

Mr. J. D. Pumphrey
11 Pryor Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Mayor Ivan Allen
68 Mitchell Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor:

I noted with interest, yesterday, the strong statement you made about the recent election. I am sure you received quite a sting from the victory of Lester Maddox, after all, how many votes could you get in a state-wide election? And didn't you beat Lester Maddox for Mayor because you got a block vote? Actually, in your ill considered and irresponsible statement yesterday, you were hiding behind the protection of this block vote.

Why don't you run for a state-wide office? Many of the voters including myself would like this. We would be delighted to send you along the road of Marvin Griffin and Ellis Arnall. Maybe you could talk Congressman Weltner in running state wide too, as he seems to enjoy making strong statements while protected by a block vote and I am sure you know which one I refer to.

Maybe Lester Maddox will be our next Governor and then Atlanta will have a Mayor and a Governor in Georgia of the same caliber.

Your friend, Martin Luther King, says that he is ashamed to be a Georgian. Many Georgians are ashamed he is a Georgian too. Martin Luther King stood on the streets of Atlanta and openly advocated breaking the laws. I did not see any response you made to this, but what would you say if Lester Maddox did the same.

There is one thing for sure, your statements yesterday, while made for your local block vote, will go a long way to elect Maddox as governor. This is unfortunate, but you are as much responsible for the state of affairs in Georgia at the present time as any one I know.

If you want to be real honest, you could say that the vote in Wednesday's election was a more conscionable vote than the vote that elected you Mayor.

Sincerely,

Jack Pumphrey
Mr. J. D. Pumphrey