

2014 West View Street
Los Angeles, Calif. 90016

9/ 14/ 66

Honorable Mayor Ivan Allen Jr.
City Hall
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Please except this letter of thanks and congratulation to you for the wonderful way you have handle the problems you have had to face and are facing there in Atlanta, before and during all the unnecessary violence.

I would like to say, I am a Negro, who had a father and mother that taught us honesty, decency, dignity, intelligence, respect for the other fellow. Respect for law and order. Know the law and stay within it. Always try and do to the other fellow as you would have him do to you. One of my father's favorite sayings was, the worst man in the world to do business with, is an (educated fool), because **he thinks he knows everything**, but little or nothing.

With all the Civil Right leaders we have in America today, we are bound to have some fools mixed up with the better ones. I stand with Dr. Martin Luther King, because I believe as he does. Violence is definitely not the way.

I honestly wish we had more Mayors, Senators, and Congressmans with the same kind of fortitude that you have. If we did, this would be a better America for all of us to live in. A man can be as honest as the days are long and still not have the guts to stand up for what he knows is right. He is afraid he will loose a vote.

You testified for the 1964 Civil Rights Act because within you, you knew this was the right thing to do, regardless to what might happen to your political future. When any man stand for what is right and good, he will surely win soon or later, because this is what God stand for, and he has never lost a battle yet.

Mayor Allen, please keep up the good works you have started, and you won't only help to make Atlanta a better place for all of it citizens, but you will help make America a better place for all to live.

My prayers and best wishes will always be with you. May God bless and keep you.

Respectfully yours, Mack C. Riggsbee

