

Country seeing Alabama's Yellow Dot safety program as spot on

On behalf of Johnston, Moore & Thompson

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A dot.

It sounds so simple - and probably ambiguous to you at this point, unless you are one of the Alabama residents who have heard of the state's Yellow Dot program. The program, created to aid first responders in [car accidents](#), wasn't born in Alabama but is run statewide here. It is finding homes in other cities and states throughout the country.

Not everyone has the same medical history or health issues. And when first responders arrive at the scene of a traffic accident, it is not uncommon for a crash victim to be unconscious. Without responders being able to communicate with a victim, certain health information they need in order to make quick, vital decisions are unavailable, therefore making the victims' treatment less effective than it could be.

So how can the information that responders need be available to them? That's where the Yellow Dot program comes in. For those who opt in to be a part of the program, they are directed to put together a file with their relevant medical histories. What a responder would need to know about a victim is put in the records, and those records would be kept in a driver's glove compartment.

Where does the yellow dot fit in? It is a yellow dot sticker placed on the rear window that denotes to authorities that a person is part of the safety program. When responders arrive to an accident scene, they will see the yellow sticker and know that a victim's medical information is right in the car.

Alabama is a pioneer in running the Yellow Dot program statewide, but USA Today reports that other states are recognizing the benefits of the state's use of it. Alabama's Yellow Dot program coordinator tells sources that representatives from more than 30 states have contacted her regarding the ground-breaking, yet simple safety program.

For more information about Alabama's program and what it could do for you and your loved ones in the case of a car accident, contact your local traffic-safety officials.

Source

USA Today: "[Drivers hot for medical-alert Yellow Dot kits](#)," Larry Copeland, 23 Jul. 2011