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September 30, 1966

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

Dear Mayor Allen:

It was a little surprising yesterday to see the height to which you have assended, that is, to set yourself up as a self-appointed Judge and Jury to try, pass sentence, and condemn 400,000 plus Georgians because of their actions on September 28.

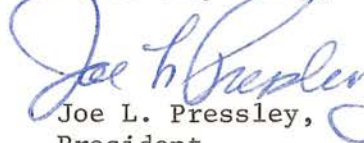
First of all, to make the records straight, I personally am not a Lester Maddox enthusiast, however, I was surprised and amazed to see you drop to an all time low in your condemnation of certain Georgians. As Mayor of one of the largest cities in the country, I do not feel that you have enhanced the image of Georgia with the statement made to the press with reference to the outcome of Wednesday's election. Not only that, but it is my opinion that you have mutilated the Democratic party in the state of Georgia beyond repair.

After your releases to the press, I now find myself in a state of confusion wondering who is irresponsible. Surely you are the "Big Man" that many people think you are and will retract the statements you made about the stand that some 400,000 Georgians took on September 28 and somewhere you will look back and see how childish your actions were.

To this point, I have had considerable confidence in your ability as a leader but that confidence has now been shaken.

What now Mr. Mayor?

Yours very truly,


Joe L. Pressley,
President

JLP:rs