

# THE SAVORY LAW FIRM, L.L.C.

## Newsletter

The Savory Law Firm, L.L.C.  
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### Youth Violence: Why Our Community is Still Missing the Mark from the Desk of Dorothy L. Savory, Attorney



Imagine that you are experiencing restless nights because of the pain in your **right arm**. You go to the emergency room and are finally examined by a doctor. After hearing your complaints, would a competent doctor examine your **left leg**? In 2009, although we are concerned about Youth Violence, our community is incompetent, because we **are still missing the mark** and failing to look at the main body part which is contributing to our dysfunction.

In 2007, we began hosting "Community Action Meetings." Since 2008, our law firm has hosted annual "Education Series." Our target has always been the youth. Unfortunately, when we (the community) attempt to combat the problem of Youth Violence, we speak to the adults only. We believe that the answer lies in meetings and conferences. Even I have been guilty of such frame of thinking.

#### Our Second Annual "Education Series" held July 16, 2009 - August 13, 2009

This year, we hosted our second annual "Education Series," an event which was free and open to the public. The purpose was to educate our community on legal issues affecting them and to inform them of their legal rights.

We invited various local judges, private and public interest attorneys who taught on topics ranging from drug crimes to child support.

This year we enlightened the public again with excellent speakers who willingly gave of their time to assist us. We thank our speakers and our supporters. As we progress, we expect to reach a greater audience and have

These efforts are great, but we fail to examine the key component, the voices of our youth. We especially fail to see, hear and understand the lives of those youth who have been accused of committing heinous crimes and the youth who live with crime in their schools and neighborhoods daily.

**Why do we fail to question the main source?** This is an issue a colleague and I have debated. For a change, why not talk to the youth, instead of our organizations, churches, and politicians continuously holding meetings amongst adults?

Our firm has attempted to partner with fraternities, sororities, churches and other community organizations that are **serious about implementing real solutions** to problems that are corroding our communities. It is time that we no longer **fear our youth**, but take time to **speak** with them, **train** them, **empower** them and **mold leaders** for a stronger community. If we continue to hold "adult" meetings without hearing the voices of our youth, we will forever be like a dog chasing its own tail. Now is the time to **stop missing the mark!**

a more profound impact. We also expect to develop more partnerships with other like minded organizations.

**Dates:**  
 Each Thursday at 6:30 P.M., July 16, 2009 through August 13, 2009

**Location:**  
 W.E.B. Du Bois Learning Center at 5501 Cleveland Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri

- Speakers:**
- Sammie Edwards, Law Office of Sammie Edwards
  - Arimeta Dupree, Attorney for the Missouri State Public Defender System

#### WHO WE ARE

Since March 17, 2008, when we opened our doors, The Savory Law Firm, L.L.C. has cherished its motto: "Fighting to protect your rights, every case and every time."

The Savory Law Firm, L.L.C. is a general trial practice representing parties in cases ranging from traffic violations to complex civil lawsuits.

Number of Open/Pending Cases: 23

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Traffic.....         | 1 |
| Criminal.....        | 4 |
| Civil.....           | 4 |
| Family.....          | 7 |
| Personal Injury..... | 3 |
| Other.....           | 4 |

Number of Cases Closed in 2008: 38

Number of Jury Trials 2008-2009: 3

- Melinda Clark-Sann, Law Offices of Melinda Clark-Sann
- Sean O'Brien, Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and The Public Interest Litigation Clinic
- Dorothy L. Savory, Managing Attorney for The Savory Law Firm, L.L.C.

#### Topics:

- \* The Right to Remain Silent
- \* Child Support
- \* Drug Laws
- \* Domestic Violence and Other Violent Crimes

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#### Special points of interest:

- Ms. Dorothy L. Savory was a guest panelist for the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law's "Diversity Recruitment Forum" on October 29, 2009
- Ms. Dorothy L. Savory was honored by The Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City: "Celebration of Women 2009"