

# QUEENS EMBRACE UNITY

Ladies linked together to support one another and stand out in the crowd.



One of the major initiatives of NAAGA is the Queens of Defense (QOD), led by Dr. Joy Allen and Shanea Daniels. QOD exists to unify the women of NAAGA by creating a safe space for learning, education, growth, and comradery within the 2A space.

“QOD offers a virtual platform for networking with like-minded women from across the country to share our stories and experiences to support and uplift our fellow Queens!” said Allen. “In our local chapters, QOD provides each



Queen with in-person meet-ups, training, and opportunities for social interaction and networking.”

The motivation behind this type of

network is unity and empowerment. “We work together to find our voices and pave a path forward for the coming generations,” said Allen.

“We are mentors, moms, and 2A advocates. Queens of Defense is everything a woman needs in a sisterhood like no other!”

All great initiatives have goals for achieving a level of success. This holds true for the Queens of Defense. (continued)

#### ABOVE

Joy Allen, PhD., encourages the ladies at the National Convention to be unapologetically bold and stand united as a strong voice in the world of gun ownership and safety.



*The Queens of Defense breakfast at the National Convention provided great food, inspiring words from Dr. Joy Allen, and time of sharing led by Shanea Daniels.*







“QOD is designed to provide a safe space for women to feel free to engage in ways that make them comfortable, without fear of judgment, to network and learn from women all over the country with different backgrounds and goals, and to be a recognized force in the 2A space,” said Daniels.

“Every woman, regardless of religion, age, or sexual orientation, should participate.”

“We are hoping that each chapter will have at least one QOD Ambassador,” said Daniels, “a woman who can bring in ideas and learning opportunities just for the women in your area.” For those ladies who don’t have a local chapter close by, “join the NOC and catch us quarterly on the QOD TownHall calls,” said Allen.

Both ladies shared samples of those opportunities to includes: Ladies Night at the Range, Brunch and Bullets, Advanced Training, Social/Dinner Outings, Mentorship with young ladies to build the next generation, supplemental training events (e.g. de-escalation methods, martial arts classes, Stop the Bleed, etc.), and a travel group to visit other ladies/chapters. “The sky’s the limit,” said Daniels. “We’ll be officially launching a travel club in 2024 and are encouraging our QUEENS to visit new/different places with women to train, network, build and explore. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.”

### *Ways to make your chapter's QOD experience better:*

- *Women's shoot/range day*
- *RSO certification*
- *Network outings (other than shooting)*
- *Consider virtual events*
- *Communications: Use social apps like Signal, Racket*
- *Guest speakers*
- *Mental health (NSSF resources online, mental health and first-aid, Association of Black Psychologists, QPR (question/persuade/refer institute)*





Having dedicated time at the National Convention gave ladies from around the country an opportunity to network and share ideas and inspiration with one another.

Connect with the coordinators via email at [QOD@naaga.co](mailto:QOD@naaga.co), and join the NOC for updates and interaction with other QOD Ladies.



*Sisters doing it for themselves! Certified NAAGA Instructor Eboni Salters provided training during the Standing in The Gap Gun Club of Orange County CA Queens of Defense event.*