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September 30, 1966

Mr. Ivan Allen, Jr.  
3700 Northside Drive, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30305

Dear Sir:

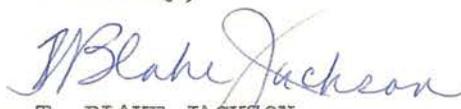
Perhaps this should be addressed simply "Gem Clip Allen" if a man is to be accorded the sobriquet of the product he peddles, although it is my understanding that your family feels that you couldn't sell even gem clips. I join thousands of others in feeling that your performance on television last night was about the most disgusting, undignified, irresponsible, nauseating, unstatesmanlike and unwarranted act that could be performed by the supposed mayor of a great city.

Although I am not a Maddox supporter but am actively supporting the Republican candidate for Governor of this great State, Mr. Maddox deserves that prefix to his name, and you have lowered yourself still further into the gutter by referring to him as "Drumstick Chicken Maddox". I believe that Mr. Maddox is absolutely honorable and that his vocation is an honorable one, as is your father's. As a matter of fact, I believe that even Mr. Eugene Patterson will concede that he (Mr. Maddox) served good chicken at a reasonable price. Can you say that you have done anything as worthwhile?

I concur with Mr. Maddox in his televised statement that your utterance appeared to be that of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, so that I wonder whether you collaborated on your statements. If you, too, feel that you are now ashamed to be a Georgian, you, too, are invited out.

I felt that Mr. Maddox made a tremendously more restrained, intelligent and statesmanlike appearance than you, even though your TV technicians attempted, at one point, to make him appear foolish by technically reducing his statement to gibberish.

Sincerely,

  
T. BLAKE JACKSON

TBJ/kjo