

Box 1, folder 10

Press Release: Vine City Council September 10, 1966

We, the members of the Vine City Council, are alarmed at recent developments in our community. We deplore the destruction of the private property of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) on Wednesday September 7, 1966. We do not condone violence.

We charge that certain people are encouraging unruly elements in our community to instigate violence, and put all the blame on SNCC.

We have received reliable information that all of the disturbances and the riot is and was politically inspired, and that certain influential persons are urging attacks against SNCC.

We announce to the Atlanta community that we have not played any part in the attempt to run SNCC out of Vine City.

We have been hearing that there is going to be a riot in Vine City. If there is a riot here, it will be caused by people who have turned their backs on communities like Vine City, not on SNCC or Stokley Carmichael. These same conditions existed before SNCC or Carmichael came, they will exist after they leave.

We hope Mayor Allen will take immediate actions to correct the conditions that may lead to disorder or violence here. He should not condemn the SNCC members but instead responsible persons who have turned their backs for so long.

We also deplore the attack made against one of SNCC workers September 9, 1966. This worker was attacked and had to be taken to the hospital. This kind of relationship will never bring any of us closer together.

Signed:

James Robinson
Elizabeth Davis
Ethel Rozier
Helen Amos
Jewell Howard
Annie Brown
Debroah King
Henry Franklin
Paul Bridges
Mr. Holt

Carolyn Blake
Willie Dawson
Johnny Dorsey
George Smith
Mattie Lewis
George Reed
Doris Reed
Pearl Robinson
Helen Howard
Mary Williams

Dorothy Clark
James Howard
James Coppage
Anna Laura Dawson
Johnny Allen
Pat Lawrence
Clarence Clark
Barbara Johnson
Willie Williams