

# **Sha-kai T. Springer**

**1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt**

**Metropolitan Karate Academy**

**Instructor: Master Curtis Butler, Jr.**

Sha-kai T. Springer was born on November 10, 1993 to Tameka Fordham & Leanthony Springer. Sha-kai is the oldest of three children. Sha-kai is a 15 year old junior and will begin her first year at Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn, MI. She previously attended Communications & Media Arts High School in Detroit, Michigan where she maintained a 3.0 GPA. Sha-kai also volunteers some of her Saturday with Pastor Brian Morgan of Faith and Food Outreach Ministries.

Sha-kai began taking karate the Metropolitan Karate Academy under the instruction of Master Curtis Butler, Jr. in 1997 two months before her 4th birthday. Sha-kai took a couple of years (2004-2005) off from karate to focus on basketball and softball. She earned her black belt in May 2009.

Sha-kai has been participating in karate tournaments since she was 4 years old. She won her first tournament in the 5 & under sparring in 1998 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Detroit Classic Karate Championship. Some of her other accomplishments include first in the state of Michigan in the 9-10 year old girls sparring in 2003, the 2002 Final Rumble 1<sup>st</sup> place 7-8 year old sparring, 2002 WISK Battle of the Minds 1<sup>st</sup> place 7-8 year old sparring, 2006 Spirit of Detroit Karate Championships 1<sup>st</sup> place 11-12 year old girls sparring and 2007 Michigan Sport Karate Open 1<sup>st</sup> place 13-14 year old girls sparring. She is still trying for her fist title as a black belt.

Sha-kai also participates in basketball and softball. She began playing basketball and softball when she was 7 years old with the Lady Tigers 10 & under PAL League. Sha-kai played for the basketball and softball teams at CMA High School during her first two years of high school.