



A Message from the St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission

We have been in contact with officials of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) regarding the upcoming Show-Me Bowl that will be held at the Edward Jones Dome on Nov. 28-29. We understand there may be concerns about the safety of participants and fans during their visit to St. Louis. Let us assure you, that safety of the players, students and fans is our utmost priority.

As we all wait for the investigations into the tragic death of Michael Brown to conclude, it is important to note that the incidents highlighted on news reports are not reflective of the community as a whole. For the most part activities have been peaceful, and in some places even creative demonstrations of opinion, which we respect.

As in any major metropolitan area, improvements can and must be made in equality; there are many current initiatives in this region in this regard and additional efforts will be forthcoming. We hope the judicial process will conclude swiftly, so that the community can begin to heal.

Law enforcement across the community remains committed to protecting the safety of residents and visitors to our region. Our on-site security team works closely with Chief Sam Dotson and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department to ensure the safety of event attendees at America's Center. As part of our regular procedures, we coordinate with the public safety personnel at all area hotels as well.

Please be assured that hotels, visitor attractions, restaurants, parks, transportation companies and other components of the tourism infrastructure in our region have not been affected since the events in early August. Visitors arrive by air, by train or by car, they use the MetroLink light rail or travel the four interstates that connect the region with the rest of the country. The region has hosted hundreds of conferences and events for hundreds of thousands of attendees in the last 90-plus days. Many of these events have attracted families, including the Bands of America high school marching band competition, large-scale girls youth soccer tournaments and the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, which have all been met with great success and enjoyment for the participants.

We look forward to welcoming all the schools and their fans participating in this year's Show-Me Bowl, and wish them good luck as they compete for state championships.

Regards,

Kathleen M. Ratcliffe
President