



**Office of Councilman khalid  
City of South Fulton, GA**

**STATEMENT on 50 YARD LINE RAID**

I emailed our Police Chief and City Manager to confirm details about the raid, including whether the narcotics obtained in controlled buys were sold to undercover officers by restaurant staff what was found inside the restaurant versus the shopping center parking lot. To date, I have not received a copy of the warrant or an *After-Action Report* about this incident, though our Chief has been giving several news interviews.

It pains me to consider our police are being used to harass bar owners and patrons to "send a message" that nightlife is not welcome in South Fulton. I question the appropriateness of police officials conducting news interviews and building a case against this restaurant in the public before the issue is formally heard by City Council or the courts. I question the swift action to suspend this Black business' liquor license while taking *no* action against the corporation that owns the building (and parking lot where many of the guns and drugs were found).

I care deeply about public safety. I also care about all the constitutional rights of every citizen who was detained simply for going out to a nightclub on a Thursday. I care about the chilling effect this has on all Old National's restaurants and bars that are still reeling from a 2-year, pandemic-induced recession. Most of all, I care about every person who called 911 last week about a case of domestic violence, a kicked-in door at their home or gunshots in their neighborhood — and may have waited an hour or more for police to respond to their calls for help because every cop on the Southside was busy raiding a restaurant.

While doing interviews in front of SWAT tanks may be beneficial to our chief's resume, nightly news stories about drug raids are damaging to our City's reputation. South Fulton has enjoyed double-digit *decreases* in crime for the past two years. I want to live in a city that is safe to live, work, play and love. For me, South Fulton is that place.

South Fulton Forever!

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