible, resources are being put in place to ensure Spanish -

speaking students and deaf scholars can fully participate and benefit. By prioritizing inclusivity, DOC DASH ensures that every Normandy student has access to this life-changing education.

The partnership between DOC DASH and Normandy High School highlights the importance of collaboration in creating safer communities. By equipping juniors and seniors with the knowledge and tools to drive responsibly and engage respectfully, DOC DASH is shaping a future where prevention and preparation lead the way. Normandy Vikings, we're back—and we can't wait to see you!



We invite you to join us in transforming the landscape of police engagement and road safety.

**OTEKA SOLUTIONS is our 501c3** that expands our reach with charitable giving. Your financial support enables DOC DASH to expand our groundbreaking protocols and educational workshops, fostering safer and more respectful interactions between police and communities. Together, we can reduce the risks and volatile outcomes during police engagement, ultimately saving lives and promoting mutual understanding. No donation is too little or too small. Thank you in advance

## **DONATIONS THROUGH PAYPAL**

<https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/4804880>







## WORK LIFE BALANCE

Hanging out with my friends from the Heartland Black Chamber where Black Business is Their Business.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### STATISTICS

POLICE & CIVILIAN ENGAGEMENT



SAFETY FIRST  
DOC DASH

### TRAFFIC STOPS

- Most common reason for police and civilian engagement and the most dangerous.
- 20 million traffic stops per year. **Missouri accounted for over 1 million**
- 239.24 Million people hold driver's licenses in the US

**43%**

- According to Development Language Disorder (DLD), 43% of adults with communication disorders have a driver's license

**38%** ↑

- 48 million licensed drivers > 65 in 2020